



**“Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this:
to look after orphans and widows in their distress”**

James 1:27a

“God sets the lonely in families” Psalm 68:6a

Jake* was the “parent”, despite being only seven. **Caleb***, four, was kept in a pushchair, wasn’t toilet-trained and didn’t have enough clothing. The boys slept on the floor and didn’t know when they would next eat. They saw things that children should never be allowed to see, and were fighting for their survival. They were given a fresh start when **Peter** and **Jenny** became their foster parents.



It’s hard to find foster carers like Peter and Jenny. It is difficult to place siblings, particularly those like Jake and Caleb, who were suffering from severe neglect and trauma. But Peter and Jenny understood the importance of keeping the brothers together, and, with the support of their church and their wider family, felt able to become their permanent carers. When Jake and Caleb arrived at their house, they were small, wide-eyed and weary. Years later, the boys are healthy, smile spontaneously, have friends, and are catching up at school. A home for good has changed their lives.

*Names have been changed

Why are children in care?

Sometimes it isn’t safe for a child to live with their birth parents. If home is chaotic, traumatic, abusive or neglectful, it may be necessary for a child to be looked after by someone else. Sometimes this is just for a while, or every so often, and they return to their families. Sometimes they need a new forever family. It’s the job of a local authority to make these decisions and make sure that children are safe.

Fostering provides a short or long-term home for children who are unable to live with their birth parents but are usually able to maintain contact with them.

Adoption is the legal process through which a child becomes a full, permanent member of a new family.



Did you know that in the UK...

...4,000 children are waiting for adoption?

...9,000 foster families are urgently needed?

...40% of fostered teenagers are living with their third family since coming into care?

What we do - Our vision is a home for every child who needs one.

Home for Good launched as a charity in 2014 to raise awareness of the need for foster carers and adoptive parents, encourage families to provide loving homes for the children in care, and equip the Church to offer a community of support for them.



You can make a difference for children in care!

By raising money for Home for Good, you become part of a nationwide movement passionate about helping children in care.

£25 could respond to someone through our enquiry line to support them on their journey towards providing a loving home for a child.

£50 could help train a volunteer champion to raise the profile of adoption and fostering in their church.

£75 could go towards setting up a peer-led support group for foster carers and adoptive parents.

£250 could help hold an event to help people take their first steps towards fostering or adopting a child.

£500 could train a group of children's and youth workers to support children with experience of care.

£1,000 could provide resources and training for a new local Home for Good group.

£2,000 could produce a film to encourage tens of thousands of people to foster or adopt and support children in care.

Pray with us

Lord, thank you that you created us as unique individuals, in your image and likeness. Thank you that you adopted us into your family, to make us your sons and daughters. Thank you that you care for us and promise to never leave us.

We pray for the children and young people whose birth parents are unable to care for them or who are missing their parents. We ask that you would meet their needs and that they would know your love.

Jesus, we thank you that in your life on earth you cared for children and people who were vulnerable. Please help us become more like you: help us to be full of compassion, to be generous to those around us, and to take care of people who are vulnerable or overlooked.

How will you do your miles?



Check out some tried and tested ideas for your youth group...

Challenge scale Okay: Tricky: Challenging:

IDEA 1: Miles of madness.

Organise a walk or fun run for your group, but with a twist of your choice!

Covering a mile a day for 26 days, Hannah's 'Marathon of Madness' involved everything from fancy dress to roller-skating, and raised an incredible £642.08!

Hannah says, "I love Home for Good and everything it stands for – without it, my family would look very different – so I wanted to raise money to help them inspire more people to do something to care for vulnerable children.

I decided to do something a bit silly that I'd never normally do, and hopefully get lots of interest from people following the madness on Facebook! Turns out that standing at the front of church in a fancy dress outfit is a great way to raise money!"

Tip: You could do this on your youth weekend away or during a summer festival trip.

IDEA 2: The obstacle course.

Take part in an obstacle course or muddy race!

Colour runs, muddy races and obstacle courses are a whole lot of fun! There are plenty to choose from across the country, and there are events for all different levels of ability. Great for team building! Search online for an event near you.

Tip: While this is a more expensive option, you might be able to benefit from a group discount.

IDEA 3: The endurance test.

Set your group a distance challenge. Walk, run, swim or cycle, to cover lots of miles!

A group from Gateway Church in Leeds attempted a non-stop hike around the Leeds Country Way. Starting at daybreak - 4:20am – and finishing at 3am the next morning, the walkers trekked an unbelievable non-stop 100 kilometres, raising an incredible £704.53!

Chris says, "This has to be one of the toughest mental and physical challenges we had all undertaken, covering the distance of nearly 2.5 marathons. With several people in the church adopting and fostering, we wanted to get behind these amazing people. It was such a relief to finish, but also a huge privilege to pray for kids in the care system as we walked, and raise money and awareness for the amazing work that Home for Good do in this arena."

Tip: Find out how many children in care there are in your area, and walk that number of miles between your group.



Event plan checklist

- Work out key details.** Talk with your group, or key members of your group, to decide an activity. Dream up your own or use our ideas to help you.
 - Our challenge is
 - The date of the event will be
 - It will take place
- Decide what needs doing and who will do it.**
- Think Health and Safety.**
 - Conduct a risk assessment
 - The person responsible for first aid will be
 - The person responsible in an emergency will be
- Find out about Public Liability Insurance.** If your challenge is in a public place, you might need Public Liability Insurance. Get in touch with your church's insurer and see if your event needs insurance. Explain that the event is to raise money for charity – they might waive the fee.
- Consider your contingency plan.** If the challenge will take place outside, make sure there's an alternative plan if the weather is bad!
- Sort sponsorship.** Set up a page for your group on Just Giving, and/or give everyone a sponsorship sheet to collect individual sponsorship. See below for tips on collecting money.
- Promote your challenge.** Tell everyone you can about what you're doing and why you're doing it! Send people the link to your Just Giving page or your sponsorship sheets. Send your church administrator a short paragraph to paste into their Sunday newsletter. If it's an open event, set up a Facebook page and tell people on StreetLife, and get local churches to advertise on their websites.
- Double and triple check.** If you're running your challenge in conjunction with another organisation, make sure you know who is responsible for what.

On the day

- Make sure no-one gets left behind! If it's a challenge with lots of participants, make sure there are designated marshals to escort people.
- Keep track of cash donations.
- Tweet @Home4Gd about your challenge, or tag us on Facebook.
- Have a great time raising money to make a difference for children in care!

After the event

- If you collected offline donations, get two adults to count the cash. Bank the money and pay it in through one of the methods outlined in 'Money Matters'.
- If you have permission from parents, send us photos or details from the event so we can tell your group's story online. Send them to info@homeforgood.org.uk
- Tell us the name of your group, activity and how much money you raised so we can send you a certificate to thank you!



Money matters

Collecting sponsorship:

JustGiving: Set up a page for your challenge at www.justgiving.com/homefor-good and encourage people to give online. It's easy to set up. Just Giving sends the donations directly to us and automatically claims Gift Aid on donations – giving an extra 25% to support vulnerable children at no extra cost to you or your supporters!

Sponsorship forms: Use forms to track pledges and collect cash. Note: if you're dealing with cash, keep it safe, and make a note of the running total. Two people should count the cash. **Don't forget to send us all the sponsorship forms so we can claim Gift Aid on eligible donations!**

Pay in offline donations through one of following options:

Online: Pay in by debit or credit card at www.homeforgood.org.uk/amileforeverychild/donate and drop us a line to let us know who we can thank.

Cheque: Send a cheque, made payable to 'Home for Good' with your full name, postal address and information about your event.

BACS: You can pay directly into our bank account:

Home for Good
CAF Bank Ltd, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4JQ
Sort Code: 40 52 40
Account Number: 00029458

Don't forget to drop us a line so we know to look out for it, and so that we can thank you.

Please send all sponsorship forms and cheques to:

Home for Good
176 Copenhagen Street
London
N1 0ST

We're here to help! Call us on 0300 001 0995 or email info@homeforgood.org.uk.

Thank you for raising money to make a difference for children in care!





A mile for every child

We're fundraising to help children in care!



Every year 35,000 children come into care across the UK. We want to cover a mile for every child.

