Roles in a Care Team | For prayer and consideration in serving

*Thank you for taking the time to learn more about foster care and the unique challenges that foster families and foster children face. We know you will now be better equipped to serve a foster family. Serving is sacriﬁcial, not always convenient, and often challenging. We thank you for your commitment! We pray that as you are a blessing to others, you will in turn be blessed by being the hands and feet of Jesus.*

Family Helper: This role is exactly as it says. You will serve in ways that will help your foster family. You may be one of the four families that will supply a monthly meal. However, this role is not limited to just meal

-making. It can mean so much more. Perhaps you’ll be able to help with errands, extra housework, laundry, yard work, homework or even childcare for the biological children in the family. The possibilities are endless and you may see how your gifts and talents may match well with the needs of the foster family. Keep your eyes and ears open to listen for their unique needs.

Child Mentor: This role can allow you to be more involved in the life of a foster child, oﬀering a great opportunity to regularly pour love and encouragement into them. We ask Child Mentors to commit to providing childcare at least twice per month. Childcare is *the* area where foster parents need the most support and tend to receive the least. They are hesitant to ask for childcare beyond necessary appointments, often fear- ing they are imposing or inconveniencing you. If and when you commit to being a Child Mentor, ask how you can serve the family once per month with regularly scheduled childcare for a date night or for driving to a reoccurring appointment or practice. Working this out in advance allows the foster parents to know they can count on your consistent help. Then, also strive to be available to accommodate at least one appointment on an “as needed” basis. You cannot imagine how much relief this can oﬀer to tired and sometimes stressed foster parents. All Child Mentors will be required to do some type of background check.

Team Leader: This role allows you to get to know the foster family more closely - usually the foster mother. Generally, tasks will require a time investment of less than an hour per week however a consistency is required when serving in this role. You’ll make a quick weekly phone call to the foster family and note their childcare needs and prayer requests. You’ll then update the Care Calendar, if needed, and also send a weekly group email to the team. This is a very rewarding role as you have a front row seat into many answered prayers! A great resource to use is the website [www.lotsofhelpinghands.org.](http://www.lotsofhelpinghands.org/)