



We exceeded our Matching Challenge by raising \$25,220 so that stories like this will continue with our coalition of churches and community partners

This year we had the opportunity to start our Xander sensory stuffed animal distribution to children in foster care in 4 counties so far: Ashland, Knox, Medina & Richland. Every stuffed animal gives us precious encounters with families and children in foster care. One story captured my heart.

After admiring a foster family's sweet little baby, I began to chat with them as they picked up a few Xanders for their foster children. They started to share about this infant's journey to their home, I suddenly realized I was now privileged to witness the **"rest of the story"**. A story that began nearly a year before when this baby's life had first been conceived.

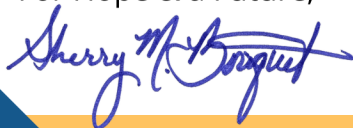
The previous year we were able to provide significant support to get a child to kinship grandparents. FFM & our coalition of churches are often called upon to support families in the child placing process. You all stepped up in amazing ways! As a result of that service, the door was opened to help the birth momma in her crisis.

This first momma reached out to FFM and was provided with safety, shelter, and care through partnership with community ministries. In that environment, she discovered new little life was growing within her. Now, being surrounded with support, she considered her two choices. **She chose life...this life.**

The sleepy baby in front of me was peacefully resting in safe arms because of churches caring for vulnerable children and families, including birth moms and dads.

Your prayers, your service, and your financial support make stories like these possible.

For Hope & a Future,



P.S. Don't miss the flyer to share to post & share on pg. 4.
Launch our year end giving to make more impact in 2023!

Join a growing coalition of churches

FFM's goal is to connect churches to the foster care needs. We train lay leaders, Church Champions, to launch and lead foster care ministry. Monthly coaching helps grow your church's outreach and service to children and families in foster care.

Welcome these new churches in 2022:

Grace Church Medina East, Medina Co.
Wooster Apostolic Church, Wooster Co.
Crossroads: Shelby Campus, Richland Co.
Journey Church, Knox Co.
North Bend Church, Knox/Richland Co.

New Champions in 2022:

Grace Church, Ashland Co.
Crossroads Church, Ashland Co.
Crossroads Main Campus, Richland Co.
New Life Nazarene, Knox Co.

Bring foster care ministry to your church. Send lay leaders to our **Church Champion Clinic** on **Sept. 10th, 8:30a - 12:30p.** More information on our website or give us a call.

Are you connected?

FFM implements tools to help share material needs with our partner churches. Meeting those needs helps siblings stay together, makes kinship placements possible and serves vulnerable kids and foster families.

We use *CarePortal* in Ashland & Knox Co.
Fall of '22 *CarePortal* comes to Richland.
Contact FFM to get connected!



Caring for Foster Families

Nationwide **50% of foster parents quit** after the first year. When supported with a **care team 90% continue to foster.** In the words of one foster family. **"The group bringing us meals (once a week) has hands down been one of the MOST PRACTICAL supports we have ever received as foster parents."**

Give a few hours a month and **help** foster a child! Find out more at our website.

Xander Bunnies for Kids

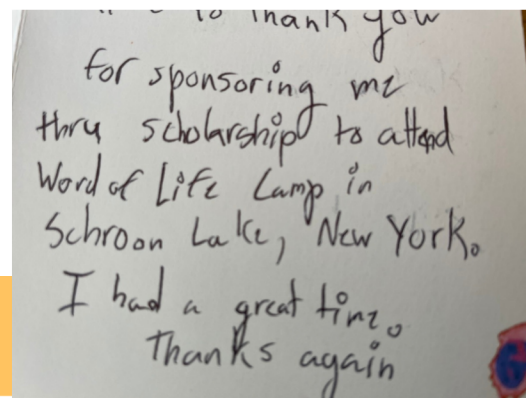
Volunteers in Ashland, Knox, Medina and Richland have served to assemble and distribute these sensory calming stuffed animals donated by **Lavender Life Co.** from Michigan. Thanks to support from the **Norma Foundation** to help us make this project possible! Distributions are ongoing in all counties to give one to every foster child.

Enriching Foster Kids Lives

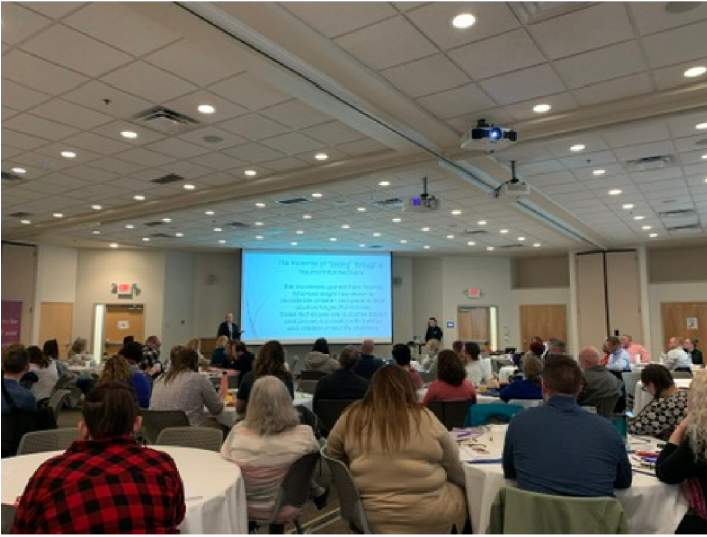
Community grants and your support has given us the opportunity to help foster children and youth attend summer camps and activities. This summer God has used you to send kids to day camp and overnight camps. A few words of appreciation for all of you:

M loved attending sports camp! He wanted to say "Thank-you!"

L went to youth camp and shared this note:



Free TBRI Caregiver Training



FFM's has offered TBRI (trauma competent) training to our coalition of churches, communities, foster and kinship parents, teachers, counselors, law enforcement and legal professionals since 2016. This past year, with the support of the **Samaritan Hospital Foundation** we partnered Ashland Juvenile Court Judge Karen DeSanto Kellogg to offer a series of Lunch & Learn's and several 4 day TBRI trainings in preparation for the 2 day training led by Judge Clark's court team from Texas who implemented TBRI in their court for improved family outcomes.

TBRI Caregiver: 4 day Training will be offered again this fall, on **Wednesday's in September**. The training will help you understand the relationship history of children & adults from hard places and give you tools to move forward. 23 CEU's. **Sept. 7, 14, 21, 28.**

Registration at www.fosteringfamilyministries.org/calendar

Opportunity Fair Nov. 5th

When opportunity knocks...open the door.

What about foster kids who don't get the opportunity to dream about the future and see themselves in different career paths that are available?

We are teaming up with **Transformation Network** and community businesses to offer the first annual **Opportunity Fair** focused on **Middle School thru High School (12-18+) youth** who have been involved in foster care. Friends and family welcome!

Drawings for \$100 gas cards, Amazon cards & event passes for youth and adults attending.

Sat. November 5th 9a-12p.

Jack's Place, Trinity Lutheran
508 Center St. Ashland, OH

More info call/text or email

419.496.2507

info@fosteringfamilyministries.org





Made for HOME

EVERY KID IS MADE FOR HOME

We work to see every child in a safe, loving home. Help support our mission to see the church & community care for vulnerable children & families in foster care. Learn from the North's who spent 10 years as foster parents & learned many of the things they share by living it out. Directors of One Big Happy Home, they are considered experts in childhood trauma & work to equip the church & community to serve kids.



RYAN NORTH

Foster, adoptive dad of six,
speaker, trainer, TBRI
Practitioner and co-Director
of One Big Happy Home.

**THURSDAY
OCTOBER 20**
Meet & Greet 6pm
Program 6:30pm

Bethel Chapel

575 US 250

Savannah, OH 44874

1 mile north of Savannah

419.496.2507

www.fosteringfamilyministries.org