



DC127

“Religion that God our Father considers as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.”

- James 1:27 -

There are:

- **950** children in Washington, DC’s foster care system
100+ children waiting to be adopted
- **1,500** est. children at risk of entering foster care in Washington, DC

DC127 unites churches to:

1. Prevent children from entering foster care by supporting families in crisis
2. Recruit and support foster and adoptive homes to ensure **every** child in foster care has a home

Our Vision:

A city where no child is waiting for a home, but families are waiting for children, and parents in crisis get the help they need.

About DC127:

DC127 is an initiative of Washington, DC churches united to ensure the success of every child in foster care and children at risk of entering the child welfare system. As an initiative, we believe the church is called by God to mobilize our congregations to care for some of the most vulnerable children in our city.

We work to both recruit and support foster and adoptive homes, and prevent children from entering the child welfare system by supporting families in crisis through our partnership with the Safe Families for Children movement. DC127 follows a nationwide movement of similar groups focused on uniting churches around their foster care systems and families in need of support. These programs have seen measurable success in keeping families together, recruiting and supporting stable foster homes, and reducing the number of children waiting to be adopted. We know that one day Washington, DC will be an example of a city where churches embrace vulnerable children and families.

“If pastors in every community would speak out, there would never be a shortage of foster homes or children waiting to be adopted. There would be a family—and a faith community—waiting for every child in foster care.”

- Shelly Radic, President, Project 1.27, Colorado

uniting to reverse the foster care wait list

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How DC127 Works

Uniting the Church

Churches have a unique and explicit mandate to care for vulnerable children. We believe our city will see drastic change when churches unite around children in foster care and struggling families. We empower churches to:

1. Build a larger culture of awareness around struggling families and foster care in Washington, DC
2. Recruit and support homes that will care for children in foster care or through Safe Families
3. Recruit mentors, babysitters, and other support providers to wrap around families and children
4. Pray for and stand in solidarity with children in our city's foster care system and families at risk of being separated by foster care

Preventing Foster Care: Safe Families for Children

When a child enters foster care, a traumatic event has already taken place. What if we could help families so children never enter foster care in the first place? We've partnered with Safe Families for Children, a national movement doing just this. Safe Families for Children mobilizes volunteers to provide extend-family style support to families experiencing social isolation and crisis. Children are hosted temporarily while other volunteers support parents to address the issues that led them to Safe Families. Safe Families offers the community, support, and love of the church to families who are isolated and have nowhere else to go.



Safe Families for Children

Finding Homes for Children in Foster Care

Children in foster care live in extreme instability. They may be separated from their siblings, move through multiple foster homes, and if not reunified with their family or adopted, they are statistically more likely to experience homelessness, unemployment, and even have their own children removed into foster care. Children in foster care need stable, loving environments until they can return home or be adopted, and currently, hundreds of children in Washington, DC are waiting to be adopted. DC127 recruits foster and adoptive homes so that no child waits for a family, and every child in foster care has a stable environment to thrive. After a family begins the process, DC127 empowers that family's community and church to support them.

Everyone can do something. Whether opening your home, mentoring, or donating resources, caring for children and families is a call every church and every person can answer.

To get involved or learn more, email us at info@dc127.org or call us at 202-670-1145

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