



You Make Forever Families Possible...

Dear Friend,

I am writing you with amazing news: **Thanks to you**, 1,732 children were served through Christian Family Care's programs in 2016. And, 185 children are now living with their new forever family. Because of you, Arizona children are experiencing the love and hope found through a Christ-centered family. Joe is one of those children...

6 year-old Joe entered Foster Care with his siblings after years of neglect by his biological mother. He never really knew his father as he is in jail for life. Joe spent the next four years bouncing from foster homes to group homes, without any feeling of a sense of belonging or unconditional love. His past traumas caused Joe to lash out in fits of rage and fight with other students at school. CFC was assigned Joe to be in our Specialized Youth Permanency program in order to find him a forever family.

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Meanwhile, God was preparing the hearts of Joe's future adoptive parents. Jacqueline felt the call to help at-risk teens, after she experienced first-hand the heartbreak of abuse and neglect in her own life. Through prayer and God's perfect timing, Jacqueline and her husband Jacob, were asked to foster Joe, but the transition wouldn't be easy. Joe had been let down too many times in the past and he was angry. But Jacob and Jacqueline met his anger head-on with prayer and patience.

All because of your generous gifts, they received “family coaching” support services from CFC to help them work through the challenges that come with raising a neglected teen. Over time, Joe began to heal and trust his new parents, Joe was adopted in September 19, 2016.

It brings me great joy to report that what God is doing in Joe has resulted in his getting better grades in school, he's excelling in team sports, and he's even helping other foster children express themselves in a healthier way. The Cruz family has since expanded by one more older child. In December, the family adopted Joe's biological brother, Jaymar. The new addition has once again brought new family dynamics, but the family feels it is worth working through so the boys will be able to grow up together.

The family credits Christian Family Care's "family coaching" services for helping them through their most difficult moments. Jacqueline says speaking to CFC's counseling staff gave her the encouragement and guidance to keep going, even on the days where she felt worn down and defeated.

Every day, your faithful stewardship makes stories like this possible. Be encouraged as here are other remarkable highlights from 2016:

There are now 777 children
living in Christ-centered
foster homes

CFC disruption rate is under
2%, compared to the state
disruption rate of 11%

32 adoptive families
received family
coaching support
services



We simply can't do it without you. Your support helps CFC provide services that go above and beyond what is required by Arizona's Department of Child Safety. But, there is more work that needs to be done. There are still 17,000+ children in the Arizona welfare system, and you have the power to make an impact. Please stand with us as we fight to make a difference in the lives of the vulnerable youth in our community, just like Joe and Jaymar.

For the children,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark".

Mark Upton
President & CEO

P.S. You are an important partner in creating a future where every child is loved and nurtured in a Christ-centered family. Please give today, the lives of thousands of others like Joe and Jaymar are at stake.

CHRISTIAN FAMILY CARE

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