



This Christmas, CFC is Grateful for YOU!

Together we are strengthening families, serving at-risk kids, and placing vulnerable children in loving, Christ-centered homes.



An Adoption *Miracle*



CFC's Marketing and Communications Manager, Lourdes Hernandez, and her husband, Bernard, prayed for years about starting a family. They began discussing the possibility of adoption after seven years of unanswered prayers. Little did they know that a single phone call was about to change their lives completely.

Lourdes was getting ready to leave work for the day when she got a call from the Welcome Center.

They needed help communicating with a Spanish-speaking woman who wanted
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Prayer Corner:

Join us as a Prayer Partner!

"First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people ... This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth."

—1 Timothy 2: 1, 3-4

Prayer is the **lifeblood** of our ministry and the cornerstone of our mission to strengthen families and serve at-risk children in the name of Jesus Christ. When our Prayer Partners intercede for our staff and the people we serve, they bridge the gap between human limitations and divine possibilities.

With your help, we can ensure that every action taken in our ministry is not just well-intentioned and timely, but also well-directed and divinely ordained.

In December, we are asking for prayer that our families who receive Family Coaching (<https://cfcare.org/coaching/>) are prepared for any challenges; and wisdom for the coaches working with these families.

YOU can make a difference by championing CFC in prayer individually and/or with your church or small group. If you would like to become a Prayer Partner, please email us your contact information so we can send you specific prayer requests, prayer calendar updates, and details about exclusive CFC prayer events.

prayer@cfcare.org

A look ahead at our prayer requests for the beginning of 2025:

JANUARY – Pray that more adults, families, and children find hope and healing through our AFC Counseling team. <https://cfcare.org/counseling/>

FEBRUARY – Pray that each foster child matched with a CFC Mentor will feel supported and experience the love of Jesus Christ.

MARCH – Pray that child abuse and neglect will be prevented and families will be strengthened through our STRONG Families for Children program.



Scan this QR code to sign up as a prayer partner

An Adoption Miracle . . . (continued from page 1)

information about pregnancy support and adoption. Lourdes took the call and immediately realized how scared the woman was on the other end of the line.

"I told her there was nothing to fear and that the baby could go to a loving family. We kept talking, and she asked me if I had kids. I told her that my husband and I had been praying for seven years, but God had not opened that door yet. We clicked, and it felt like I was talking to a friend ... **and then she asked me if I would adopt her baby.**"

When she got off the phone, Lourdes called her husband in disbelief. "I was so shocked, but my husband said, 'This is the child we have been praying for!'" They agreed that if the Lord wanted them to be the parents of this child, He would make it clear and make it happen. Lourdes and Bernard committed to praying for "guidance, wisdom, and direction."

In future conversations, Lourdes learned that the birth mom was being pressured by everyone around her to have an abortion – but she wanted to give her baby a chance. While delivering food with a friend, the birth mom had been approached by a man who handed her a leaflet with CFC's phone number. She was surprised when

he told her, "Say no to abortion!" since her pregnancy wasn't showing yet, but she took it as a sign of hope and called CFC the next day.

When the birth mom continued asking Lourdes if she would adopt her child, Lourdes and Bernard realized that this baby was their miracle answer to prayer.

Two weeks after their first phone conversation, they met the birth mom in person. "We got to know each other and became good friends. My husband and I ministered to her and became her main support system. We spent a lot of time together, and it was a blessing to develop a close relationship with her."

"We weren't ready at all. The baby was going to be born in 3 months and there are many steps before you can adopt – passing a home study, getting fingerprinted and filing a background check, finalizing custody orders, and getting certified by the state. Because this was a designated adoption, meaning the birth mom had already chosen us, we hired lawyers to complete the process. Along the way, CFC provided guidance and referrals, answered questions, and prayed for us."

Lourdes and Bernard were in the delivery room when their



daughter, Gianna Sophia, was born. Bernard even cut the umbilical cord! They took Gianna home, and the birth mom stayed with them for four days. They continued witnessing to her, and the day the birth mom was to return home, she accepted Jesus as her Savior.

"Adoption is a blessing all around. It breaks the curse of abortion and brings hope and life for generations to come. We chose an open adoption because we want Gianna to know that she was loved from the beginning by her birth mom and by us.

Life is a miracle,
and she is our
MIRACLE BABY!

We don't know what Gianna will become one day, but we are sure God has special plans for her – His hand was in every detail of bringing her into our family. Life is a miracle, and she is our miracle baby!"



Thank you for making adoption stories like this possible! Your generosity gives birth moms the resources they need to choose life and supports adopting parents as they navigate the process!

Highlights from 2024

Thanks to you, 2024 was a busy year of love and service! With your help, CFC:

- Served **3,052** children and families, a 51% increase over last year.
- Launched **Young Adult Services**, focused on helping young adults as they transition out of foster care, which has already served 90 youth.
- Grew the number of **children served in Family Care KIDS** to **99 students**.
- Matched **43 children with mentors** – with 23 more children waiting for mentors ... 23 more children waiting for mentors.



To support CFC, scan this code or complete and return the form enclosed.



Mark Upton
President

Our vision for CFC is that **every child** would be **loved** and **nurtured** in a Christ-centered family.

Letter from the President

Dear Friends,

What was most evident through the election season is how the moral standards of our nation have declined. The pressure to compromise biblical values was on display by both political parties.

What can we hope for now?

One thing I am certain about is that God is concerned about His glory, and He is preparing to do a mighty work to restore His people.

The challenge I laid before the staff of CFC this year was: Impact One Family, Impact Society for Generations. I believe the family is the key to the future of Arizona and the flourishing of America.

It is the family that passes on the courage, faith, and values that lead to flourishing societies. Every society throughout history that forgot God eventually perished.

How will our society know the truth if we don't have fathers and mothers reminding their children of what is truth?

Our vision for CFC is that every child would be loved and nurtured in a Christ-centered family. Is that possible?

I believe it is possible only because it is a matter that concerns the Lord's glory.

I believe it is possible because the staff and donors engaged in advancing the mission of CFC are committed to the cause of strengthening families and serving at-risk children in the name of Jesus Christ.

I believe it is possible because the strength of CFC, through your support, is building biblical relationships with communities, children, and families and its multi-dimensional approach to coming alongside families.

Psalm 145:4 says, "One generation shall praise your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts."

Pray with us that God would forgive the sins of our Nation and restore families to faith, who know the truth and will share that truth with one family today, impacting society and generations to follow. Thank you for partnering with us as we need you now more than ever to join us to fight current culture and restore a flourishing society for every child.

For the Children,

Mark Upton
President & CEO