

Just 1 Group! Just 1 Family!
Growing Safe Families at your Church

We are thankful for your desire to grow a team in your church to reach out in friendship to families here in NYC who are isolated and struggling. We are excited to share an opportunity to be part of a new National Safe Families Campaign- **Just 1!** The goal is for you to invite those with whom you experience deep friendship and community to serve together and form a *Circle of Support* around a family in need by befriending a parent, helping care for a child, providing meals, praying...We are asking each group to connect with **Just 1** family this year.

Step 1: Form a Circle of Support

Invite a group of 6-10 individuals or your existing Community Group to your home and share your Safe Families experience (resources/materials can be provided).

OR

Invite that group of friends to an Info Session. The next one is December 1st. Info and registration is here: <http://nycsafefamilies.eventbrite.com>

Step 2: Become Approved Volunteers

Invite those who are interested (ideally at least 2-3 in your group) to go through the application process *together* :

- Set a date to complete your online applications
- Set a date to complete fingerprinting. You can schedule a time to do this together or individually. We will reimburse the \$60 fee.
- Set a date to watch the online training together (2 ½ hours)

Step 3: Partner with a Family

Approved volunteers in your Circle of Support will begin receiving the stories of the families who are coming to us in need of support and friendship. When someone responds “yes” and steps into relationship with a family, your group will be there to surround that family with compassionate, caring community.

At least 2-3 approved volunteers are partnered with each family. Members of the group who are **not** approved volunteers can provide support *as needed* such as: moving help, resume/interview skills, budget planning, cleaning/organizing day, baby shower, meals.

Along the way, Safe Families staff can:

- Provide you with detailed resources for planning your home gathering and telling your story
- Come to your gathering as a resource if you'd like
- Pray for your gathering and efforts
- Follow up with your group to help make sure everyone gets the training and screening they need

Safe Families for Children creates extended family-like supports for desperate families through a community of devoted volunteers who are motivated by compassion to keep children safe and families intact.