



Safe Families for Children can serve your family by linking you with mentors who provide relationship and support in times of crisis.

Host Families are volunteers who are available to temporarily house your children while you get the space you need to work on stability and ensure your child's safety without losing custody.

"YOU GAVE US HOPE. YOU DID NOT JUDGE US. WITH THE HELP OF FAITHFUL AND LOVING VOLUNTEERS, YOU OPENED YOUR HOMES TO US AND TOOK US IN WITH LOVING ARMS. THANK YOU."

Father helped by Safe Families

"I TELL MOTHERS THAT THEY AREN'T GIVING UP THEIR CHILD, WHAT THEY ARE DOING IS LETTING A TRAINED CAREGIVER CARE FOR THEIR CHILD WHILE THEY PULL THEMSELVES TOGETHER. I'VE SEEN IT HAPPEN."

Dorita Dorm, Coordinator of a Homeless Shelter

Building Families for Children is a local Safe Families for Children agency. We've been giving families a new start for almost 100 years!

## WE ARE HERE FOR YOU...

Addiction, domestic abuse, incarceration, or illness can be devastating, making it nearly impossible for parents to care for children. **Safe Families can help.**

More families are experiencing financial problems, unemployment, and homelessness. **Safe Families can help.**

Under these circumstances, children can be especially difficult to cope with and manage in a healthy way and this can lead to serious problems and emotions.

**Safe Families can help.**

It is important to know that this is not foster care, and if you place your children, you are not placing them with the State (DSS). We are like extended family, similar to an aunt or uncle that you are asking to take care of your children while you get back on your feet. The arrangement is 100% voluntary and our Safe Host families are unpaid volunteers.

## OTHER THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW:

1. **Childs Return** - You can change your mind at any time and have your child returned to you. If you have a DSS worker, they would also need to participate in that decision.
2. **Visits** – We strongly encourage you visiting your child. Our staff will help with visits and we try to do it at a time and place that is convenient to you and the Safe Family.
3. **Phone Calls** – We encourage phone calls. These can occur daily, if you like, as long as they are scheduled at a convenient time.
4. **Contacting us** – You can contact us anytime you want. You can reach us at our office at 410-872-1050 extension 1010 or 800-621-8834.
5. **Unable to host** – We are unable to host children with dangerous behaviors, including substance abuse or if we cannot obtain consent from parent(s) with legal custody.

For more information on Safe Families for Children, you can visit the national site ([www.safe-families.org](http://www.safe-families.org)) or our webpage [www.buildingfamiliesforchildren.org/sffc](http://www.buildingfamiliesforchildren.org/sffc).

We hope that Safe Families can be of help to you! If you are interested in finding out more, send an email to [safefamilies@buildingfamiliesforchildren.org](mailto:safefamilies@buildingfamiliesforchildren.org) or call us at 410-872-1050 extension 1010.

We want to help!

[www.buildingfamiliesforchildren.org](http://www.buildingfamiliesforchildren.org)