

Harbor Families FAQs

1. What is the process to be a Host Family?

Hosts need to be at least 21 years old and want to provide short-term care for children as well as work to create meaningful relationships with a child's legal parents. Hosts need to pass a background check, fill out an application, and when they pass this step they get the opportunity to do a live training with a Harbor Family Specialist to be most equipped to serve well.

2. What qualities make a good Host?

Good hosts are actively listening, learning, and responding to those in crisis with grace. Hosts see potential in others and work with an individual to slowly make progress on their goals toward stability, all while encouraging them and sharing the hope that only comes from Jesus Christ.

3. How long does a hosting last?

The length of a hosting depends on the need of a person in crisis and the ability and availability of a host family. Some hostings last a few days while others may last a few months. Before any hosting arrangement is made, a Harbor Families Specialist meets with a family in crisis and works to determine an end date to hosting before the hosting is even started. At times the goals, progress, and circumstances change where a hosting timeframe needs to be reevaluated with Harbor Families Specialists to shorten or lengthen and we work with host families and legal parents to determine what is going to be best for everyone.

4. What if I don't feel able to watch children of a certain age? Do I have to say yes to any child?

Host families can tell their Harbor Families Specialist what their parameters are on ages of children they are able to host. Harbor Families Specialists will ask families if they are available to provide short-term care for children within the parameters set by the host family.

5. How do I get my church involved?

There are a number of ways to help Harbor Families launch in your church. A Harbor Families Specialist would be happy to meet with you and talk about how to recruit host families, how to ensure families involved within the ministry are taken care of well by the church, how to welcome families in crisis into church well, and more. Call a Harbor Families Specialist today to see how your church can begin making an impact in your city through this ministry.