

Family Reunification & Preservation Programs

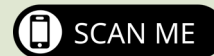
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DIAKON'S MISSION:

In response to God's love in Jesus Christ, Diakon will demonstrate God's command to love the neighbor through acts of service.

Diakon does not discriminate in admissions, the provision of services or referrals of clients on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, age, marital status, veteran status, disability or any other classes protected by law.

Family Reunification & Preservation



**Supporting families today
for a stronger tomorrow.**

Family Reunification & Preservation



How We Help in Family Reunification

Reuniting your family after a child's separation is exciting!

As a time of varying emotions, it also can have its challenges. But we are here to help. Your Diakon Family Reunification Services caseworker is available to you 24 hours a day, seven days a week, during the intensive process of reunification.

Your caseworker understands the challenges and mixed emotions you may face and is ready to provide the necessary support to you and other members of your family that support may include:

- Following the Positive Parenting Program and Nurturing Parenting Curriculum to prepare for reunification
- Assistance in understanding and tapping your personal strengths
- Creating a safe and supportive home
- Tapping into a range of community resources such as:
 - Medical services
 - Mental-health services
 - School-attendance support and activities

Your Diakon Family Reunification Services caseworker has one goal: To work with you and your entire family to bring your child home safely and quickly.



Diakon Family Reunification Program

We understand how challenging a situation can be that results in the separation of a child from his or her family.

In fact, reuniting families in a safe and secure setting is why we exist!

Recognizing the hard work, strengths and accomplishments you have shown while your child is in another's care, we work diligently to help you prepare for your child's return. We work with you to help you:

- Solve problems or concerns
- Make appropriate, healthy decisions
- Learn of community resources that can also assist you

Diakon Family Preservation Program

The home-based, intensive family preservation program serves children returning home from foster care, residential or other out-of-home placement. We also serve families who are referred through Children & Youth as a preventive program to reduce the risk of placement. Our goal is simple: To keep the family unit intact.

The Family Preservation Program is multifaceted in that we help families maintain permanency, connect with community resources, strengthen parenting skills and coordinate services. The program also helps safeguard the returning child as he or she re-enters the family. We facilitate a child's reintegration with his or her biological or legal family, while simultaneously working to prevent recidivism—that is, another placement in foster or other out-of-home care.

How We Help in Family Preservation

Our preservation service is based on the "Homebuilders Model," an evidence-based curriculum designed to help at-risk families gain the skills and resources they need to keep their families intact. The program helps to decrease the use of foster care, reduce time in care and increase the number of reunifications.

As such, we work with families to:

- Improve parenting skills
- Assist with recovery from drug and alcohol issues
- Connect them with community resources that help to address issues related to poverty, unemployment and education

We also use the Positive Parenting Program and Nurturing Parenting Curriculum. In this curriculum, both parents and children learn how to empower one another by building self-worth, strengths and communication. Segmented into parts that strengthen the bond between parent and child, this hands-on learning curriculum is facilitated by our trained staff members.

Our goal in family preservation is to keep children and youths safely in their home and community. We strive to eliminate the challenges and issues families face in preserving their family unit. We focus on keeping the family intact.