

Congregations Supporting **FAMILIES**

There are no easy days, no easy decisions right now for families.

Parents and caregivers are trying to figure out how to navigate school decisions alongside work obligations, financial stressors, health concerns, and additional childcare. The risks for and reporting of domestic violence, abuse, depression, substance abuse, food insecurity, housing stability, and divorce have heightened significantly.

How can congregations support families in need during this time?

Support Parents & Caregivers

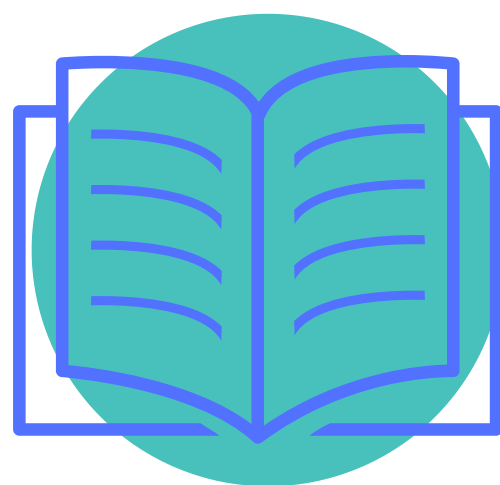
IN CRISIS



- Form parent support groups to provide empathy, idea-sharing, and networking.
- Care for families in quarantine by providing meals, calls, cards, etc.
- Cover costs of telehealth for single parents and married couples to get counseling.
- Volunteer the church parking lot as a food distribution or COVID testing site.

IN EDUCATION

- Connect families with tutors/subs to facilitate learning small groups for digital learners.
- Consider how your church building, grounds, parking lots, vehicles, etc. could resource children/families without wifi, students of single working parents, Homeschool groups, Learn From Home pods, or small groups.
- Offer tutoring or Financial Health Classes
- Print up yard signs and surprise students on their first day of school.
- Encourage, encourage, encourage!



IN FEEDING BODY & SOUL



- Offer Wednesday Night Suppers and/or Communion as a Drive Thru.
- Host drive up Bingo Nights, Movie Nights, Worship, Car Sing-a-longs using loudspeakers or FM radio.
- Resource families for the spiritual development of their own children (Lead a Sticky Faith study?)
- Text out prayers, scripture, worship videos, and words of encouragement.
- Connect families with Amplify Media streaming study services.
- And hold them in prayer!

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