

# *Welcome* the interruption

## **When the interruption is a mile high and six feet apart**

Here at Safe Families for Children, we recognize that these are unprecedented times, which can cause fear and lead to isolation. However, as Christians, we are called to love and serve our neighbor even in the midst of such crises (Titus 3:14, ESV). During these next few weeks, we are highlighting branches across the country who have been modeling this amazing love in action for those neighbors in their communities. This week, we focus in on the Pikes Peak chapter:

We are a new chapter that started in Oct. 2019, so we are always working on ways to get connected in the Pikes Peak area and build up our volunteer base. However, as we have arranged for a few “hostings”, allowing us to see God’s love in action in just a short amount of time. Not only that, but through [coaching](#) and [family friends](#), we have created many amazing relationships that continue to grow in fruitfulness.

### **Strengthening the weakened**

During the COVID-19 crisis, we continue to put heavy emphasis on serving those families in crisis anyway we can. As a result, we have been brainstorming creative ways to continue to support families. This has led to taking action to bring groceries to our neighbors in crisis. From this very action, God brought us a family of 5 (a single mother of four children who were all under the age of 5). The mother had a chronic kidney and liver disease and was unable to leave the home due to her weakened immune system. Since then, we have paired her with three family friends who are connecting with her and hoping to provide some babysitting relief and support once social distancing bans are lifted. In the meantime, we connect virtually and continue to drop off groceries for her.

### **Surrounding one’s severity**

This pandemic may have paused ordinary life, but it hasn’t stopped us from hosting those children in need and helping their families. We currently have a family who is hosting a 7-month-old baby girl whose mother is suffering from severe postpartum depression, which has made safe parenting difficult. During the month-long hosting, we have partnered with a local Nurse Family Partnership, which provided an in-home nurse to build relationship with the mother, as well as relieve some burdens. We continue to bring groceries to her, and have helped her get connected with a therapist, as well as found a volunteer who donated a car to the family. A local family friend has surrounded her with Christ’s love. They have gotten together for meals, had spent time together in her apartment, and are working to find ways to cope with the mother's depression.

### **Supporting NICU families**

Back in January, we had a baby girl who was about to be discharged from the NICU after a 100 day stay. Her parents were homeless—living in their car—and were days away from having a DHS case opened on them. It would have resulted in their daughter placed in foster care. Thankfully, we were able to connect with the parents, and surround them with the help the needed by

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providing housing, state benefits, and help with some grocery bills. We had many [resource friends](#) surround our new [host family](#) by providing diapers, formula, and clothes for the little girl. This incredible host family made sure she was stable on her oxygen, took her to countless doctor appointments. The host families maintained daily communication, along with multiple visits per week with her parents to help them stay connected. after just two weeks, the family in need ended up finding housing in a nearby city and reunited with their daughter. Although it was a short hosting, we all fell in love with this little girl, and her parents were able to experience the love of Christ surrounding them in their time of need.

We plan to continue to help those in our community however we can during these times, and encourage anyone who is able, to get up, [get involved](#), and mobilize the love of Christ to those in need.