



DC127

4-Week Prayer Guide

May 2020

Week 1 - Foster Care



Monday

Youth in Foster Care

Pray that...

- Youth feel connection and belonging while in a foster family
- Youth are able to process their particular feelings and needs in healthy ways and that trust is built within their foster family
- Youth experience love, hope, and security every day

Tuesday

Parents of Youth in Care



Pray that...

- Parents feel supported and strengthened in whatever situation they are in right now
- The relationships between the parents of youth, the foster family, and the foster care system would remain healthy and open to one another
- The relationship between parent and child will continue to grow even as they spend time apart



Wednesday

Foster Families

Pray that...

- Peace and compassion would touch every relationship – from the youth in their homes, to the social workers, and to the parents of youth in care
- The foster parents know grace deeply and completely and that they would be able to receive support when they need it
- Each foster family has a community come around them to know the children in their home and provide for their needs

Thursday

Youth Aging Out of Care



Pray that...

- Youth have a support system around them as they navigate the process of aging out of care
- The youth aging out in Washington, D.C. have the resources and abilities to survive as an adult living on their own
- The needs of each youth are met, and they have relationships that hold them up and make them feel like they are not alone



Friday

Child Welfare Professionals

Pray that...

- Child welfare professionals experience strength and resilience in their work
- Social workers would experience extra measures of safety and care as they enter into difficult situations
- Child welfare professionals are supported and encouraged in their work and through their particular leadership

Saturday/Sunday

Kinship Caregivers



Pray that...

- Kinship homes have the resources available to support children from their family as they welcome them into their home
- Trust and security are the building blocks of the relationship between caregiver and youth
- The city knows the best ways to support kinship families and be open to receiving feedback from the families themselves



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Week 2 - Keeping Families Together



Monday

Single Parents

Pray that...

- Parents will be sustained over the next few months as many of them face unemployment or furloughed employment
- The mental and emotional well-being of each parent is sustained as they care for children and currently face uncertainty about the future
- Single parents in the District will get be connected to a supportive community. Pray especially for single parents who are living in poverty and struggling to care for their children and strengthen their family alone

Tuesday

Youth who are Struggling



Pray that...

- Youth experience peace and calm, and know they are loved. Pray they are able to establish a sense of stability wherever they are
- They are able to finish the school year well and stay connected to their friends and teachers even as they stay at home
- Youth are protected from abuse and neglect during this season – that their relationships with their parents would remain strong and healthy



Wednesday

The Communities for Families Program

Pray that...

- DC127 connects with families who need support, and recruits the volunteers and raises financial resources to provide for families
- The volunteers who are connected to families feel supported by DC127 staff and are a strength and encouragement to parents
- More volunteers will step up to care for struggling families so that parents have community and get the help they need

Thursday

Provision



Pray that...

- Parents struggling to care for their children have access to the resources they need to keep their children happy and healthy, and their families united
- The parents who have lost jobs and been furloughed from their work are able to provide for their families
- There is an increase in affordable housing in the District, and that the thousands of families struggling to pay rent or find a safe place to live will get the help they need. Pray also for an increase in the valuable benefits DC families need to survive



Friday

Child & Family Services Agency (CFSA)

Pray for...

- Social workers as they make decisions about next steps and resources, compassion as they encounter difficult situations, and endurance as their days are often very long
- Director Brenda Donald as she leads CFSA and wisdom for her as she makes decisions and policies that affect so many
- Each employee at CFSA, that they are moved by compassion for the children and families they serve

Saturday/Sunday

The Church



Pray that...

- The Church is a light in a broken world and at the forefront of caring for those in need
- The Church makes disciples who open their homes and build cultures in their community where people who have been marginalized are welcomed and accepted
- There is increased partnership between churches and city agencies
- The Church supports those families among them seeking to volunteer, foster, or adopt, and those that have fostere or adopted already



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Week 3 - Prayers for Our City



Monday

Court Systems

Pray that...

- Lawyers and caseworkers are given the resources needed to protect vulnerable children in our city and strengthened as they deal with hard situations
- Judges are filled with wisdom and discernment as they make decisions that directly affect families
- Parents and families are supported as they walk through ever-changing situations and that decisions made would keep families safe and cared for

Tuesday

Service Providers and Non-Profits



Pray for...

- The many private non-profit organizations serving kids and families in DC. These groups range from foster care agencies, to mentoring organizations, to advocacy groups. Thank God and pray for each citizen serving DC's children
- God to sustain these groups as they not only do the hard work of serving children, but also run organizations and find funding
- These groups as they address gaps in the foster care system, they get the resources they need to continue their work whether that's through funding or volunteers



Wednesday

Police, EMS, and First Responders

Pray that...

- Each of these groups works unto the Lord, protecting and helping families and children in crisis, and ensuring that children would get the care they need
- They are kept safe in their work safety and for wisdom as they make quick decisions in tense situations
- The families of police, EMS, and first responders feel supported in their mental and emotional health and they would feel peace about their loved-ones work

Thursday

Families in Distress



- There are around 19,000 children in DC living in extreme poverty. Pray God's comfort over each of them and their families and that relief would be provided through community efforts and churches
- Pray that our city's leaders will represent these families well and create change on their behalf
- Pray for an increase in jobs and resources available to these families to help them stabilize their families

Friday

Educators, Healthcare & Service Industry Workers



Pray that...

- Educators and people working in schools have stamina to finish out the year and space to grieve the loss of missing students and coworkers
- Healthcare workers would remain healthy and safe as they care for the sick and vulnerable. Pray for their mental and emotional health, especially during this time
- Service industry workers are encouraged in their work and treated fairly by their employers. Pray that their families would stay safe and healthy

Saturday/Sunday

Government



Pray that...

- Government leaders keep children's needs first and foremost in their minds as they do their work, and that the people of DC would have wisdom in choosing local government leadership
- Our government is defined by "defending the weak and the fatherless; upholding the cause of the poor and the oppressed" -Psalm 82:3
- The Church finds favor with the people of our city, including governing officials. Pray systemic injustice is dismantled as the Church works together to repent, heal, and move toward a just way of serving families in our community



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Week 4 - Prayers for DC127



Monday

Current Church Partners

- Thank God for the pastors, deacons, volunteers, and Church Advocates already helping advance the mission of DC127 in their own communities. Pray that these churches continue to sustain their efforts
- Pray that God protects, empowers, and sustains church leaders during this season
- Pray that the communities around our churches take note of the work we are doing and respond not only with an interest in the work they do with the foster system, but with open hearts to the Gospel

Tuesday

Future Church Partners



Pray that...

- God will open doors and lead DC127 staff to new church partners that will labor alongside DC127
- Churches will join DC127 in creating Communities for Families teams and recruiting new foster homes
- Churches represent all demographics to join and work together for our city



Wednesday

DC127 Volunteers

Pray for...

- DC127 Church Advocates as they work with their pastors and congregations to rally support and organize for DC127
- DC127 volunteers as they support parents during this time of need with resources, connection, and a friendly face
- Volunteers and youth in the families they are supporting to make a connection, and that volunteers are able to spend time with kids virtually to support the family
- DC127 volunteers to feel supported by DC127 and their community

Thursday

Provision



Pray that...

- God continues to sustain the relationships that DC127 has made with government agencies and other organizations across the city
- God would provide new and strategic partnerships that help DC127 care more effectively for families
- God would provide the funding DC127 needs to continue the work. Pray that the grants DC127 have recently submitted are received in favor so that we can provide an increase of quality services to families in need



Friday

DC127 Staff (Praises)

Praise God...

- For a healthy and thriving transition to our new Executive Director, Cynthia Moreland
- For his provision of a new office space for DC127 staff
- That DC127 has been able to continue supporting families during this season because of the work of the volunteers, donors, and church partners

Saturday/Sunday

DC127 Staff (Prayers)



Pray for...

- Wisdom as staff navigates day-to-day changes around COVID-19 and makes adjustments to serve families during this season
- Energy and patience as staff continues to work, collaborate, and make decisions from home
- DC127 staff to know and trust every day that all of their work belongs to God and he will supply them with what they need to move forward