The Truth about Today's Foster Care Crisis and the Role of Faith-Based Agencies

**THE FOSTER CARE CRISIS**

Kids in Foster Care

- **2012**: 396,966
- **2018**: 437,283

**A PROBLEM GETTING WORSE**

14 STATES AND D.C. experienced a decline in the number of foster homes from 2018 to 2019. The decrease in non-relative foster homes was as high as 49%.

**MASSACHUSETTS** (where faith-based agencies have been removed) LOST 2,000 FAMILIES between 2012 and 2017.

Each year, around 20,000 kids age out of foster care without an adoptive home. The odds they face aren’t good.

- **20%** will be homeless at age 18.
- **50%** will be unemployed at age 24.
- **97%** will never graduate from college.

**Footnotes:**

Families recruited through church or religious organizations FOSTER 2.6 YEARS LONGER than other foster parents.10

Faith-based agencies perform vital work.

THE HARM TO CHILDREN IF FAITH-BASED AGENCIES CLOSE IS REAL.

Boston stopped partnering with faith-based providers in 2006. One year later, the percentage of children who aged out of the Massachusetts foster care system rose by over 50% and has not returned to pre-2006 levels.13

IN 2011, Illinois passed a law ending its partnerships with faith-based agencies.14

Non-relative foster families:

BETWEEN 2012 AND 2019, ILLINOIS LOST 5,352 FOSTER HOMES - the most significant decrease in any state that reported this data.

Footnotes:


