



Gather your Friends to Foster Domus Pacis Respite Families

During **Domus Pacis'** inaugural year the volunteers that made meals and baked goods for the visiting families expressed the desire to be more involved with the families during their Summit County stays. Several solo volunteers flushed out a plan to adopt/foster a **Domus Pacis** family, enlisting a circle of friends who would work together planning for an individual family's respite stay. This grassroots' initiative, *Foster-A-Family* (FAF), has been tremendously satisfying for the FAF groups that several times yearly provide nurturing meals, comforting treats and support to the families they chose to foster!

Objective:

- Ensures that every family is warmly greeted by someone, if not DPFR staff, then by a seasoned FAF members.
- Provides an opportunity for a group to be of service in a very individual manner, having fun while supporting a family so in need of a respite.
- Comforts our Domus Pacis families knowing that our community is sharing a part of this journey with them.
- Gathers friends, neighbors and work colleagues to participate in a joint project that allows them all to feel first-hand how much their words and connection REALLY matter.
- Gives Domus Pacis staff a *bit* of work/life balance.

Process:

- Once completing the thorough Foster-A-Family training, check the website's Volunteer Calendar for when Foster-A-Family opportunities are identified.
- The FAF team leader will be contacted by DPFR staff to...
 - Outline guidelines on expectation...maximum and minimum
 - Warn of allergies, aversions and dietary restrictions
- The **Foster-A-Family** team responsibilities are to...
 - Contact individual volunteers ...from the team or new members
 - Plan meals...especially first night warm soup/chili and bread
 - Create Welcome Basket
 - Welcome the Domus Pacis family upon their arrival

