



**wecare**

**Fostering a discipleship gateway**

by caring for the diverse and essential needs of all people

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# WHAT IS “WE CARE”

**WeCare** Ministries exemplifies Refuge Church's commitment to sharing the hope of Jesus through tangible actions, guided by the Spirit of God and manifesting the fruit of the Spirit as seeds sown into the community. Additionally, it strives to embody Jesus' parable, encouraging disciples to illuminate the gospel through their deeds, bringing glory to God and guiding others toward Him (cf. Matthew 5:14-16). The ministry also seeks to establish a welcoming "front porch (cf. Acts 5:12; Solomon's porch)" for those outside the kingdom, inviting them in through inclusion, invitation, and discipleship.

# HOW DO “WE CARE”

We follow the example of Jesus in both feeling and action. Mark 6:34 says, “When [Jesus] went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had **compassion** on them, **because** they were like sheep without a shepherd. And he began to teach them many things.” Not shortly after Jesus performed a miracle by feeding over five thousands people. With physical essentials satisfied, there was now appropriate space for spiritual appetite.

**We Care** by compassionately meeting needs while simultaneously remaining goal-oriented to the discipleship process. WeCare can become an onboarding process that starts the growth tract at Refuge.

# WHY DO “WE CARE”

It's easy to assume that Jesus was only interested in our “soul”, but that's not entirely true. Jesus cared for the entirety of a person - body, mind, heart, spirit and soul. He was concerned with every aspect of humanity, and that's why we should **care** for every part of a person's journey (emotionally, mentally, spiritually and physically) as they walk toward Christ and eventually walk with Him.







# WHO DO “WE CARE” FOR?

Everyone. Every Culture. Creed. Gender. Race. Age. Nationality. Ethnicity. Religion. Occupation.

**A caveat to this will be at times we focus narrowly and purposefully to certain subgroups** (i.e., single mothers, the unhoused, abused, economically challenged, the minority, those struggling with addiction etc.)

# WHERE DO “WE CARE”

In all sincerity, our impact is widespread, yet we maintain a laser focus on our two campus locations (Excelsior, Independence, and the surrounding areas). Our commitment is unwavering, as we never turn anyone away but remain strategic in our mission to care (cf. Acts 6:1-7).

**Excelsior Population:** 10,500

**The reach:** entire population

**Independence Population:** approximately 120,000

**The reach:** 8 mile radius of church location - roughly 60,000)

# WHAT DOES THAT LOOK LIKE?

IDEAS



MORE IDEAS  
TO COME

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for **KIDS** ..... Back to School Bash Drive

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for **FAMILIES** ..... Thanksgiving Dinner (open to community)  
Adopt a family  
Emergent Needs (CarePortal)

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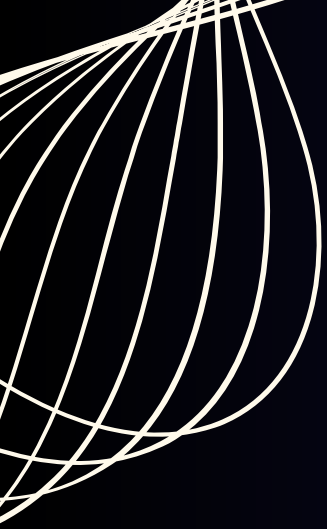
for **COMMUNITY**..... Teacher supply drive  
Service for public service members (police, fire, medical, funeral directors)  
Provide meals for PD, FD, ED, First Responders (one month of year)  
Annual City-Wide Clean Up  
Hand out bottled water during summer  
Nursing Home "TakeOver"  
Shut-Ins (connected to Refuge - send cards/make visits)  
Celebrate Recovery





# wecare *re*PORTAL

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**CarePortal** functions as an organizational system enabling churches to address the needs of children within the school system. When a child requires assistance, the social worker communicates their essential needs through a detailed narrative on a systematic platform, forming a request. This request is then transmitted to registered churches in the county. Subsequently, we respond based on our available time, talents, and resources to meet the identified needs.

# HOW CAREPORTAL WORKS



## EXAMPLE CASE | 10-18-23

Mom has had a history of drug use and has had two prior pregnancies. Due to her drug use, she had to willingly put her children for adoption. Mother has since been clean and just recently had a new baby. She still has a probation officer, but is wanting to keep her recent child. Mother and infant tested negative at the hospital with the pediatrician having no concerns. Mother currently lives with an aunt and wanted to see if we can help her out with getting a baby monitor. I let her know that I would try to see what I can do to help her out.

**Request:** #146770

**Children Served:** 1

**Adults Served:** 2

**Tier 1:** Physical Needs

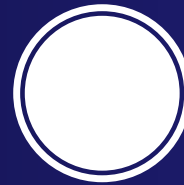
**Agency:** MO- DSS **Location:** Excelsior Springs, MO, 64024

**County:** Clay

# CAREPORTAL | TEAM STRUCTURE

## CAREPORTAL COORDINATORS

Accept requests and mobilizes team and volunteers to dedicated times, spaces and locations to meet the needs of community.



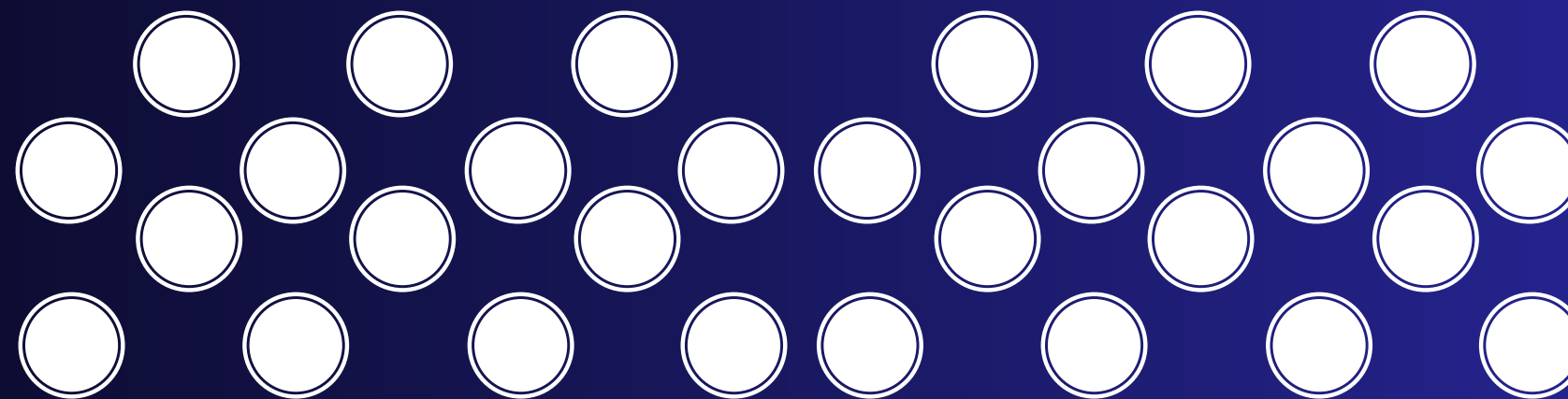
## CAREPORTAL TEAM

Collaborating with coordinators to establish effective practices for engaging with families both during and after visits.



## CAREPORTAL VOLUNTEERS

Be available to contribute to manual tasks when the inventory requires additional manpower to streamline the workload.





# “WE CARE” ARMS



## CARE PORTAL

A strong system linking children and families with churches seeking essential assistance.



## CELEBRATE RECOVERY

Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered program that helps us deal with life's "hurts, habits and hang-ups."



## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Hosting various events throughout the year to connect with the community and enhance Refuge's visibility. Rooted in the question: **If someone inquired, "I'm new in town and seeking a church, would they suggest Refuge?"**



## COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT

The focus is on contributing value to the community, rooted one fundamental question: **Would the community sense an impact if Refuge were to depart from a campus area?**

