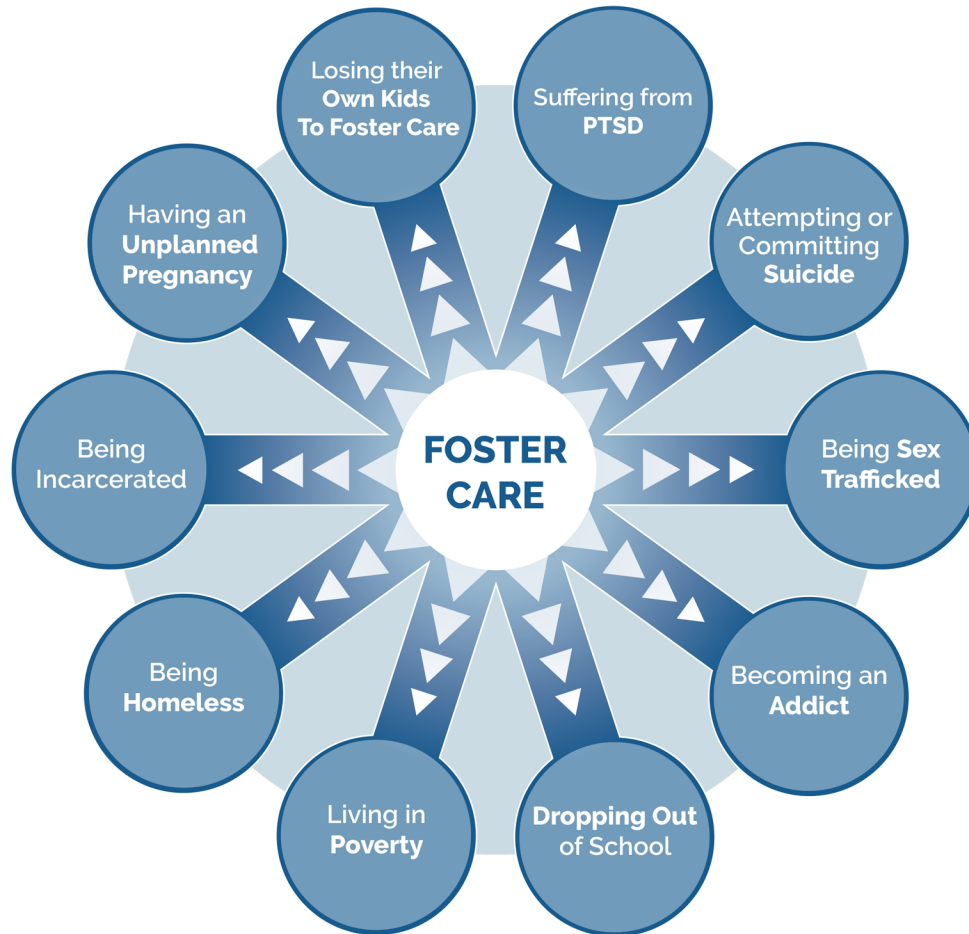




10 Social Needs



10 Social Wounds of Foster Care

There are many worthy causes, so what makes focusing on foster care strategic? Foster care is at the root of a number of current-day social wounds.

Solving the crisis for kids in foster care is a smart issue as well as a heart issue.

Kids who age out of foster care without being connected to a family are far more at risk for a myriad of issues.

1 Trauma / Mental Health

1 in 4 will experience PTSD in their lifetime – more than twice the rate of US veterans of war.



10 Social Needs

2 Suicide

Adolescents who had been in foster care were nearly four times more likely to have attempted suicide than other youth.

3 Sex

Trafficking – Statistics vary widely, but nearly all show that a majority of child sex trafficking victims – anywhere from 50% to 90% - have been in foster care.

4 Addiction

For kids who aged out of foster care one-third stated that they currently had drug or alcohol problems. Half admit to use of illegal drugs since leaving the system.

5 Drop Out

Less than half will have graduated from high school.

6 Poverty

One-third of foster alumni have household incomes at or below the poverty line.

7 Homelessness

Nearly half will become homeless within a year of aging out.

8 Incarceration

By age 23, nearly half of male foster youth have spent time behind bars.

9 Unplanned Pregnancy

Three times as many girls (compared to the national average) will have a child before their 19th birthday.

10 Lose Their Own Kids To Foster Care

When it comes to predicting if a child will enter foster care, the #1 risk factor is the mom's child welfare history.

We are sincerely thankful for organizations that help people who are homeless, suicidal, trafficked, etc. However, your faith community can help thousands of kids not need those organizations a few years from now because they belonged to a family instead.