



Foster Friendly Business Impact Partner FAQ

Q. What is a Business Impact Partner?

- A. CKB Business Impact Partners are businesses in Colorado who desire to impact children and families in foster care with their business. It takes entire communities to wrap around families and children in foster care. By partnering with Colorado Kids Belong (CKB), you can provide community support and awareness that makes a significant **UPSTREAM impact on local children and families**. This program offers an easy way to support your community, your employees, and the state's most vulnerable children along with courageous foster parents who stand in the gap for these kids. Each partner chooses how to tailor their participation based upon their unique business.

Q. What ways can I engage?

- A. You and your business can...
1. **Impact Your Employees** by including foster families in your employee benefits and participating in foster care awareness initiatives with your employees.
 2. **Impact Your Community** by committing to provide a discount or service to families who are fostering.
 3. **Impact The Children** by contributing financially to the mission to give children in foster care a face and a voice.
 4. **Impact The Future** by providing on-the-job career training for children aging out of foster care.

Q. Can you give me some ideas of what the discount can look like?

- A. Sure! Take whatever products or services your business offers and extend a discount or freebie to families that are fostering. This lightens their financial load and helps them to be seen in our community. It also encourages others to consider becoming foster parents themselves when they see how the local business community wraps around these families.

Examples:

50% off gym memberships | Free house cleaning for foster family | 30% off kids classes | Kids eat free with paying adult | 20% off purchase (mattresses, clothing, toys, etc.) | \$1000 towards an upgraded vehicle | Buy 1 Get 1 Free (activity, meal, camp, tutoring) | **The options are endless!**

Q. How many children are in foster care in my area?

- A. There are over 4,000 children who are in foster care in the state of CO, however, the number of children varies from county to county.

Kids in Foster Care in 2020: Arapahoe: 246 | Douglas: 38 | Jefferson: 137

Q. How would I identify foster families?

- A. Each foster family will have an identification card that was given to them by their agency or county. They have a profile in the APP where they can upload a picture of their ID card.

Q. Is this for adoptive families as well?

- A. This program is specifically for foster families who are actively providing a stable home environment for children in foster care who are waiting for reunification or adoption. Keep in mind, foster families may have 2 children at the breakfast table and 5 children at the dinner table. It would be impossible to track all the families who have adopted privately in our state.

Q. How do we promote this as a business?

- A. We have “Foster Friendly” stickers that can be placed in a store window or door to alert foster families, bring awareness to the community, and build social goodwill among customers. The presence of your sticker shows the community at large that foster families are supported here and brings further awareness to the issue of foster care. CKB will be promoting the partnerships to foster families in CO as well.

Q. How long would this commitment be?

- A. Our hope is that you would commit to partner with CKB and the foster care community long-term and see this as a part of your social goodwill in the community. Your business can re-evaluate in writing at any time but we ask for a minimum 6-month commitment.

Q. Don't parents get paid to foster?

- A. Foster parents are provided with stipend rates for each child, however, this does not cover the entirety of their care or allow for many routine activities. Our hope is to support these families so they can continue with normal life routines as much as possible when they take in a new placement. (i.e. If biological kids are in gymnastics class, then foster children placed in their home could also attend without a huge financial increase to the family. This communicates to a child in foster care that they are important and valued, too!

Ready to Get Started?

Become a CKB Business Impact Partner