



Clara's Hope

clarashope.org

[Wishlist](#)

Children, Families & Seniors

Year Founded: 2015

Mission: Clara's Hope helps families achieve success in foster care and adoption.

Summary of work: Clara's Hope works alongside the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and private agencies to fill in the gaps and support foster and adoptive families.

Project name and purpose: Mentor Families Pilot Program will build community with others who understand the isolation, challenges, and victories within foster care and adoption. We will also offer scholarships for specialized trauma/attachment therapy in Genesee County for at least 25 parents and children annually.

Details of Proposed Project: A Program Manager will onboard and train experienced foster and adoptive families as Mentor Families with ongoing support and/or training at least monthly. Newer foster/adoptive families will sign up for a specific Mentor Family. The Mentor Families will host monthly gatherings at their home with a suggested agenda or topics provided as a guide. Each year, the number of mentor families is projected to double.

Goals and Objectives: By providing unique, innovative services that are not otherwise available, foster and adoptive families can find the support they need to continue to say yes to caring for children from hard places. We hope to expand services and increase retention to at least 80% to support more families year after year.

Implementation Timeline: 18-24 months

Target population: Foster and adoptive families

Number served: 93 families in 2023

Budget:

Project Expense Description	Total Expense	Impact100 Genesee County Funds	Description
Salaries	\$30,000	\$30,000	Portion of 1 Program Manager, 1 Family Support Specialist for 24 months
Supplies	\$23,113	\$7,000	Program Supplies Mentor Family pilot, trainings, family/parent events for 24
Admin	\$87,000	\$20,000	Scholarships for Counseling/Parenting Classes for 24 months
TOTAL	\$140,113	\$57,000	

If the project budget exceeds the grant amount, explain the additional sources of funding:

- CONFIRMED: Freedom Center/Kingdom Builders (for Counseling/Parenting Classes) \$30,000
- PENDING: Community Foundation of Greater Flint: \$12,500
- PENDING: Fundraiser in February 2025: \$40,613

How will the project be sustained after the funds are used?

For almost 10 years, Clara's Hope has proven sustainability in providing and expanding much needed services through the support of faithful donors, businesses, and other funding partners. The continued faithful support and generosity of these donors, along with creative fundraising and grant opportunities, will help Clara's Hope continue to serve local foster and adoptive families well into the future. This grant allows us to implement a new program and gives time to research and develop additional funding sources and plans to continue all programs offered.