



Retail Orphan Initiative
 Helping Vulnerable Children Worldwide
www.RetailROI.org

Case Study

RetailROI lends a hand to Safe Families for Children.

When crisis strikes, many of us rely on relatives and our church family for support. But for some parents, there isn't a safety net. Often problems such as drug addiction, domestic abuse, incarceration, or illness can be debilitating, making it impossible for parents to care for their children. With the changing economy many more families are experiencing financial crisis, unemployment, and homelessness. During such crisis, children are especially at-risk for neglect or abuse as their parents struggle to cope with crushing circumstances and emotions.

Without assistance, many of these families will find the issues in their homes escalating to episodes of abuse and/or neglect with long lasting consequences for not only the child, but also for our communities as well.

Safe Families for Children expands the community safety net by providing parents in need with mentoring relationships and tangible support in times of crisis.

Since 2005, **Safe Families for Children** has offered sanctuary to thousands of children, minimizing the risk for abuse or neglect and giving parents the time and tools they need to help their families thrive. The ultimate goal is to strengthen and support parents so they can become safe families for their own children.

Without such help, the statistics are staggering and getting worse:

- 75% of all prison inmates have spent time in the foster care system.



Safe Families for Children

- 80% of foster kids become parents themselves by age 20, often with 2-3 children on state benefit rolls.
- 90% chance of being on public assistance for 20 years or more
- Yet 50% go into state custody for a temporary circumstance where Safe Families can help.

A \$1,000 donation can turn into over \$1,600,000 savings to society if we are able to strengthen the family and keep the child out of the state system.

The grants from RetailROI have helped launch Safe Families programs in Nashville, Ft. Lauderdale, and Minneapolis St. Paul while helping to extend the work in the Chicago metro area. In the last two years over 2,000 children have gone through the program.

The exciting and groundbreaking work of **Safe Families for Children** has recently been featured on CBS News with Katie Couric and many other news outlets.

To find out how you can help RetailROI, go to:

<http://retailroi.org/Donate.aspx>

To find out more about Safe Families for Children, go to:

<http://www.safe-families.org>