



Who is the Faith to Action Initiative?

The Faith to Action Initiative serves as a resource for Christian groups, churches, organizations and individuals seeking to respond to the needs of orphans and vulnerable children in Africa and around the world.

The core focus of our work is to encourage action that is informed by evidence-based “best practice” and efforts that recognize and uphold the vital importance of family and community in the life of every child.

We believe that children grow best in the love and care of families. In the past, building orphanages has often been a “first response” to meeting children’s needs. Today, there is a growing movement within the Christian church to strengthen family-based care for children in need.

The Faith to Action Initiative celebrates this movement and works to support it. We offer practical tools and resources, inspiring stories and examples, and up-to-date information on key strategies and research to help guide action. We seek to engage and equip churches and individuals through our website, publications, conference workshops and webinars.

Leadership Council

Our Leadership Council serves as the governing body for the Initiative. Members support the Initiative in their areas of expertise, and member organizations amplify the messaging within their own networks.

Kerry Olson, Chair (*Founder/President Emeritus, Firelight Foundation*)

John Derrick (*Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, Marcus Autism Center; Coordinator, Vulnerable Child Network, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship*)

C.H. Dyer (*CEO/President, Bright Hope*)

Tendai Masiriri (*Director of Global Services, Bethany Christian Services*)

Severine Chevrel (*Senior Coordinator, Better Care Network*)

Mark Lorey (*Vice President, Child Development and Programme Effectiveness, World Vision International*)

Wendy McMahan (*Director of Church Engagement, Food for the Hungry*)

Tanya Medrano (*Technical Advisor for Vulnerable Children & Youth, FHI 360*)

Elli Oswald (*Director of Mission and Outreach, Bethany Community Church*)

Jon Singletary (*Associate Dean and Professor, Baylor School of Social Work*)

Sarah Gesiriech (*Coordinator, Faith to Action Initiative*)

Advisory Group Members

Michael Douris (*President, Orphan Outreach*)

Jedd Medefind (*President, Christian Alliance for Orphans*)

John Williamson (*Senior Technical Advisor, Displaced Children and Orphans Fund, USAID*)

Learn more about the Faith to Action Initiative by visiting www.faithtoaction.org