

Partners IN Service (PINS)

What: Partners IN Service (PINS) brings together faith communities and human service agency staff to serve children and families involved with the child welfare staff of the Family Services Division of the Vermont Department for Children and Families (DCF). PINS promotes the resiliency and success of children and youth who have experienced abuse and neglect, ranging in age from infant to young adult.

When: This ministry could involve a variety of projects to help children in foster care. Ongoing communication with DCF would occur throughout the year.

Who: An initial contact with the PINS coordinator was made in 2007. This ministry has not yet been fully realized at Ascension.

How: Ascension has not yet begun participation with PINS. What follows is how congregations can take part in this ministry.

Participating congregations make a plan with staff from DCF facilitated by the PINS State Coordinator. This plan crafts a partnership according to the congregation and caseworker, and the age and needs of the children being served. Examples of how congregations may help these vulnerable children and youth follow.

- Winter coats, underwear, boots
- Backpacks and school supplies
- Toiletries
- Mentors
- Duffle bags
- Diapers and baby care items
- Sports equipment
- Car and booster seats
- Camp scholarships
- Senior pictures and prom dresses
- Used furniture
- Quilts
- Gardening supplies
- Foster Parent appreciation events

Website: www.dcf.state.vt.us/fsd/PINS