

Ongoing Adoption and Kinship Support (OAKS)

Adoptive and post guardianship families are facing unique challenges in parenting their new child or children. These families frequently feel alone and without access to the supportive services that could assist them in maintaining their family unit despite challenging behaviors and struggles with attachment and bonding. Over time without the needed services, these families become disheartened and discouraged. The implementation of this new family-based program will provide support services to these families. A unique benefit is that these services will be provided by an agency external to the county.

Home Based Parent Education and Coaching

The OAKS program provides parent education and coaching in the home on a regular basis (based on family needs). Our home based services are performed by staff trained in Trust Based Relational Intervention strategies and the Exchange Parent Aide Model to best meet these needs for families. These attachment-based interventions offer parents the tools to help build successful interventions for their children.

Support Networks

The OAKS staff wants parents and children to feel supported. We address these needs by offering support groups to both parents and children. While parents are in their support group, the children will be in their own therapeutic support group. We also offer support for families in connecting with other adoptive families who offer the perspective from their own personal lived experiences as adoptive and/or kin families.

Home Based Therapy

Home-based therapy is offered to families who need additional support. A Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) will work with the entire family on a consistent basis. The focus is on helping each family member so the family unit is able to function at its best. The frequency and therapeutic models utilized are based upon assessment. The LPC has extensive experience working with children, adolescents, and families and is trained in Eve Movement and Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR), Parent Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) and Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT).

Educational Support

We have experienced staff who act as an educational liaison to families in need. The liaison helps support families through the IEP process in the school setting. The liaison is available to help with any educational needs including guidance on identifying alternative school settings, access to tutoring, and advocating for your child's needs.

Resource and Referral

Our experienced staff members are knowledgeable about the current resources available for adoptive and kinship families. Navigating these programs alone can be overwhelming for families, especially when finding legal supports. Let our staff help you through programs to benefit and strengthen your family.



If you would like more information about Adopt America Network or the Ongoing Adoption and Kinship Services program, please visit

www.adoptamericanetwork.org. You may also contact us by calling 1-800-246-1731 or sending an e-mail to adoption@adoptamericanetwork.org.

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