KANSAS POST ADOPTION RESOURCE CENTER

Dedicated to strengthening adoptive families in Kansas

Kansas Post Adoption Resource Center (K-PARC) is a project provided by the collaboration of the Department for Children and Families and Adopt Kansas Kids.

K-PARC aims to:
• Support and educate adoptive families;
• Create a network of Kansas adoptive families; and
• Provide resources for professionals and communities.

K-PARC Services

Strong and Stable Families Couples Retreat uses a two-day relationship and parent education program called Building a Home with Heart. It is free for parents who have adopted children from Kansas foster care. This training focuses on improving key skills for healthy and strong family relationships while supporting connections among adoptive parents. Single parents are welcome and encouraged to bring someone for support.

Adoption support groups (peer-to-peer support focused) are offered statewide. Parent leaders are trained to facilitate support groups in their communities with assistance from K-PARC staff. Child care is provided and meetings are held at times most convenient for families.

Adoptive parent cafés and workshops are educational events covering topics that relate to the needs of adoptive parents and adopted children. Training on how to support families who are raising trauma-impacted children is also available to community-based organizations.

Adoption peer support identifies experienced adoptive parents who could support new adoptive families. Peer support training is provided to volunteers, and trained volunteers receive supervision and support. K-PARC staff connects volunteers with adoptive parents actively seeking peer support.

Referral and resource development services include a list of family service providers who have training and experience with children who are adopted, have suffered from trauma or have special needs. K-PARC staff and mentors connect families with community resources that will most benefit them.

Kansas Adoptive Advisory Council members provide support to K-PARC by volunteering as group leaders, mentors, regional coordinators and speakers. They review and advise K-PARC on program development, policies and procedures. Members include Kansas adoptive parents who have completed mentor training and served as mentors or parent leaders in their community.

Professional support and training for people who serve adoptive families. Adoption service professionals can grow as a community through networking opportunities and online resources provided by K-PARC.