

Keep reading to stay informed on events and happenings at Foster Adopt MN, as well as information about our programming and ways you can help with our mission of finding and strengthening Minnesota adoptive, foster care, and kinship families.

Check out the new Permanency Services Resource Hub



Foster Adopt Minnesota is excited to announce the official launch of the new <u>Permanency</u> <u>Services Resource Hub</u>!

What is the Permanency Services Resource Hub?

The Permanency Services Resource Hub is a statewide, centralized resource for all prospective and current kinship, foster, and adoptive families in Minnesota and the professionals who support these communities.

The Permanency Services Resource Hub is funded through the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) and has been developed by Foster Adopt Minnesota to raise awareness about the Public Private Adoption Initiative (PPAI) and Permanency Support Services (PSS) agencies and the permanency-related services available to families throughout the state.

The hub is designed to address the spectrum of permanency-related needs for families ranging from those who are just starting the process of considering foster care (with reunification as the permanency goal when safe and possible), kinship care, guardianship, or adoption—to those who have finalized and are in need of resources and supports.

Why visit the Resource Hub?

Information about the services PPAI and PSS agencies offer has always been available, but finding and accessing that information often required an element of knowing where to look and what questions to ask. That task can be especially daunting for families who are just starting out and for families who are really struggling or are in crisis. The last thing we want to have happen is for families to not receive the support and resources they need because they don't know who to reach out to for help or what to even ask for.

The hope is that the Resource Hub will help take some of the guesswork out of that for current and prospective families and professionals by having all of the initial information located in one place.

It is important to note that the Resource Hub is designed to serve as a connector and referral center for families and professionals in need of resources and support. The individual agency pages include at-a-glance information about the agencies and the services they provide under the PPAI and PSS grants. After viewing that initial information, families and professionals can then either navigate directly to the agency websites to learn more. They also have the option of reaching out via the Resource Hub Contact Form to be provided with a list of agencies that serve their region and provide the services they need— or a referral or direct connection to the agency providing the specific support they are looking for.

In addition to the resources for families, the hub also contains a plethora of information and resources specifically for professionals who support the kinship, foster, and adoption communities.

How often will the information be updated?

While FAM is responsible for the development and maintenance of the Permanency Services Resource Hub, this has very much been a collaborative effort between FAM, DHS, and the PPAI and PSS agencies. FAM will reach out to PPAI and PSS agency representatives on a monthly basis for agency landing page updates and additions to the family and professional calendars. All information about the PPAI and PSS agencies, the services they provide, and the events they facilitate is all provided by the agencies. Agencies will add and update calendar events as they go, but the hope is for events to be added to the calendars at least one month in advance. We encourage families and professionals to check back on a regular basis for agency updates, calendar additions, and new resources!

Who should I contact with questions about the Resource Hub?

You can reach the Resource Hub team via the site <u>Contact Form</u> or via email at <u>info@permanencyhubmn.org</u>.

Visit the new Permanency Services Resource Hub at <u>https://permanencyhubmn.org/</u> and check out the "<u>Exploring the New Permanency Services Resource Hub</u>" webinar to hear from the Resource Hub team about the development of the hub and how to navigate this exciting new resource!

Waiting Sibling Group



These friendly, curious and playful siblings are waiting for their permanent home.

FAM recognized as Innovator with HRC



We're proud to be among the 172 organizations working with the Human Rights Campaign to provide affirming services to the LGBTQ+ community. Learn more.

Upcoming Workshop



We are excited to bring Tianna Thompson (owner of Human of Color Haircare) and her team to teach you all things curly hair & bring you hands on opportunities to practice with their guidance.

BONUS: A light lunch will be provided AND the first 10 people to register will receive a FREE product! **Register here.**

FAM Gear & Apparel



Our online store is NOW OPEN! When you purchase from the FAM Store, 100% of the profits help support our mission to find and strengthen Minnesota adoptive, foster care, and kinship families.

You will also be raising awareness by wearing the cool FAM merchandise.

Go check it out!

SAVE THE DATE

Our Spring Summit is back! Save the date for **March 7, 13, & 19**. With 12 workshops coming our Spring Summit offers a variety of topics to help meet the needs of those on the frontline of foster care, kinship care and adoption.

Highlighting the Professionals in our Community...

...and the good work they do!

Keely Vandre

Permanency and Adoption Competency Certificate (PACC) Coordinator, Center for Advanced Studies in Child Welfare

The <u>Permanency and Adoption Competency</u> <u>Certificate (PACC)</u> was developed in 2010 as a response to community demand to meet the need for increasing the availability and competency of a professional workforce able to work across systems to serve the unique and complex clinical and practice needs for adopted individuals and their families.



The goal of PACC is to increase the number of qualified permanency and adoption mental health and child welfare professionals in Minnesota able to work in collaborative, cross-disciplinary and multicultural contexts. Over more than a decade of programming, PACC has graduated over 420 professionals across 23 regional cohorts.

What drives Keely's passion?

More than anything, I love the dynamic nature of my role bringing firsthand storytellers and experts into each PACC classroom to teach, collaborate, and learn alongside our interdisciplinary cohorts. I also love the ongoing exchange of information through PACC's extensive alumni network and <u>Directory</u> – each year as our program graduates more professionals across child welfare and mental health settings, I get to incorporate new practices and approaches they have shared supporting permanency for kids and families. It proves that we really do better work when we do it together!

Let's Work Together



Become part of the solution.

We're all in this together, with the goal of ensuring that every Minnesota child has the opportunity to grow up in a safe and secure family that will help them thrive and realize their best potential. Whether you make a donation, volunteer your time, or tell your story to help others better understand the need, the actions you take show that every Minnesota child matters.

Want to get involved with Foster Adopt Minnesota's mission but don't know where to start?

Learn more and let's work together!

Social Justice, Race & Equity

Celebrate International Adoptee Voices

This month we want to institute January as the month to celebrate international adoptee voices. Here are the first of a few set of resources that we will be highlighting this month from amazing advocates, activists, artists and brave souls who share their experiences, perspective sand knowledge as international adoptees.

Please take a look at some of the resources below for folks to follow, hear from, and learn from (*click on images*):



JaeRan Kim -Harlow's Monkey Blog



Inter Country Adoptee Voices



"Adoption: Our Voices, Our Stories"



I Am Adoptee -Reflections





The Zero Kids Waiting Program is the gateway to information about adoption, foster care, and kinship in Minnesota.

The Fostering Network Program provides awareness, information, support, and referral to improve the safety and well-being of Minnesota children in foster care.



Support, guidance, and resource connection for Minnesota's adoption, foster and kinship communities



Information, resources, and referrals regarding post-permanency support in Minnesota



Our Education Program provides workshops on topics relevant to foster, adoptive, and kinship families.



Provides information and referral to adopted persons, birth families, and adoptive families who need records or have questions about the search process.



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