

Family Support Groups & Associations

Last updated May 2025

The following list is provided as informational purposes only. Inclusion on this list is not to be construed as endorsement by the Wisconsin Family Connections Center, the Coalition for Children, Youth & Families, or their funders.

If you have information you would like added, updated, or removed, please contact the Wisconsin Family Connections Center staff at info@wifamilyconnectionscenter.org or 800-762-8063.

Statewide & Online/Alternative Support Groups

CHADD's ADHD Parents Together

Website: <https://healthunlocked.com/adhd-parents>

The ADHD Parents Together community is a place to discuss the impact of ADHD on both you and your child. Talking about the challenges you face as a parent of a child with ADHD can be hard, but sometimes, there's nothing more helpful than talking with others who are in the same boat. Our community is one where we can all have the conversations we need to, sharing our experiences and supporting each other.

Families of Russian and Ukrainian Adoptions

Email: fruauppermidwest@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.frua.org/>

The mission of FRUA is to provide hope, help and community for adoptive families, in a very personal, localized way. This is done by forming a community willing to share experiences, knowledge, and resources dealing with medical, educational, parenting and adoption issues. FRUA also offers the opportunity to celebrate multiple heritages of our families and to forge lifelong friendships. Send an email or visit the website to connect with your region, to find a FRUA regional chapter contact or inquire about setting up a FRUA Parent Organized District (POD) near you.

Families Rising

Website: <https://wearefamiliesrising.org/parent-group/region/Wisconsin/>

You are not alone! Find more caregivers with shared experiences and get peer-to-peer help.

Parent groups allow you to connect with other families with similar stories, get and give advice, and feel supported through every step of your family's journey.

Families Rising maintains a database with many adoption-related support groups from across the US and Canada.

Please note that some groups serve a region or even state while others serve a smaller community.

KINnect: Online

Website: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/virtual-group-kinnect-relative-caregivers-of-children-tickets-114153498186>

Please continue to join us for this opportunity to connect with other relative caregivers who are the primary caregivers of their grandchildren, nieces, and nephews as a way to share the joys and challenges of being a relative caregiver.

National Association of Adoptees & Parents' (NAAP) Adoptee Paths to Recovery

Contact Person: David B. Bohl

Email: David@NAAPUnited.org

Website: <https://naapunited.org/adoptee-paths-to-recovery#:~:text=Adoptee%20Paths%20to%20Recovery%20Support,can%20benefit%20from%20sharing%20together.>

Adoptee Paths to Recovery Support Meetings are non-denominational and based on the philosophy that adoptees experiencing any type of addiction (substance-related and/or behavioral) have much in common and can benefit from sharing together. These meetings offer a safe place where people can share their addiction recovery challenges, experiences, and solutions, as well as how recovery has changed their lives. Groups are facilitated by a professional with expertise in recovery and adoption, both professional and lived. They hold meetings that are open to everyone, regardless of the uniqueness of their pattern or patterns of addiction. It is a way for adoptees seeking and practicing all types of recovery to come together and learn from one another. Meetings are virtual and the meeting schedule can be found on [their Eventbrite page](#).

Latin America Adoptive Families of Wisconsin, Inc. (LAAF-WI, Inc.)

Contact Person: Tami Stubbe

Phone: 414-801-5703 or 262-560-0593

This group is open to Wisconsin families who have adopted from Latin America, or who are considering adopting from Latin America. Some of the goals of this group include: providing support, guidance, and information for families wishing to adopt from Latin America; social activities for adoptive families; plan cultural events to celebrate Latin American heritage; publish a tri-annual newsletter; and sponsor projects in developing Latin American countries which will improve the quality of life for children living in those countries.

Wisconsin Adoption Support Network (Online Group)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/216060345210952/>

This online group allows Wisconsin adoptive parents to connect with one another and share resources, information, ideas, and support.

Wisconsin Adult Adoptee Support Network (Online Group)

Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/190264501147117

This online group allows Wisconsin adult adoptees to connect with one another and share resources and support.

Wisconsin Family Ties

E-mail: info@wifamilyties.org

Phone: 800-422-7145

Website: www.wifamilyties.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/wisconsinfamilyties>

Wisconsin Families Ties has advocates throughout the state who provide support for families with children who have serious emotional and behavioral disorders. Please call to find out about resources in your area.

Wisconsin Foster and Adoptive Parents Association, Inc. (WFAPA)

Contact Person: Tina Christopherson, President

E-mail: twfapa@new.rr.com

Phone: 715-938-6667

Website: www.wfapa.org

WFAPA is a non-profit, peer and volunteer-based organization that supports and advocates for foster and adoptive parents by offering training and support programs. Members are adoptive and foster parents and those interested in child welfare. WFAPA holds two conferences a year which bring in highly qualified speakers who help educate on how to handle and better understand tough issues. A newsletter is sent to members four times a year. WFAPA board members meet quarterly with DCFS on foster and adoptive care issues.

SAAN-Surviving Allegations of Abuse and Neglect is a peer driven support network, the purpose of which is to minimize the trauma of foster and adoptive families while undergoing an allegation without compromising the integrity of that investigation.

FASSP-Foster & Adoptive Support & Preservation Program is to meet the needs of foster and adoptive parents statewide through a network of peer driven support and information which will help to preserve foster and adoptive families. It is a branch of the SAAN program and they both are connected to WFAPA. FASPP volunteers are highly trained to provide you with information and/or resources to guide you through various issues.

Wisconsin Foster/Adopt Group

Contact Person: Marianne Makes Anderson

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/481153358605514/>

A closed Facebook-based group for Wisconsin foster and adoptive families that encourages members to post trainings and events in their area, share thoughts and comments, or just vent.

Northeastern Region

Aspiring Anti-Racist White Parents/Caregivers

Contact: Rachel Westenberg

Email: rachel@weallriseaarc.org

Website: <https://www.weallriseaarc.org/post/2022-aspiring-anti-racist-white-allies-groups>

This is a space for specifically white parents or adults who have Black children or youth within their care. This can include white lead households who have Black children, are fostering Black youth, who have adopted Black youth, or have Black youth within their care.

Calvary Bible Church Adoptive/Foster Parent Group – Winnebago County

Email: calvaryfosteradopt@gmail.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Calvarybiblechurchfosterandadoptionministry/>

It's All Relative – Outagamie County

Contact: Beth Reimer

Email: beth.reimer@outagamie.org

Contact: Kathryn Krauter

Email: Kathryn.krauter@outagamie.com

Meetings are for grandparents or relatives who are raising children. Meetings alternate between programs on relevant topics and a support meeting.

Lovin the Skin I'm In

Contact: Rhonda Chandler

Email: lovintheskinimin@gmail.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/135607977734196>

A faith based non-profit organization that empowers and uplifts girls of color (ages 7-18+) in N.E. Wisconsin while developing their gifts, talents and leadership skills.

Nami Fox Valley Family Support Groups

Website: <https://www.namifoxvalley.org/family-support-groups/>

Winnebago County

Contact: Jelaine Bauman

Email: betabink@hotmail.com

Phone: 920-460-2663

Northern Region

Connecting Families — Vilas County

Contact: Kelly Pyne

Email: kegrad@vilascountywi.gov

Website: <https://www.vilascountywi.gov/>

Relative caregivers, Kinship parents, and foster parents meet once a month at the Northwoods Children's Museum for a meal, a short training, and then networking. Museum is open and child care is provided.

Western Region

Dunn County: Monthly Support Group/Relative Raising Children

Website: <https://dunncountywi.gov/?SEC=5AC4BAED-D8E4-43F5-A2A9-28F3BD2B5F2B>

EVOLVE Adoption & Family Services' Proactive Parenting Support Group — Out-of-state (Minnesota)

Email: evolve@evolveservices.org

Phone: 651-439-2446

Website: www.evolveservices.org

Families with Children from Asia of the Chippewa Valley

Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/fcc.chippewavalley/

For any family with children who were born in Asia wanting to stay connected with others in the Chippewa Valley.

Southern Region

Adoption/Foster Support Group

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/499401416914489>

Families Like Ours

Contact: Mandi Stevens

Email: FamiliesLikeOurs@gmail.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/familieslikeoursmadison/>

Families Like Ours provides support, friendship, encouragement and resources to Madison, WI foster and adoptive families.

Families Through Korean Adoption – Dane County

Contact Person: Membership Coordinator

Email: FTKAmadison@gmail.com

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/147428315309464>

The mission of FTKA is to serve as a network of parents and children for social, cultural and educational issues related to Korean adoption. Group meets at various locations to provide support in a social setting to families in the process of or who have already adopted children from Korea.

Families With Children From Guatemala

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/62806800775/>

It's Not About You (INAY)

Contact: Shannon Reagan-Shaw

Phone: 608-213-6223

Madison Families with Children from China

Email: madisonfamilieschinesechildren@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/128010280576776/>

This group is for parents, family members and adoptees from China.

Southeast Region

Adoptive Family Support Group through Catholic Charities – Milwaukee County

Contact Person: Sarah Chidester

Email: schidester@ccmke.org

Phone Number: 414-771-2881

Website: <https://www.ccmke.org/Catholic-Charities/Get-Help/Adoption-Services.htm>

A group for pre-adoptive families, waiting families, and post adoptive families working with any adoption agency. A place for parents and children at any stage in the adoption process to connect, support, and share with other families touched by adoption. If you are interested in attending a meeting, please call or e-mail to RSVP.

Connecting Bridges – Milwaukee County

Contact Person: Jean Northway, President

Email: connectingbridgesmilwaukee@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/208378199276317/>

Connecting Bridges was formed in October 2009 by foster parents who volunteer their time to help make the difficult parts of foster care a little easier. Their primary and immediate goal is to help foster and adoptive children by helping their foster and adoptive parents. Another important goal is to help those trying to “mend” the Milwaukee County foster care system by helping those in it work together to more efficiently serve the children in the system. This group has an active Facebook page where members are encouraged to post questions as well as seek and provide support to other members. Connecting Bridges also has occasional in-person meetings, which are posted on the Facebook page.

Fond du Lac County Foster Care

Phone: 920-929-7114

Website: <https://www.fdlco.wi.gov/departments/departments-f-m/human-services/social-services/foster-care>

Foster Parent Support Group – Waukesha County

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/WaukeshaCountyFosterCare>

Grandparents as Caring for Grandchildren – Waukesha County

Phone: 262-548-7212

Website: <https://www.waukeshacounty.gov/health-and-human-services/aging-and-disability-resource-center-adrc-of-waukesha-county/caregiver-resources-and-programs/>

The Grandparent Caregivers program within the ADRC is open to grandparents or relative caregivers 55+ years of age who are caring for grandchildren under age 18, or who are caring for someone with a severe disability who is 19 - 59 years of age.

Jefferson County

Contact: Katie Schickowski

Email: katies@jeffersoncountywi.gov

Kenosha County

Contact: Community Impact Foster Care Program at 262-654- 1004

Kids Matter Inc.

Phone: 414-344-1220

Website: <https://www.kidsmatterinc.org/>

Lakeshore Foster Families and Friends/Fostering Connections – Manitowoc County

Website: <https://www.lakeshorefosterfamilies.org/events>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/LFFFSupportGroup>

This support group is open to any foster, kinship, or guardianship parents in Manitowoc County.

Ozaukee County Foster Care

Contact: Kristine Kuehlmann

Email: kkuehlmann@ozaukeecounty.gov

Phone: 262-284-8205

Parent Café – Waukesha County

Phone Number: (262) 521-0317

Email: Peggyh@excellencecenters.com

Parent Cafes are an educational opportunity for parents to come together and deal with the stressors, worries, and challenges of parenting in a supportive environment.

The Parenting Network – Milwaukee County

Phone Number: 414-671-0566

Email: helplineg@theparentingnetwork.org

Website: www.theparentingnetwork.org

The Parenting Network offers a variety of parenting classes and groups at locations throughout Milwaukee County. Registration is required.

- **Parent Cafes**

Contact Person: Andrea Libber

Email: alibber@theparentingnetwork.org

Phone: [414-260-8482](tel:414-260-8482)

Parents Place – Waukesha County

Phone Number: 262-549-5575

Website: www.parentsplacewi.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/parentsplacewi>

Parents Place offers a variety of rotating community education programs including Love and Logic®, Kids Managing Anger, The Traumatized Child, Big Emotions-Meltdowns and Tantrums, Parents of Children with Special Challenges, Mindful Parent/Happy Child, and special speakers. Check their website for a current list of program offerings and more information on the ongoing support groups listed below.

- **Playgroup:** A free on-going group for parents, grandparents, primary caregivers and children. Meet new parents and have fun while supporting each other.
- **Parenting through Depression & Anxiety:** Members help each other as symptoms of depression and/or anxiety make parenting difficult. Get tips for managing and preventing symptoms as well as the support of parents who are faced with the same challenges.
- **Foster Parent Support:** This Parent facilitated support group looks at the struggles associated with being a foster parent. Connect with other foster parents in the area to share experiences and hardships and support one another.

Relative Caregivers Support/Education Group – Waukesha County

Contact: Janis Ramos or Libby Sinclair

Phone Number: 262-548-7267 or 262-548-7677

The Women's Center – Waukesha County

E-mail: mail@twcwaukesha.org

Phone Number: 262-547-4600

Website: <http://twcwaukesha.org/get-help/support-groups/>

Please call 262-547-4600 or send an email to mail@twcwaukesha.org to find out when these groups are offered and to speak to the group facilitator before participating.

United Foster Parent Association of Greater Milwaukee

Website: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/mcps/foster-adoptive-family-resources>

Phone: 414-477-3598 or 414-871-8230

A support group for foster and adoptive parents.

Voices United

Email: voicesunitedmilw@aol.com