



Virtual Resource Kit:

*Welcoming a Child to Your Family With
Open Arms and Loving Hearts*



Whether a child comes to you through adoption, fostering, kinship care, or guardianship, they need to know they are safe, treasured, and unconditionally loved. Building trust will take time and relentless commitment, but the rewards for everyone in your family will be immeasurable. We have developed this kit to provide you with links to resources that enable you to create and maintain a nurturing, affirming, and welcoming home.

Tip Sheet

Honoring a Child's Racial and Cultural Identity

A strong sense of racial and cultural identity is crucial for a child's healthy development, fostering positive self-esteem, resilience, and a profound connection to their heritage. This tip sheet offers practical guidance on encouraging a child's racial, ethnic, and cultural identity in a way that benefits the entire family.

Champion Classrooms Courses and Webinars

Let's Talk: Preparing to Welcome a Child into Your Home

This webinar covers preparing your household and family members for the arrival of a new child. It addresses helping the child adjust to household rules, establishing trust, building positive relationships, ensuring confidentiality, facilitating healing, and much more.

Let's Talk: Partnering with Birth Parents

This mini-training focuses on practical steps foster parents can take to build collaborative relationships with birth parents to provide the best possible outcomes for children in care.

Foster Parents Supporting Birth Parents: Considerations for Success

Parents involved in the child welfare system often need support to help them through their journey, and foster parents may be well-positioned to provide the support needed. This webinar helps foster parents understand how to provide support to birth parents and offers tips for doing so effectively.

Transracial Parenting Series

Race and culture matter. By educating ourselves and challenging our own beliefs and biases, we can help children navigate their racial and ethnic development. The Transracial Parenting series is a collection of recorded webinars that provide support and resources for transracial families. The series of webinars is available on demand and free of charge.

No Matter What Families Videos

Stronger Together: Foster Parents on the Value of Birth Family Connections

Fostering the Family

Kinship Brings Change

Resource Library Items

Virtual Resource Kit: Relative Caregiving

***Welcoming a New Brother or Sister Through Adoption*, by Arleta James**

Welcoming a New Brother or Sister through Adoption is an empowering and realistic resource that celebrates the profound joys, as well as the complexities connected with adoption. This book comprehensively addresses the impact of adoption on all family members. Through real-life stories and quotes, this book provides vital insights for families and professionals.

***The Connected Child: Bring Hope and Healing to Your Adoptive Family*, by Karyn B. Purvis, Ph.D., David R. Cross, Ph.D., and Wendy Lyons Sunshine**

An invaluable guide for adoptive families, written by two research psychologists. This book helps parents build trust and affection with their adopted children, address learning and behavioral disorders, and implement loving, non-threatening discipline. It's an essential tool for any family looking to strengthen connections with the children in their care.

***Kinship Care: Birth Mothers Speak Out (DVD)*, by Dr. Joseph Crumbley**

This presentation is one in a 3-part series of Kinship Care topics developed and facilitated by Dr. Joseph Crumbley. Dr. Crumbley is an expert in the field of relative caregiving and an internationally respected author, therapist, trainer, and consultant. In this session, birth mothers share their diverse experiences with kinship care.

***Welcome Home, Forever Child: A Celebration of Children Adopted as Toddlers, Preschoolers, and Beyond*, by Christine Mitchell**

Welcome Home, Forever Child is a valuable resource for both children and parents. This book is geared towards children between the ages of two and eight, but older children who were adopted will also enjoy reading this book.

Additional Weblinks and Recommended Online Resources

Five Tips for New Relative Caregivers

Iowa Foster & Adoptive Parents Association (IFAPA) Welcome Pages

The ultimate guide to creating a warm and welcoming foster home

10 Top Tips when Welcoming a Foster Child into your Home

Welcoming a Foster Child Into Your Family

Questions? Contact the Wisconsin Family Connections Center at 1-800-762-8063
or at info@wifamilyconnectionscenter.org.