

**2014 Annual Report for Five-Year Prevention and Permanency
Support of Adoptive Families Strategy 2
Objective 2.1 Adoption Support Groups & 2.2 Education Opportunities for Adoptive Parents**

Reporting Period: January 1, 2014 – December 31, 2014

Summary of Plan Activities

Please provide a summary of activities for your five-year prevention and permanency plan objective. For each activity, please identify how they support/promote the Protective Factors.

- There is at least one adoptive parent support group in each circuit.
- Every circuit is disseminating a monthly or quarterly newsletter to all adoptive parents, including those who live in the rural areas who have to drive too far to attend adoptive parent support group meetings.
- Provide educational opportunities at least twice a year for adoptive parents provides information and reminders to families about parenting and child/youth development, nurturing and attachment and how to establish parental resilience.
- Identify educational needs of adoptive parents.
- Create and disseminate information about local and statewide educational opportunities.
- Explore funding opportunities for one or more adoptive families from each CBC to attend the annual national conference sponsored by the North American Council on Adoptable Children.
- Disseminate adoption competency curricula that can be provided to adoptive parents as part of post adoption services.

Progress

Please describe the progress towards achieving your objective outlined in the five-year plan. Example: Objective # - Progress achievement response

- We have achieved the goal of having an adoptive parent support group in each circuit and disseminating a monthly/quarterly newsletter to adoptive parents who live in the rural areas. Quarterly conference calls are scheduled for post adoption staff who are connected to the support groups.
- The Department provides a statewide training opportunity for adoptive families twice a year utilizing a recognized national adoption trainer. The events occur on a Saturday in January and May at no cost to the adoptive parents and child care and lunch is provided.
- Monthly and quarterly newsletters that include local and statewide educational opportunities for adoptive parents are disseminated by each Community Based Care Agency to the adoptive parents in their area.
- The evaluations completed by adoptive parents at the statewide trainings requests topics and ideas for future training events.
- Two Circuits have created a curricula, Adoption 101, that is provided to new and current adoptive parents and was disseminated to all post adoption services staff.

Please identify the percentage of achievement of your objective in the five-year prevention and permanency plan you think your team has achieved, and describe why.

100%. All circuits have at least one adoptive parent support group and all circuits are disseminating monthly or quarterly newsletters.

Do you think your team is on target to accomplishing your objective by June 2015? Why or why not?

YES

Highlights and Accomplishments

Please describe any highlights and accomplishments connected to your objective's five-year plan.

- There are fifteen more adoptive parent support groups than last year, and three new teen support groups.

Next Steps

Please identify what your objective's proposed next steps are for 2014 related to the five-year plan.

Continue to have quarterly conference calls and request needs/help regarding maintaining support groups.

Please identify what your objective's proposed next steps are for the next five-year plan, to be launched in July 2015.

Continue in helping to maintain/sustain the adoptive parent support groups. As well as continue to provide educational opportunities to adoptive parents.