

Help with your adopted child is just a phone call away



All parents may feel, at times, that they need help raising their children. For some, matters are complicated by other circumstances such as the trauma and loss that are often associated with adoption. Help from qualified professionals specializing in the area of adoption is available to families whose children/youth may be acting out. If this sounds like your home situation, please call for a referral today.

POST ADOPTION SERVICES UNIT (PAS)

PAS provides a variety of services to birth families and adult adoptees in addition to providing help and support to adoptive parents who are raising children they've adopted through Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services. PAS can provide adoptive families with information, individual crisis counseling and support, assistance with and recertification of Adoption Assistance Program (AAP) benefits and referrals to community resources and service providers. Two services that adoptive families can access through PAS are Adoption Promotion and Support Services (APSS) and Wraparound Services.

ADOPTION PROMOTION SUPPORT SERVICES (APSS)

Adoption Promotion Support Services (APSS) is committed to providing support services to children and families throughout the adoption process including families with finalized adoptions. The program addresses specific adoption-related issues including past loss that can manifest in behavioral problems at home or school. APSS includes adoption-specific case management, support groups for children and adults, adoption mentors, as well as individual, group or family therapy. Services are provided by community-based agencies near or at the family's home. Families must reside within Los Angeles County boundaries or be willing to drive to the closest APSS provider within Los Angeles County.

To qualify for these services either the adopted child, or child currently in adoptive planning, must have been a dependent of the Los Angeles County Juvenile Court and supervised by Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) or the family must have had an Adoption Home Study completed by Los Angeles County DCFS. A Medi-Cal card is required for therapy. All children receiving Adoption Assistance Program (AAP) payments are eligible to receive a Medi-Cal card. In addition, the adopted child must be less than 18 years of age.

ADOPTION WRAPAROUND SERVICES (WRAP)

For some families, Adoption Wraparound services may be more appropriate. Adoption Wrap services are specifically geared for youth who are adoptively placed and are at risk of being placed into a group home or residential treatment facility. The Wraparound approach is a family-

centered, strengths-based, needs-driven planning and service delivery process. It advocates for a partnership between families and professionals to ensure family voice, choice and ownership of intervention strategies. It includes a commitment to create and provide highly individualized services and to persevere toward desirable outcomes for the child(ren) and their family.

Private, community-based Adoption Wraparound provider agencies facilitate a child and family team for each child and family enrolled in Wraparound. The child and family teams develop, implement, monitor and revise as needed, uniquely tailored child and family plans of care. The plans include strategies, services, and supports to address the needs of the child and family in order to maintain the child in a safe, nurturing, and permanent community-based setting.

A Medi-Cal card is required for Adoption Wraparound services but, as mentioned above, all children receiving Adoption Assistance Program (AAP) payments are eligible to receive a Medi-Cal card. The adoptive family must either reside within Los Angeles County boundaries or the program can be slightly adapted if the family is willing to drive to the closest Wraparound Services providers within Los Angeles County. The adoptive family must also be willing to participate in Team Decision Making (TDM) meetings where all parties concerned meet jointly to work out a plan of action in order to establish the most appropriate services for the child.

Referrals to APSS or a TDM to consider Adoption Wraparound can be made by calling your Children's Social Worker or, for families whose adoption finalized over 6 months ago, by calling the Post Adoption Service (PAS) Unit at 800-735-4984