

Foster Care Supportive Visitation/ In-Home Parent Education Program

The Foster Care Supportive Visitation/ In-Home Parent Education Program, also referred to as the PAL (Parents Actively Learning) program provides intensive, individualized parent education focusing on the parent-child interaction.

The family and the Visit Coach work together to create a Service Agreement for the 12 weekly visits. The Service Agreement includes specific goals based on the needs of the family. The Visit Coach and family meet before visitations to support planning for the visit and discuss parent education topics again after each visit to discuss strengths and areas of need.

Parent Education is provided using the Nurturing Parenting Program developed by Stephen Bavolek to be used within the prevention/treatment of child abuse and neglect.

Supportive Visitation Goals

- Assist parents in achieving the goal of reunification in a timely manner.
- Increase nurturing parenting skills while supporting parents to implement new, healthier parenting practices.
- Administer pre and post assessments to assess and document changes in parenting beliefs.
- Provide services to families that meet their needs, including assistance with transportation and visitations during the evening and weekends when needed.

Visitation Coaches Provide Families

- Co-planning the development of the Service Agreement, mutually agreed upon goals and objectives while participating in the program, and pre/post assessments using the Adult-Adolescent Parenting Inventory.
- Pre-visitation Planning time (approximately 30 minutes) prior to parent/child visitations to discuss parent education and plan for the visit.
- Visit Coaching during the 1 hour parent/child visitation.
- Post-visitation debriefing time (approximately 30 minutes) to offer parents feedback on strengths, areas of need, and parent education.
- Parent Education including: life/home management skills, parent/child interaction skills, effective communication, age appropriate development, discipline, etc. through the use of videos, activities, role playing, and discussion.
- Transportation is available for the parent and/or child as defined by the contract. Transportation is strictly provided to and from services.



Visit Coaches Provide DHS Referring Workers

- Attendance at Family Team Meetings
- Initial Assessment and Termination Assessments
- Service Agreements
- Weekly Reports
- Attendance at court hearings as needed



Who is Eligible?

- All families with opened DHS Foster Care cases in Arenac, Bay, Clare, Gladwin, Isabella, Midland, Mecosta, Osceola.
- Families whose children have been in and out of home placement for 8 months or less and whose current goal is reunification.
- Parents willing and able to participate in weekly services to improve parenting skills.
- Parents willing and able to take charge of setting their own services priorities



Regional: Service Areas



Arenac, Bay, Clare,
Gladwin, Isabella, Midland,
Mecosta, Osceola.

Availability

- Program available on first come first served basis (if needed a waiting list will be established)
- Visit Coaches dedicated to serve the eight- county region
- Visit Coaches will be responsible for 7-8 families each

To make a referral, contact:

Stephanie Curtis
(989) 839-0534 or
(810) 931-2280 or
scurtis@aoicw.org



Adoption Option Inc. was initially founded to provide adoption services, help children in the foster care system and to share free information about adoption and foster care.

We have continually expanded the types of services offered. In 2010 we began offering a summer program for youth. Subsequently, we began offering family preservation services to help children be reunited with their biological parents. We now provide four types of family preservation programs.

Our agency is pleased to assist families with a diverse array of child welfare services.



Mailing Address:

PO Box 2225
Midland, MI 28641-2225

Phone

989-839-0534

Fax

989-839-0537

E-mail:

SCurtis@aoicw.org

Website

www.AdoptionOptionInc.org



Parents Actively Learning
P A L
Parents Actively Learning

Foster Care Supportive Visitation/
In-Home Parent Education Program



Serving the Following Counties

