

## Youth In Transition



We began offering YIT in January 2016. YIT mentoring services are designed to help at-risk youth ages 14-21 improve readiness for independence. This program currently serves Midland, Isabella, and Saginaw Counties. Participating youth are paired with an adult mentor based on common interests and overall compatibility. Youth and Mentor are expected to meet at least twice a month and spend a combined total of at least four hours together every month for at least 12 months.

## Family Team Meeting



Family Team Meeting is a Family Reunification Program. After a child is removed from their parent's care, sometimes that case is referred to our agency to provide Family Team Meeting (FTM) services.

The FTM offers structured meetings led by a trained facilitator that encourages parents and families to engage with community resources to assist with their journey towards reunification.

These meetings offer a space for families to learn more about the family reunification process and steps that will need to be taken to ensure the safety and wellbeing of their children.

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**Mission Statement**  
To improve the lives  
of the children and  
families we serve.

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# Programs Provided by AOICWO

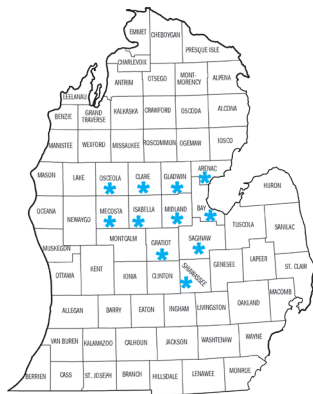


# Organizational History

Adoption Option Inc. was incorporated in the State of Michigan as a non-profit agency in 2003. In April of 2004, this agency received its license from the State of Michigan to serve as a child placing agency. It authorized our agency to provide several interrelated services connected to Adoption, Foster Licensing and Foster Care.

In 2012 we began offering Family Preservation services to benefit the community. We now offer several Family Preservation programs aimed at helping children to safely return home to their family. These programs: PACT, PULSE, FTM, and AIH. We also have an additional program for youth called Youth in Transition (YIT).

Although we are the only private non-profit licensed child placing agency in Midland, Michigan, our central location permits us to serve families and collaborate with agencies throughout the Mid-Michigan area in counties such as Midland, Arenac, Bay, Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Isabella, Saginaw, and Shiawassee.



# Adoption



Adoption services include completing adoption home studies for those interested in adoption, matching them with children, ongoing training and education, as well as post-adoption services and referrals. We have completed over 400 adoptions for children in the foster care system.

# Foster Home Licensing

Foster home licensing is a service available to individuals, couples, and families who are interested in



providing temporary or permanent care to foster children. In order to provide care, we work with the family to complete a foster home licensing homestudy. This is a comprehensive evaluation of not only the applicant and family members, but also the actual home as well. This evaluation assesses whether the family and home meet legal requirements. We have licensed over 130 homes for a diverse array of families.



# Foster Care



Foster care is a service we have provided for many years. Services involve advocating for the child to help ensure that the child's health, education, safety and

welfare needs are met. A foster care worker meets with the child, the parents and the foster family monthly. They also supervise and transport children and parents to visits, appear at court hearings, provide referrals for additional services and offer support to the child, birth parents, and foster family.



# Parents and Children Together

We began offering PACT services in October 2012. This program provides supervised visitation between birth parents and their children who are placed in Foster Care. Our worker coordinates visitation and provides transportation for the parents and children; if needed, they can also provide court testimony.



# Advanced in Home

The Advanced-In-Home Parent Education also known as the AIH program, provides individualized parent education in the home. The In-Home worker works together with the family to create a Service Plan for weekly sessions and one parent-child session per month

Sessions may address but are not limited to:

- parenting skills education
- life/ home management skills
- parent/child interaction skills
- Family individual, and/or marital instruction (anger management)
- communication skills, improving self-esteem and stress management)



We provide two types of evidence-based parent education. One type is called the Nurturing Parenting Program developed by Dr. Stephen Bavolek. The other type is called Parents As Teachers (PAT). It is a home-visiting model specially designed for families with children ages 6 and under. Both programs were developed to be used for the prevention/ treatment of child abuse and neglect.