

Appendix C: Selecting a Child Placing Agency

Choosing a child placing agency is an important first step for kinship caregivers to begin the foster parent licensing process. Each agency listed below is highly experienced with kinship placements. As you begin looking for a placing agency to guide you through this process, we recommend that you begin by reaching out to one or more of the agencies listed below.

Agency	Training Platforms	Financial Assistance	Languages Spoken	Trauma Informed Staff	Risk Assessment Considered	Additional Services	Contact
3 Heavenly Hearts	Virtual, in-home		English, Spanish	✓	✓	Community resource connection, CANS Assessments Post Adopt Resources	april.jackson@3heavenlyhearts.com
Americas Angels	Virtual, in-home, in-office	✓	English	✓	✓	Contracted therapy, skills assessments and psychiatric services.	Nflint@americas-angels.com
Arms Wide Adoption Services	Virtual	✓	English, Spanish	✓	✓	Post-Adopt & Post-Permanency Support	jelam@armswide.org
Arrow Child and Family Services	Virtual	✓	English	✓	✓	Behavioral Health, Treatment Foster Care	ruth.barrera@arrow.org
Azleway	Virtual In-home		English	✓	✓	Referrals for behavioral and post-adopt services	Keitha.Douglas@azleway.org
DePelchin Children's Center	Virtual	✓	English	✓		Integrated mental health services	gettingstarted@depelchin.org
Family to Family Adoptions	Virtual	✓	English	✓	✓	Referral to services	mary@fam2fam.org

Agency	Training Platforms	Financial Assistance	Languages Spoken	Trauma Informed Staff	Risk Assessment Considered	Additional Services	Contact
Grace Manor	Virtual, in-home, in-office	✓	English, Spanish	✓	✓	24/7 Crisis Intervention & Behavioral Support, Post-permanency Support	traci@gracemanor.us
Houston Strong Children's Services	Virtual, in-home, in-office	✓	English	✓	✓	Crisis Intervention 24/7, community events	gtaylor@houstonstrongcpa.org
Kidz Thrive	Virtual, in-home, in-office	✓	English, Spanish	✓	✓	Behavioral Support Referrals, Adoption process support	info@kidzthrive.com
Lifeline Children and Family Services	Virtual, in-home	✓	English, Spanish	✓	✓	Mental health referrals, case management, crisis intervention	lifeline@lifelinecfs.org
Methodist Children's Home	Virtual, in-home	✓	English, Spanish	✓	✓	Case management, post-permanency services, respite	houston@mch.org
Monarch Family Services	Virtual, in-home	✓	English, Spanish	✓	✓	Psychological & Post-permanency (adopt & PMC) services	valeriejacksonphd@monarchfamilyservices.org
Parental Guidance Adoptions and Family Services	Virtual, in-home	✓	English, Spanish	✓	✓	Post adopt referrals	ldsmith@pgadoptions.org
Pathways Youth and Family Services	Virtual	✓	English, Spanish	✓	✓	Behavioral Health	hblanscet@pathway.org
Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services	Virtual	✓	English	✓	✓	Post-adopt services, yearly events like back to school, Christmas gifts	gabrielle.smith@pchas.org

Agency	Training Platforms	Financial Assistance	Languages Spoken	Trauma Informed Staff	Risk Assessment Considered	Additional Services	Contact
Safe Haven Community Services	Virtual, in-home, in-office	✓	English, Spanish	✓	✓	24/7 Crisis Intervention, Behavioral Support, Post-Permanency Support, Household Furnishings, and Post-Adopt Referrals.	familydevelopment@safehavecommunityservices.org
The Sanctuary Foster Care Services	Virtual		English, Spanish	✓	✓	In-home crisis intervention, post-adopt support, in-agency therapy	contact@sanctuaryfostercare.org
Transitions for Tomorrow	Virtual, in-home	✓	English, Spanish	✓	✓	case management, community resource connection, 24 hour emergency contact, CANS referral	ajackson@transitionsfortomorrow.com

Additional Information

Financial Assistance: There are some costs associated with preparing your home for verification. These may include purchasing fire extinguishers or fire escape ladders, gas inspection, CPR/First Aid certification, TB tests, etc. Some agencies cover or provide assistance to help with these costs. Contact the agency to find out what type of financial assistance (if any) is offered.

Trauma-Informed Staff: Children (and adults) who have experienced trauma need compassionate professionals and caregivers who understand how trauma impacts a child's development. Organizations who utilize trauma-informed principles can help families access needed resources to help their children to heal. These resources may include trauma-informed counseling/therapy, parent coaching, in-home crisis intervention, videos, books, podcasts, and more.

Risk Assessments Considered: Risk assessments may be requested by an agency for an applicant who has a criminal history. These assessments are completed to determine if an applicant may still be eligible for licensure. Assessments may take 2-4 months to be processed. Some agencies consider applicants who will require a risk assessment to be completed, and some agencies do not. Some will consider it on a case-by-case basis.

Additional Services: Many agencies offer additional programs and services that are useful to the children and families they serve. These may include post-adoption services, behavioral health programs, etc. Contact the agency for more information about the additional services they provide.