

Assessment of Post-Adoption Resources in Iron and Beaver Counties 2007

INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Adoption Exchange has a toll free number and website for information and resources about post-adoption information and services throughout the state of Utah. The information gathered during the assessment of post-adoption resources for each region of Utah will be available on the Adoption Exchange website. They can be reached at 1-866-872-7212 or www.utdcfsadopt.org/.
- Adoption Connection Newsletter is sent to all DCFS adoptive families receiving subsidy. The newsletter is designed to have current Utah-specific information regarding resources and adoption issues.
- DCFS in Iron and Beaver Counties sends out a newsletter for adoptive parents in their area.
- The Family Resource Center at 1-888-634-2226 or 435-688-5124 has a range of information that may be helpful to parents.
- The Learning Center for Families at 435-673-5353 has a range of information that may be helpful for parents.
- The Community Resource Center at Valley View Medical Center 435-865-5266 also has a range of information that may be helpful for parents.
- Utah Cares at www.utahcares.utah.gov has many human service resources throughout Utah. To contact them by telephone call 211.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Cluster Groups

- There is a cluster group in Iron County facilitated by Amy. She can be contacted at 435-586-7403. Debbie Hofhines at the Utah Foster Care Foundation, 1-877-656-8065, can be contacted for more information regarding cluster groups or educational training.
- The Foster/ Adoptive Family Association has changed their representative. Contact the Provo office at 801-373-3006 for current information about the organization and the new representative.

Specialized Groups

- DCFS has a support group for parents who have children in grades kindergarten through fourth grade. Call them at 435-867-2760.
- DCFS has a Love and Logic class for parents in Beaver (435-438-2280) and Iron (435-867-2760) County DCFS offices.
- Iron County Youth Center has an Anger Management class for youth and parents which is taught periodically. Most families are ordered to attend the class through the juvenile court or the school district; however, parents can request the class. The class is for parents who have difficulty with their youth ages 10 - 18 years old. Contact the secretary at the Center during normal business hours at 586-1704 to get your name on a waiting list.
- There is a Grief Support group offered at the Valley View Hospital. Call 435-586-6587.
- The Paiute Social Services has a Paiute Tribe Support Group. They can be reached at 435-586-5914.

Children's Support Groups

- Children's groups are offered at the Family Support Center. Groups are established at the parents' request for children 6 - 12 years old. Group topics have included social skills and anger management skills. Call 435-586-0791.

GAP: There are no known regularly scheduled support groups for children who have been adopted.

Chat Rooms

- Adoption Exchange has links to nationally based chat rooms for adoptive parents at www.utdcfsadopt.org/.

Culture Groups

- Families for African American Awareness meet several times a year. The contact person is Stacy Farmer at 801-299-0673.
- India support group is comprised of parents who have adopted children from India. They meet for potluck dinners or picnics several times a year. Contact Joan Auger at 801-547-0852.
- Korean Culture Camp has an organized camp once a year for children adopted from Korea. Families meet another time for a potluck dinner. Contact Gary or Beth Beutler at 801-280-6559.
- Russian Adoption Support meets quarterly for educational classes and family activities. Contact Jenny Davis at 801-222-8897.
- South American Culture Group meets twice a year for family activities. Contact Keith or Kathy Syndergaard at 801-756-5656.

RESPITE CARE

1 - 4 Hour Scheduled Respite

- Informal supports such as relatives, friends, or church members are used for respite care by most adoptive parents.
- Common activities such as scouts, sports, and church activities can provide regular breaks for parents while their children are involved in the programs. A list of many local groups and activities as well as child care resources may be obtained through the Western Region Child Care Resource and Referral service at 1-888-344-4896.
- Many parents use child care to give them regular respite from the demands of raising their children. The Western Region Child Care Resource and Referral program has a computerized database of all licensed child care in Southwestern Utah. There are child care providers who provide child care after school, on a drop-in basis, and provide summer programs. Some of these programs accommodate children up to ages 12 or 13. Community Care provides after school and summer programs in some of the elementary schools. A parent can arrange daily after school or summer programs or can arrange 1 - 4 days a week. Many elementary schools have after school programs. Some providers have structured programs with low adult to child ratios and many have special training to help them with the difficult to manage children. Costs vary: full-time costs range from about \$100 - \$650 per month; part-time would be less. Call the Western Region Child Care Resource and Referral service at 1-888-344-4896. They have a website at www.fcaog.state.ut.us/dep/child/index.php.
- A list of many local groups, activity guides, as well as child care resources may be obtained through the Western Region Child Care Resource and Referral service at 1-888-344-4896. They have a website at www.fcaog.state.ut.us/dep/child/index.php.
- Beaver County has YFP that has a mentoring program that can provide respite for the parents for 1 - 3 hours per week.
- DCFS Post-Adoption Services gives names of trained Respite Care homes and will reimburse the adoptive parents for the costs.
- Cluster group members have exchanged respite care for each other in other regions. Cluster group members are familiar to the family. The care is provided by a cluster member who may have experience with children with similar behaviors. (Adoptive parents would have to get a Respite Care license if they wanted to be available for respite care exchange with foster parents.)
- The junior high and high schools have summer extended year programs.
- The Family Support Center in Cedar City will schedule respite care at their facility for children who are infant - 11 years old. Respite care is available based on space at the time of the request. They can be reached by calling 801-586-0791 or 0792.
- The Family Support Center in Cedar City has an In-Home respite care service as of March 2006. There is a nominal fee of \$2.50 per hour for this service. As of April 21st the Center will provide "Date Nights" where post-adoptive families can bring their children to the center for structured activities while parents take a break. These "Date Nights" will occur twice per month.

- The Family Support Center has also started to provide along with their In-Home respite care other in-home services including: budgeting/personal finance assistance; parenting education; menu/nutrition planning; household organization/housekeeping; educational support; advocate services; and other services as needed that fit the scope of work.

Day Breaks

- Informal supports such as relatives, friends, or church members are used for respite care by many adoptive parents.
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- The Western Region Child Care Resource and Referral service may be able to help find child care that may be available for regularly scheduled day breaks. Many parents use child care to give them regular respite from the demands of raising their children. The Western Region Child Care Resource and Referral program has a computerized database of all the licensed child care in Southwestern Utah. There are child care providers who provide during school breaks or have summer programs. Some of these programs accommodate children up to ages 12 or 13. Community Care provides after school and summer programs in some of the elementary schools. A parent can arrange a daily summer program or can arrange 1 - 4 days a week. Some providers have structured programs with low adult to child ratios and many have special training to help them with the difficult to manage children. Costs vary: full-time costs range from about \$100 - \$650 per month; part-time would be less. Call the Western Region Child Care Resource and Referral service at 1-888-344-4896. They have a website at www.fcaog.state.ut.us/dep/child/index.php.
- The Family Support Center in Cedar City will schedule respite care at their facility for children who are infant -11 years old. Respite care is available based on space at the time of the request.

Overnight Breaks - Weekend Breaks

- Informal supports such as relatives, friends, or church members are used for respite care by many adoptive parents.
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- The Family Support Center in Cedar City will schedule respite care at their facility for children who are infant - 11 years old. Respite care is available based on space at the time of the request. A parent can be scheduled from 1 - 72 hours. They can be reached by calling 801-586-0791 or 0792.

Parent - to - Parent

- Informal supports such as relatives, friends, or church members are used for respite care by many adoptive parents.
- Biological siblings' adoptive parents are used as respite care by some adoptive parents.
- Cluster Group members have exchanged respite care for each other in other regions. Cluster group members are familiar to the family. The care is provided by a cluster member who may have experience with children with similar behaviors. (Adoptive parents would have to get a Respite Care license if they wanted to be available for respite care exchange with foster parents.)

Immediate Crisis Respite

- Family Support Centers were established to provide immediate crisis respite care for up to 72 hours for children who range in age from infancy through 11 years old. They can be reached by calling 801-586-0791 or 0792.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Counselors who Specialize in Adoption

- Southwest Center for Behavioral Health is the Medicaid provider in Beaver and Iron Counties. Therapists Brent Demille and Duane Jarvis at Southwest Center for Behavioral Health have attended a 2-day workshop regarding clinical issues for adoptive families. They can be reached by calling 801-867-7654.
- DCFS Post-Adoption worker, John Worthington, works exclusively with adoption related family issues. He can provide family counseling for any adoptive family who adopted through DCFS or he can provide the Family Preservation focus for those who are considering disrupting or dissolving their adoption. He can be reached by calling 801-867-2765.

Note: Southwest Center and the DCFS Post-Adoption worker would be very open to working with an adoptive parent as an adoptive parent mentor for a Response Team Model.

Family Focused Treatment

- Southwest Center for Behavioral Health, the Medicaid provider for Beaver and Iron Counties, works under the "Family Based Therapy Model".
- DCFS Post-Adoption worker, John Worthington, works exclusively with adoption related family issues. He can provide family counseling for any adoptive family who adopted through DCFS or he can provide the Family Preservation focus for those who are considering disrupting or dissolving their adoption.
- Iron County Youth Service has a whole family, home-based counseling program for families with difficult to manage youth ages 10 - 18 years of age. Contact Ed Weaver at 801-586-1704.

Home-Based

- DCFS Post-Adoption worker, John Worthington, works exclusively with adoption related family issues. He can provide family counseling for any adoptive family who adopted through DCFS or he can provide the Family Preservation focus for those who are considering disrupting or dissolving their adoption.
- Iron County Youth Service has a whole family, home-based counseling program for families with difficult to manage youth ages 10 - 18 years of age. Contact Ed Weaver at 801-586-1704.

Respond Within 24 Hours to Crisis

- DCFS Post-Adoption unit can respond within 24 hours.
- Southwest Center - the Medicaid provider - has a 24-hour crisis line for families and the crisis worker can try to reach a therapist for the adoptive family.
- Iron County Youth Center has a 24-hour crisis intervention for families who need immediate assistance with a teenage youth. Short-term youth services are available. Youth can spend up to 7 days in a residential program. Under special conditions where a youth has a foster care disruption, that length of stay can be extended if necessary until another suitable foster care placement can be located.

Family Preservation

- DCFS Post-Adoption worker, John Worthington, works exclusively with adoption related family issues. He can provide family counseling for any adoptive family who adopted through DCFS or he can provide the Family Preservation focus for those who are considering disrupting or dissolving their adoption.

After School and School Treatment Programs

- Southwest Center for Behavioral Health, the Medicaid provider in Beaver and Iron Counties, provides after school social skills groups in the local schools. They also coordinate wrap around services for the youth.
- Southwest Center for Behavioral Health, the Medicaid provider, can provide individual respite/mentoring services for 1 - 3 hours per week for youth who have an open case with them. They also have a mental health, respite group for children 5 - 12 years old once a week on Wednesdays.

Residential Treatment

- There are no residential treatment programs paid through Medicaid in Iron or Beaver Counties. If a child is a threat to self or others they may be admitted to a psychiatric ward of a local hospital until he or she is considered stabilized.
- There are residential treatment programs for private payment. Medicaid carve-out may be applied to qualifying private treatment programs for adopted youth.