

2024 IMPACT REPORT

Partnerships and Collaboration for Change



FOSTER & ADOPTIVE
CARE COALITION

FOR EVERY CHILD... A PLACE TO CALL HOME





Letter from the Board President

Jackie O. Rochelle

The Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition is now serving 35% of children impacted by foster care in the St. Louis region, up from 10% two years ago. What a way to celebrate 2024, our 35th anniversary year!

The Coalition remains devoted to its promise to serve 100% of local children entering foster care by 2029. We continue to grow our team of experts, develop creative new solutions, and constantly seek to improve our existing programs so that every child who needs our intervention and support will receive it.

We are proud to have you as our partner on this journey and are pleased to share the following outcomes, which are a direct result of your generosity.

Thank you.

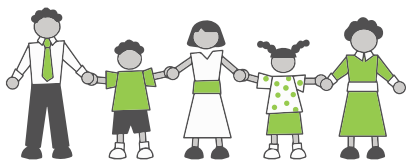
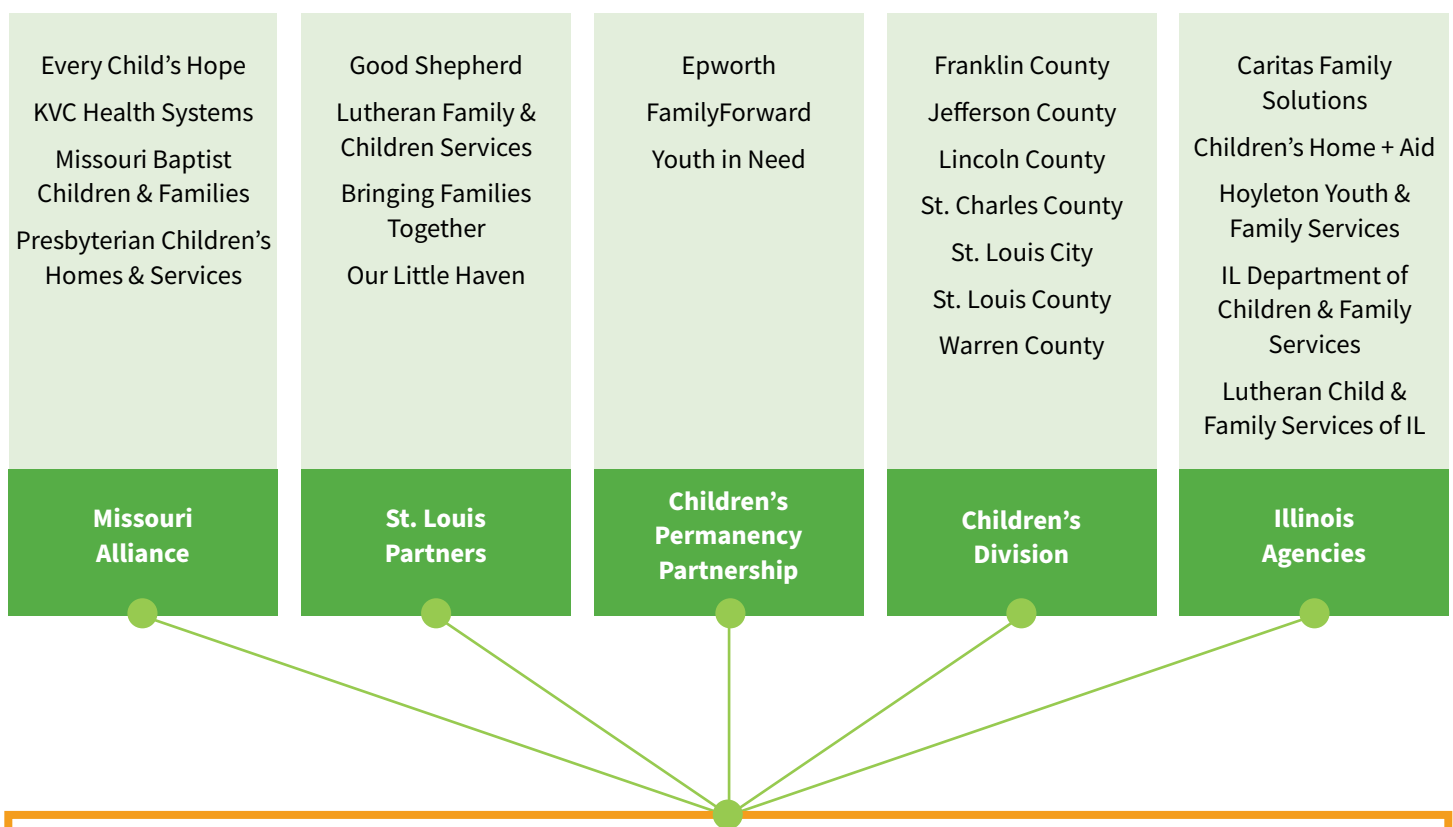
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jackie O. Rochelle".

Our Network



Partnerships and Collaboration for Change

4,500 children are in foster care at any given time in the St. Louis area. The Coalition is proud to serve as a partner to the following member agencies, offering a variety of support services to fill programmatic gaps.



FOSTER & ADOPTIVE CARE COALITION
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Our Impact: 2024 by the Numbers

17,075

clients served

523

caregivers were supported by
the Coalition CareLine

94

newly licensed kinship
and foster parents

80%

of children served by 30 Days
to Family® were placed with
relatives

85%

of youth served by
Educational Advocacy met
their educational goal

588

children matched after
appearing on KSDK 5 On Your
Side's "A Place to Call Home"
since the program's inception



Our Vision: For Every Child...A Place to Call Home

Theory of Change

In 2023, we created a Theory of Change. In short, the theory is: IF our programs are centered on supporting resilient children, youth, and families, AND we do this work with a focus on creating equitable systems of care, THEN in Metro St. Louis a vibrant foster care and adoption community will exist, defined by transformed social institutions providing a supportive network for families.

Goals

**Resilient Children,
Youth, and Families**

**Equitable Systems
of Care**

**Vibrant
Communities**

Equitable Systems of Care

Activities that Support this Goal



1. Information Dissemination

We utilize a multitude of channels to keep families and professionals informed on key issues in child welfare, including ways to protect and support the most vulnerable children. Communications include:

- Newsletters and postcards
- Email and SMS marketing
- Social media
- Website

Output/Outcome	2023	2024
# of caregivers reached	11,991	11,203

2. Child-Specific Recruitment

We use the latest technology and investigative techniques to quickly identify permanent placement options for children who have recently entered foster care, all while maintaining family connections and stability. Programs include:

30 Days to Family®

Identifying an average of 150 relatives of children who have entered foster care, resulting in placement with kin.

Extreme Recruitment®

Advancing permanency through a 12- to 20-week intensive adoption recruitment for older youth and sibling groups.

Family Connections

Provides family and engagement services at any time during a child's time in foster care to ensure the youth has a lifelong support network.

Senate Bill 683

Launching family finding services during the point of prevention to divert children from entering foster care.

Output/Outcome	2023	2024
# of children served	197	379
% of children placed/finalized	79%*	63%*

**of those with closed cases*

3. Traditional Foster/Adoptive Family Recruitment

We work to increase the number of culturally competent families in the St. Louis region by recruiting, preparing, and supporting foster, adoptive, and guardianship parents. Programs include:

RESPOND

Increasing the number of Black/African American foster families to promote racial equity for youth in foster care.

General Recruitment and Family Development

Developing non-relative foster families to meet the emotional health and cultural needs of our children.

Families United

Assisting relatives as they navigate and complete the foster parent licensing process.

Output/Outcome	2023	2024
# of relative households license-ready for fostering	24	44
# of non-relative households license-ready for fostering	22	52

4. Specialized Family Recruitment

We recruit foster/adoptive/guardianship families to meet youth's elevated needs.

Treatment Foster Care (TFC)

Training and supporting the most highly-skilled foster parents to meet the needs of children with complex trauma.

Output/Outcome	2023	2024
# of parents trained	37	35
# of households license-ready for specialized fostering	22	25

Resilient Children, Youth, and Families

Activities that Support this Goal



1. Advocacy, Navigation, and Support

We advocate for and facilitate foster families' navigation of specialized services, including mental health, behavioral and physical health, as well as educational supports, such as securing appropriate school placement, ensuring special education services are in place, and upholding the educational rights of children. Programs include:

Coalition CareLine

Providing on-demand guidance and advocacy for caregivers and professionals.

Educational Advocacy

Advancing children's educational stability and academic growth through the services of our educational experts.

Comprehensive Systems Navigation

Implementing care coordination to help youth and families navigate multiple systems, e.g., medical, mental health, disability services, etc.

Regional/Rural Family Support

Filling support service gaps for regional-specific and rural communities in the Metro area.

Older Youth Readiness

Working with youth ages 14+ to help them develop skills and resources necessary for adult interdependence.

Output/Outcome	2023	2024
# of children served	217	742
# of adults served	473	642
improved functioning	98%*	91%*
placement stability	100%*	97%*

**of those with closed cases*

2. In-Home Therapeutic Services

We empower families to help children heal by providing in-home therapeutic services to increase caregiver knowledge of trauma- and attachment-informed parenting practices.

Family Works

Engaging families through in-home psycho-educational support to promote cohesion and healing.

Output/Outcome	2023	2024
# of children served	62	93
# of adults served	48	196
placement stability	95%*	93%*

**of those with closed cases*

3. Peer Support Groups

We facilitate in-person and online support groups to empower foster, adoptive, kinship, or guardianship parents to receive and provide support to one another. Programs include:

Relative Support Group

Offering relatives/kin support and tools to meet their unique caregiving needs.

Booster Club

Providing a monthly space for families to connect.

Dyadic Development Psychotherapy (DDP)

Parent Practice Lab

Advancing the trauma and attachment skills of our families through education, practice, and peer support.

Output/Outcome	2023	2024
# of parents attended	56	173
attendees reporting feeling supported	95%*	98%*

**of survey respondents*

4. Respite Care

We facilitate respite events, connect families with respite providers, and train prospective respite providers. Programs include:

Respite Events

Organizing parents' day out activities to provide a break to caregivers, while the children have fun at local attractions.

Respite Coordination

Facilitating connections between parents to provide a regular reprieve from the stress of caregiving.

Output/Outcome	2023	2024
# of respite hours provided	1,220	1,612

Vibrant Communities

Activities that Support this Goal



1. Social and Community Activities

We plan and facilitate social and community-building events for our families.

Family Enrichment Activities

Offering free or greatly-discounted tickets to sporting events, attractions, performances, etc., so families can spend meaningful time together.

Output/Outcome	2023	2024
# of children attending	195	734
attendees reporting a positive family experience	100%*	96%*

*of survey respondents

2. Financial and Material Supports

We provide supports to families navigating financial- and/or material-related challenges to promote placement stability and provide children in foster care with an opportunity for normalcy. Programs include:

Little Wishes

Granting memory-making activities to youth in foster care.

Birthday Buddies

Creating special birthday experiences.

Clothing (ReFresh and ReSource)

Supplying free clothing for youth ages 0-21.

Project Dream Dress

Providing a dream prom gown, tailored by a volunteer seamstress, with accessories to match.

Back-to-School Giveaway

Delivering school uniforms and supply-filled backpacks to school-aged children.

Output/Outcome	2023	2024
# of recipients	4,416	7,663
value of supports provided	\$338,462	\$488,938

3. Training

We provide cutting-edge and evidence-informed training for current and prospective foster, adoptive, and guardianship parents, child welfare and mental health professionals, educators, and more. Programs include:

Foster Parent Licensing

Delivering enhanced training to individuals on the path to becoming a foster parent or kinship provider.

Continuing Education for Caregivers

Augmenting licensed foster, adoptive, kinship, or guardianship parent knowledge on topics specific to their needs.

Continuing Education for Professionals

Offering advanced training to foster care case managers, court personnel, therapists, educators, etc.

Output/Outcome	2023	2024
# of training hours	9,598	9,963
# of parents trained	286	671
# of professionals trained	510	583
trainees reporting an increase in knowledge	100%*	95%*

**of survey respondents*



Envisioning 100% by 2029

The Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition envisions a future in which every child impacted by foster care receives services, intervention, and support they need.

Not some, not most: all.

We believe in our ability to achieve this ambitious and important goal, and your support of our mission and vision proves that you feel the same.

This work would not be possible without the many partnerships we have nurtured over the past 35 years.

Thank you for being a part of our family.



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