

2025 IMPACT REPORT

Partnerships and Collaboration for Change





Letter from the Board President

James "JP" Perry

On the Cover: Marlitia Green adopted her great nephews Vashon and Lenox in May 2025.

The Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition is committed to its goal of serving 100% of local children entering foster care by 2029. This means that every child who needs our intervention and support will receive it.

In 2025, we served 18,815 unique clients, a more than 10.5% increase from 2024. We are also thrilled to have licensed 105 kinship and foster parents and trained 72 parents in elevated needs. These efforts highlight the many steps we are taking towards our mission to recruit and support more foster and adoptive families.

This growth is only the beginning, and will be accomplished by developing creative new solutions, building our team of experts, and constantly seeking to improve our existing programs.

Thank you for joining us on this journey and for caring about our community's children and families. The following outcomes are a direct result of your shared belief in our vision: For every child...A Place to Call Home.

Sincerely,

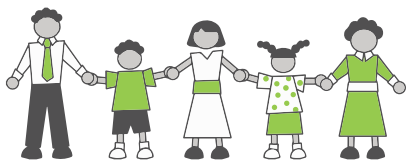
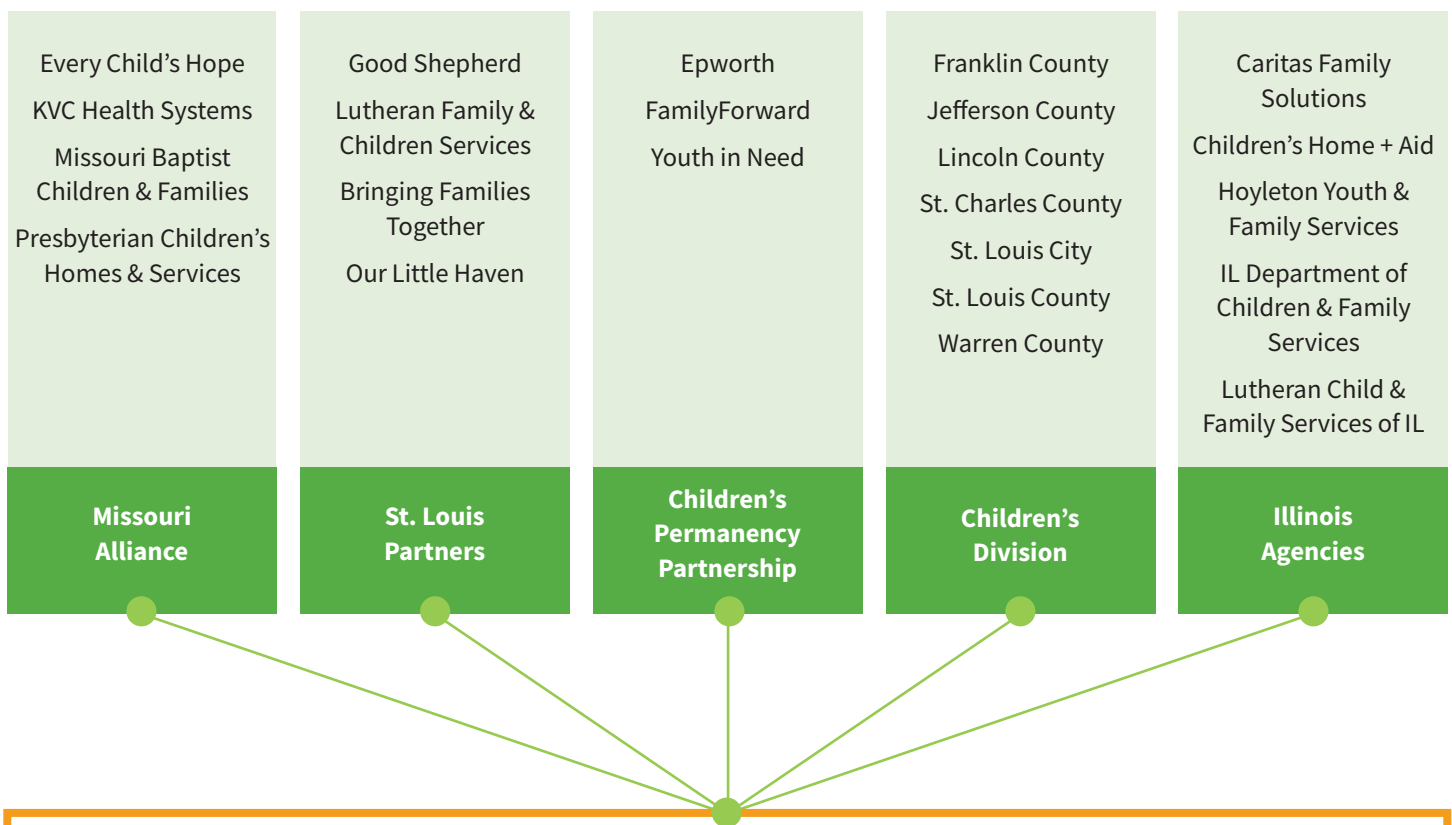
Our Network



Coalition staff trained more than 1,000 child welfare professionals in kin-first culture.

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
 FOR EVERY CHILD... A PLACE TO CALL HOME

Coalition supporters gathered in-person at our new headquarters on Foster Hope Day in November 2025.



Our Impact: 2025 by the Numbers

18,815

clients served

774

caregivers were supported by the Coalition CareLine

105

newly licensed kinship and foster parents

72

foster parents trained to meet the needs of children with complex trauma

97%

of youth served by Educational Advocacy met their educational goal

607

children achieved permanency thanks to KSDK 5 On Your Side and Vantage Credit Union

Ryan and Betty Kondo adopted Jonah in April 2025. Supported by his grandparents and older brother.



Our Vision: For every child...A Place to Call Home

Theory of Change

In 2023, we created our 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



Guests learning about Coalition programs on Foster Hope Day in November 2025.

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	2024	2025
# of caregivers reached	11,203	12,611

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	2024	2025
# of children served	379	348
% of children placed/finalized	63%*	68%*

*of those with closed cases

Pictured: Guests learning about Coalition programs on Foster Hope Day in November 2025.

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	2024	2025
# of relative households license-ready for fostering	44	56
# of non-relative households license-ready for fostering	52	49

4. Specialized Family Recruitment

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

Elevated Needs

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

Output/Outcome	2024	2025
# of parents trained	35	72
# of households license-ready for specialized fostering	25	54

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	2024	2025
# of children served	742	716
# of adults served	642	907
improved functioning	91%*	90%*
placement stability	97%*	96%*

**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	2024	2025
# of children served	93	74**
# of adults served	196	126
placement stability	93%*	88%*

**of those with closed cases*

***one less staff*

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	2024	2025
# of parents attended	173**	94
attendees reporting feeling supported	98%*	100%*

**of survey respondents*

***one-time incentive funds were available in 2024*

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	2024	2025
# of respite hours provided	1,612	1,914

Vibrant Communities

Activities that Support this Goal



Our community supported our Back-to-School giveaway by hosting donation drives.

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	2024	2025
# of children attending	734**	441
attendees reporting a positive family experience	96%*	100%*

*of survey respondents

**2024 35th anniversary one-time events

2. Material Supports

The Coalition provides a range of supports that help lighten the load for caregivers while bringing moments of comfort, celebration, and dignity to the children in their care. Programs include:

Little Wishes

Granting memory-making activities to youth in foster care.

Birthday Buddies

Creating special birthday experiences.

Clothing (ReFresh)

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	2024	2025
# of recipients	7,663	8,289
value of supports provided	\$488,938	\$581,216

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	2024	2025
# of training hours	9,963	12,596
# of parents trained	671	658
# of professionals trained	583	1,166
trainees reporting an increase in knowledge	95%*	97%*

**of survey respondents*



Envisioning 100% by 2029

The Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition envisions a future in which every child impacted by foster care receives the 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.



FOSTER & ADOPTIVE CARE COALITION
FOR EVERY CHILD... A PLACE TO CALL HOME

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