TIPS-MAPP is a group preparation and selection program for potential foster and adoptive parents. It readies individuals and families for the foster care and adoption process, while teaching attendees how to make an informed decision about becoming a resource family.

Using both group and individual exercises, leaders help participants decide if their expectations and abilities match the realities of fostering/adopting. Carefully designed activities teach parents about the challenges and opportunities associated with fostering/adopting. Mutual preparation and selection enable parents and the agency they work with to build the basis of teamwork to best serve the needs of the children in their care.

All Kansas foster or adoptive parents are required to complete TIPS-MAPP training before children can be placed in their homes.

Adopt Kansas Kids is the statewide, collaborative effort to find families for children in foster care needing adoption.

We work to connect children with families and increase awareness of the need through our photolisting and matching website, child profiles in the media and community events and activities – such as our Klicks for Kids photo gallery. We also link prospective adoptive and foster families, also known as resource families, with agencies in their area, answer questions about adoption, and provide information about available adoption resources.

This service is provided by the Kansas Children’s Service League through a contract with the Kansas Department for Children and Families.

Call 877-457-5430 · AdoptKSKids.org ·  
GET READY TO WELCOME YOUR NEW ADDITION

Basic Questions About TIPS-MAPP

Q How much does it cost?
A TIPS-MAPP (Trauma Informed Partnering for Safety and Permanence- Model Approach to Partnerships in Parenting) training is offered free of charge.

Q Who can attend?
A Classes are open to all qualified potential foster/adoptive parents. Both parents in the household are required to complete training before becoming a foster or adoptive parent.

Q How long are the classes?
A Classes last three hours per week for 10 weeks.

Q When do the classes take place?
A Sessions begin every few weeks or months, depending upon instructor availability and community demand.

Q Where are the classes located?
A Location varies. Check the statewide schedule in the events section of AdoptKSKids.org or call 877-457-5430 for more information.

Q Am I obligated to foster/adopt after training?
A No. Some realize during training that foster/adoptive parenting would not be right for them. This is an important part of the TIPS-MAPP process.

Q How do I find more information or register for training?
A Visit AdoptKSKids.org for more information on how to register for a class near you.

Q Can I only attend classes provided by the agency I am working with?
A No. While enrolling in training sponsored by your agency has its benefits, you may attend classes provided by another agency. Talk to your agency’s representative about what works best for you.

What to Expect in TIPS-MAPP Training Meetings

1. Welcome to TIPS-MAPP Group Preparation and Selection Program
2. Where the MAPP leads: A foster care and adoption experience
3. Losses and gains: The need to be a “Loss Expert”
   • Grieving process stages
   • Impact of loss on feelings and behavior
   • Turning losses into gains
4. Helping children with attachment
   • Building and maintaining trust and issues affecting attachment
   • Developing positive attachments
5. Helping children learn healthy behaviors
   • Helping children express feelings and manage behaviors
   • Skills adoptive and foster parents can use to help children learn healthy behaviors
6. Helping children with birth family connections
   • Identity, self-concept and culture
   • Importance of birth family connections
   • Importance of visits with birth families
7. Gains and losses: Helping children leave foster care
   • Going home: The partnership approach
   • Preventing disruptions: The partnership approach
   • Meeting our own needs
8. Understanding the impact of fostering or adopting
   • The family as a system
   • Assessing your family for change
9. Perspectives in adoptive parenting and foster parenting, teamwork and partnership
10. Endings and beginnings
    • Group preparation and selection program
    • Family and agency partnership