



Post Adoption Resource Center

DEC 2013–FEB 2014



HOLIDAY SAFETY

The holiday season brings opportunities for families to reconnect, celebrate the season, and make wonderful memories together. However, the hustle and bustle of the season also makes it easy to overlook our children's safety needs as a priority.

Unfortunately, most instances of sexual assault/abuse and abduction occur at the hands of family members or individuals familiar to the child. During the holidays, when your child is among different people, including family, remind him/her that no one has the right to hurt or touch him/her. Your conversation should include a plan and reassurance for your child if they encounter an uncomfortable situation. Your child should know that it is OK to say, "No!"

House fires are also a safety concern during this time of year. Your child should know exactly what to do if there is a fire in the house. It is a good idea to review your fire safety plan during your regular smoke detector inspection. Your child should be familiar with how the detector sounds when it alarms, how to exit the house from different rooms, and where your family will meet in case of an emergency. Knowing how to stop, drop, and roll is not enough to keep your child safe from a house fire.

The job of protecting your child doesn't get easier after your child has been adopted. Fortunately, there are organizations that can help. Find simple safety plans for different scenarios at www.radKIDS.org, and feel free to reach out to your local Post Adoption Resource Center for training, support groups, and one-on-one guidance.

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Post Adoption Resource Center's (PARC) Website

Bethany Locations

SERVING THREE REGIONS IN LOWER MICHIGAN

REGION 2 231.995.0870

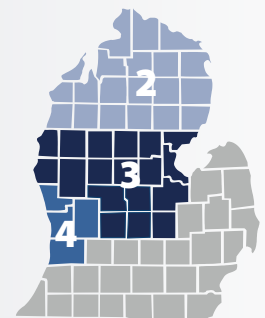
(Charlevoix, Emmett, Cheboygan, Presque Isle, Antrim, Otsego, Montmorency, Alpena, Leelanau, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Crawford, Oscoda, Alcona, Manistee, Wexford, Missaukee, Roscommon, Ogemaw, and Iosco)

REGION 3 231.924.3390

(Mason, Lake, Osceola, Clare, Gladwin, Arenac, Oceana, Newaygo, Mecosta, Isabella, Midland, Bay, Montcalm, Gratiot, Saginaw, Ionia, Clinton, and Shiawassee)

REGION 4 616.224.7550

(Muskegon, Ottawa, Kent, and Allegan)



The PARC newsletter is published quarterly. Please direct questions and comments to parcnewsletter@bethany.org

This program is funded in part by the State of Michigan.

Local and Regional Education & Events for Adoptive Families

REGION 2 NORTHERN MICHIGAN



www.facebook.com/PostAdoptionResourceCenterOfNorthernMI

"Like" us on Facebook. Additional events are added periodically. We post all of our upcoming events, interesting articles, and other adoption related information on this page!

For more information and to RSVP for events in Region 2, please contact Kijrsten at [231.590.8644](mailto:kboeve@bethany.org) or kboeve@bethany.org.

CHARLEVOIX & EMMET COUNTIES

Adoption & Foster Care Support Groups

WHEN: 2nd Wednesday, Every Month, 5:00–7:00 p.m.

WHERE: Charlevoix Community Reformed Church, 100 Oak St

Family dinner begins at 5:00 p.m.
Group begins at 6:00 p.m.
Childcare provided with an RSVP.

Mom's Night Out—Petoskey

WHEN: February 27, 6:00–9:00 p.m.

WHERE: La Seniorita, 1285 N US 31

Dinner is on us, drinks are on you. Join us for an evening of games, door prizes, and fabulous conversation! Please RSVP.

GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY

Post Adoption Connection Group Adult and Teen Groups

WHEN: 2nd Sunday, Every Month, 5:45–7:30 p.m.

WHERE: Faith Reformed Church, 1139 E Front St, Traverse City
Childcare & Pizza Dinner provided. Please RSVP.

Chat and Play

WHEN: 1st Monday, Every Month, 10:00–11:00 a.m.

WHERE: McDonald's Play Place, 3606 N US 31 S, Traverse City

Enjoy a cup of coffee with other adoptive parents while your child(ren) play. Please RSVP.

Parent's Night Out

Coming in December (TBD)

Enjoy an evening out while we facilitate a fun event with your children in mind! Watch our Facebook page for details.

H&R Block Adoption Tax Credit Training for Foster & Adoptive Parents

WHEN: December 5, 6:30–7:30 p.m.

WHERE: Bethany Christian Services, 1055 Carriage Hill Drive, Traverse City

Adoption Tax training for foster/adoptive parents; what you can claim, Affordable Healthcare Act info, and more. Please RSVP.

Mom's Night Out—Traverse City

WHEN: January 16, 6:00–9:00 p.m.

WHERE: North Peak, 400 W Front St

Dinner is on us, drinks are on you. Join us for an evening of games, door prizes, and fabulous conversation! Please RSVP.

Medical Subsidy Training

WHEN: January 21, 6:00–8:00 p.m.

WHERE: Bethany Christian Services, 1055 Carriage Hill Dr, Traverse City

Learn how to apply for and/or add diagnoses to your medical subsidy contract. Please RSVP.

OGEMAW COUNTY

Parent Led Foster, Adoption, and Kinship Support Group

WHEN: 3rd Saturday of Every Month, 1:00–4:00 p.m.

WHERE: Ogemaw Hills Free Methodist Church, 3480 W M-55, West Branch MI
Please RSVP.

OTSEGO COUNTY

Mom's Night Out—Gaylord

WHEN: February 20, 6:00–9:00 p.m.

WHERE: La Seniorita, 737 W. Main St

Dinner is on us, drinks are on you. Join us for an evening of games, door prizes, and fabulous conversation! Please RSVP.

REGION 4 WESTERN MICHIGAN



www.facebook.com/PARCRegion4

"Like" us on Facebook. We post all of our upcoming events, interesting articles, and other adoption related information on this page!

For more information and to RSVP for events in Region 4, contact Sherri at sirwin@bethany.org or [616-710-5120](tel:616-710-5120), unless otherwise noted.

Adoptive Family Support Network

provides services to adoptive families in West Michigan.

www.afsn.org

• OPEN TO ALL REGIONS •

December Family Events

ROOF TOP REINDEER

Dec 7, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

SANTA VISITS

Dec 10 & 17, 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS & HOLIDAY TRADITIONS AROUND THE WORLD

Dec 21, 3:00 – 6:00 p.m.

WHERE:

Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park, Grand Rapids

Each event is open to the first 20 individuals who RSVP.

January Family Event

Jan 25, 2014, 3:00 – 6:00 p.m.

WHERE:

3 Mile Project, 645 3 Mile Rd, Walker
Skate park open & pizza provided. Please RSVP.

February Family Event

WHEN: TBD

WHERE:

Pando Winter Sports Park, 8076 Belding Rd NE, Rockford

Watch our Facebook page for more details!
Please RSVP.

ALLEGAN COUNTY

Friday Night at the Point

Adoptive & Foster Parent Group

WHEN: Dec 20, Jan 17, Feb 21, 6:30–8:30 p.m.

WHERE: 1st Congregational Church, 323 Cutler St, Allegan

Light snacks & childcare will be provided.

KENT COUNTY

Adoptive Parent Group

WHEN: Jan 28, Feb 25, 5:30–7:00 p.m.

WHERE: Bethany Christian Services, 901 Eastern Ave NE, Bldg F

Light dinner and children's group/childcare provided with an RSVP.

Parent's Connect

A Play Group for Parents & Children

WHEN: Dec 17, Jan 21, Feb 18, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

WHERE: TBD- watch Facebook for more details.

RSVP required.

MUSKEGON COUNTY

Parent's Connect

A Play Group for Parents & Children

WHEN: Dec 10, Jan 14, Feb 11, 12:00–1:00 p.m.

WHERE: Kangaroo Palace, 3524 Green St, Norton Shores

A signed waiver and clean socks are required.
RSVP required.

Foster/Adoptive Parent Group

WHEN: Jan 20, Feb 17, 6:30–8:00 p.m.

WHERE: Bethany Christian Services, 1848 E Sherman Blvd, Muskegon

Dessert provided, childcare is not available.
RSVP required.

Bethany Christian Services Region 4 is proud to partner with MOSAIC.

MOSAIC
EMPOWERING FOSTER AND ADOPTIVE FAMILIES

MOSAIC is a ministry that seeks to actively endorse and support foster care and adoption as THE solution to addressing the children waiting for a "forever family" in Michigan.

mosaicfosteradopt.org

OTTAWA COUNTY

Growing After Adoption Education Groups for Parents & Adopted Children

WHEN: Dec 17, Jan 21, Feb 18, 5:30–7:00 p.m.

WHERE: Engedi Church, 710 Chicago Dr, Holland

Pizza and childcare will be provided.

Please RSVP to ameyer@bethany.org

Adjusting After Adoption Support Group for Adoptive Moms

WHEN: Dec 19, Jan 16, Feb 20, 10:00–11:00 a.m.

WHERE: Bethany Christian Services, 12048 James St, Holland

Childcare will be provided.

Please RSVP to ameyer@bethany.org

Parent's Connect A Play Group for Parents & Children

WHEN: Dec 19, Jan 23, Feb 27, 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

WHERE: Deanna's Playhouse, 11172 Adams St, Holland

RSVP required.

Adoptive Parent Group for Mothers Parenting Teenagers

WHEN: Dec 20, Jan 17, Feb 21, 9:30–11:30 a.m.

WHERE: Corpus Christi Catholic School, 12100 Quincy St, Holland

RSVP required.

REGION 3 CENTRAL MICHIGAN



[www.facebook.com/
PostAdoptionResourceCenterCentralMichigan](https://www.facebook.com/PostAdoptionResourceCenterCentralMichigan)

AUBURN

Adoption and Foster Care Support Groups

WHEN: Dec 19, Jan 30, Feb 27, 6:00–7:45 p.m.

WHERE: Auburn Area Library,
238 W Midland Rd, Auburn
Child care is provided with an RSVP.

BIG RAPIDS

Adoption and Foster Care Support Groups

WHEN: Dec 9, Jan 13, Feb 10,
6:00–7:30 p.m.

WHERE: Fellowship Christian Reformed Church,
407 Perry Ave, Big Rapids
Child care is provided with an RSVP.

GLADWIN

Adoption and Foster Care Support Groups

WHEN: Dec 16, Jan 20, Feb 17,
6:30–8:00 p.m.

WHERE: Assembly Church of God,
3400 Buzzwell Rd, Gladwin
Child care is provided with an RSVP.

FREMONT

Adoption and Foster Care Support Groups

WHEN: Dec 20, Jan 14, Feb 11, 7:00–8:30 p.m.

WHERE: First Baptist Church of Fremont,
51 West Oak St, Fremont
Child care is provided with an RSVP.

Parent's Date Night

WHEN: Friday, December 20,
5:30–8:30 p.m.

WHERE: First Baptist Church of Fremont,
51 West Oak Street, Fremont

Drop your kids off and have a night to yourselves; a meal and holiday crafts will be provided for your children. Please RSVP.

LUDINGTON

Adoption and Foster Care Support Groups

WHEN: Dec 17, Jan 21, Feb 18, 6:00–7:30 p.m.

WHERE: TBD

Child care is provided with an RSVP.

For more information and to RSVP for events in Region 3, please call **231.924.3390**.



Services Available Through the Post Adoption Resource Center (PARC)

Working with your adoptive family:

- Support of a PARC specialist in your home
- 24-hour crisis availability
- Short-term emergency intervention
- Family-centered plan
- List of supportive regional resources

Connecting you with community services:

- Liaison for adoptive families to other service providers
- One-on-one assistance accessing services
- Comprehensive resource guide

Getting you the information you need:

- Daily phone access
- Timely responses with information
- Connection to resources

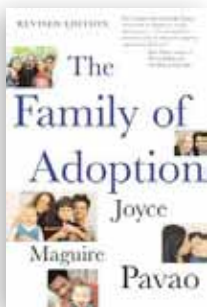
Supporting your family:

- Monthly group experiences
- Quarterly training

Sharing even more:

- PARC website with recommended books/articles on adoption
- List of community resources
- Calendar of adoptive parents' events and trainings
- Adoptive family newsletter

Resources for Adoptive Parents



The Family of Adoption

by Joyce Maguire Pavao

Adopted when she was just ten days old and now a renowned adoption specialist, Dr. Joyce Maguire Pavao has been working with adoptive families for over 30 years. In her book, she not only discusses issues related to her adoption experience, including secrecy, identity, and openness, she discusses the unique and often under-discussed experiences of those in the adoption triad.

Even with her own adoption experience and experience with countless adoptive families, Dr. Joyce Maguire Pavao doesn't claim to be an expert in adoption; however, her unique observations and insights can be applicable to every adoptive family.

www.amazon.com/The-Family-Adoption-Completely-Revised/dp/0807028274



In Their Own Voices: Transracial Adoptees Tell Their Stories

by Rita J. Simon and Rhonda M. Roorda

Described as a "must read" for adoptive parents considering transracial adoption, this book offers insight from 24 adoptees discussing their personal experience. While primarily expressing the experience of Black children adopted by Caucasian families, the reflections and insights shared in this book can be applicable to other transracial adoptions.

www.amazon.com/Their-Own-Voices-Transracial-Adoptees/dp/0231118295



The Center for Adoption Medicine is comprised of three pediatricians specializing in adoption medicine. This unique resource includes expert information about prenatal drug and alcohol exposure, nutrition, and many other adoption-related issues.

FREE DOWNLOADS

Adoption Learning Partners:

www.adoptionlearningpartners.org/catalog/downloads/index.cfm

CHECK OUT: Adoption Nutrition: A Starter Guide for Parents

Adoptive Families Magazine:

www.adoptivefamilies.com/clip.php

CHECK OUT: The Foster-Adopt Saga

Child Welfare Information Gateway:

www.childwelfare.gov/adoption/adopt_parenting/

CHECK OUT: Impact of Adoption on Adoptive Parents

Beyond Consequences Institute:

www.beyondconsequences.com/articles1.html

CHECK OUT: Reactive Attachment Disorder: A New Understanding

COURSES & WEBINARS

Adoption Learning Partners

www.AdoptionLearningPartners.org

Beyond Culture Camp - \$15

Building Bonds of Attachment - \$10

Is That My Birth Mom on Facebook? - \$15

Is it an Adoption Thing? - \$15

Let's Talk Adoption - \$35

Lifebooks - \$30

Snack, Play, Love - \$15

Overwhelmed for the Holidays - \$15



www.postadoptionrc.org

PROVIDING MORE RESOURCES

This is a newly developed website specifically designed to provide support and resources to adoptive parents. It contains helpful articles, resources, and events to encourage and enhance the adoptive family experience.

Read about the seven core issues of adoption, respite as a support service for adoptive families, or selecting and working with an adoption therapist. Read about the training and credentials of professionals who provide services to adoptive families and various approaches to therapy. Read tips on how to choose a therapist.

Other suggested websites: www.adoptivefamilies.com www.adoptioninstitute.org



www.bethany.org

Bethany Christian Services is committed to supporting adoptive families through the lifelong, rewarding journey of adoption.

REGION 2
Bethany Christian Services
1055 Carriage Hill Dr, Ste 2
Traverse City, MI 49686
231.995.0870
www.bethany.org/traversecity

REGION 3
Bethany Christian Services
6995 West 48th St
Fremont, MI 49412
231.924.3390
www.bethany.org/fremont

REGION 4
Bethany Christian Services
901 Eastern Ave NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
616.224.7550
www.bethany.org/grandrapids

Bethany Christian Services is a nonprofit, private social services agency with more than 100 offices located in over 35 states. In addition, Bethany offers social services to children and families in over 15 countries.