

POST ADOPTION SERVICES

What is permanency?

Historically, there have been three critical child welfare system goals:

Safety

Permanency

Well-Being

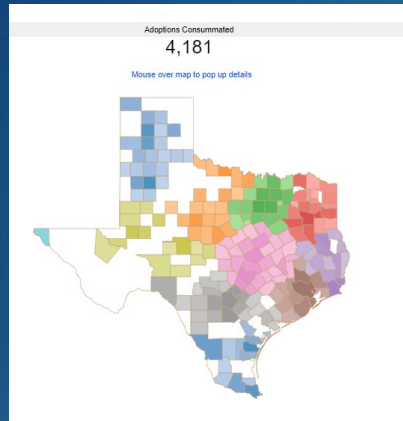


Permanency involves ensuring that children and youth having meaningful, enduring connections to a family or other long-term caring adults. In many cases permanency is a legal status, such as in the cases of adoption, legal guardianship, or reunification with one's biological family.

DFPS Permanency

Permanency refers to a child exiting from DFPS care into a safe, appropriate, and permanent setting.

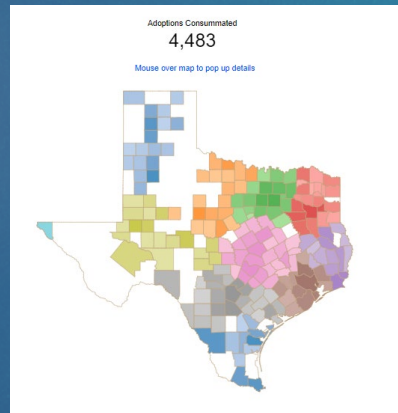
Positive permanency is achieved when children are reunified, adopted, or permanent custody is given to another individual.



DFPS FINALIZED ADOPTIONS

FY23: 4,181

FY22: 4,483



Source: DFPS Data Book; CPS, Adoptions Consummated

DFPS Contracted Permanency Services

Post Adoption and Post Permanency Services

DFPS procures services that will assist the agency in its efforts to provide support for children and youth formerly in CPS conservatorship who have been legally adopted and their families, along with families who have been granted Permanent Managing Conservatorship (PMC) of a child(ren) from DFPS conservatorship.

Desired Outcomes:

- ▶ Provide support services to prevent recidivism into CPS custody.
- ▶ Provide support services to prevent placement into Residential Treatment Centers (RTCs).

Post Adoption Services

Post Adoption Services help the adoptive family and adopted child:

Adjust	Adjust to the adoption;
Cope	Cope with any history of abuse or neglect in the child's background;
Manage	Manage any mental health issues the child may have; and
Avoid	Avoid the permanent or long-term removal of children from the family.

Eligible Population

All families of children adopted through DFPS can access post adoption services if:

- The adoption is consummated;
- The adoptive parents have requested Post Adoption Services (voluntary service); and
- The adopted child is younger than 18.

Post adoption services are available to families whether or not they receive Title IV-E or state-paid adoption subsidies from DFPS.

Families residing out of state are also eligible.

Enrollment

Families are eligible to enroll the day the adoption is consummated.

Post Adoption Services are meant to be proactive, preventative services that aid in the continued support of the family and assist in maintaining the adoption.

Unfortunately, many families wait until they are in crisis to access services.

Families can be referred to or can seek out Post Adoption Services in their area.

Upon enrollment, a service plan is developed and renewed every six months. The Post Adoption Service Plan is utilized to assess the needs of the family and identify appropriate services.

Families can be as actively engaged as they choose to be.

Engagement

Services Offered through Post Adoption



Availability of these services is dependent on funding and the individual child and family situation.

A little bit more about RTC...



During the 86th Legislative Session (2019), DFPS received a Legislative Appropriation Request (LAR) increasing the available funds for residential placement services for Post Adoption Families. Should funding for mental health services through Post Adoption Services be exhausted or no longer available, Post Adoption families may access residential placement services through the HHSC funded RTC Project, and as a final option, through the process outlined in CPS Policy 6961, Post Adoption Substitute Care.

- ▶ RTC is at minimum 20% of Post Adoption Services overall budget
- ▶ RTC treatment is expected to last 6-9 months, 12 months maximum
- ▶ Families must exhaust all possible community resources and insurance benefits prior to utilizing Post Adoption funded RTC
- ▶ Increase in daily rate (CPS/SSCC) without increase to RTC budget

Working with adoptive families requesting RTC:



PROACTIVE



CRISIS

DFPS Contracted Post Adoption Providers

13

Regions 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9 and 10:

Centers for Children and Families

3701 Andrews Highway
Midland, TX 79703
(432) 570-1084 – Main Line
(432) 570-0027 – Post-Adopt Line
<http://www.centerstx.org/postadoption.php>



Regions 3:

CK Family Services

320 Westway Place, Suite 530
Arlington, TX 76018-1000
(817) 516-9100
<https://www.ckfamilyservices.org/programs-and-services/post-adoption>

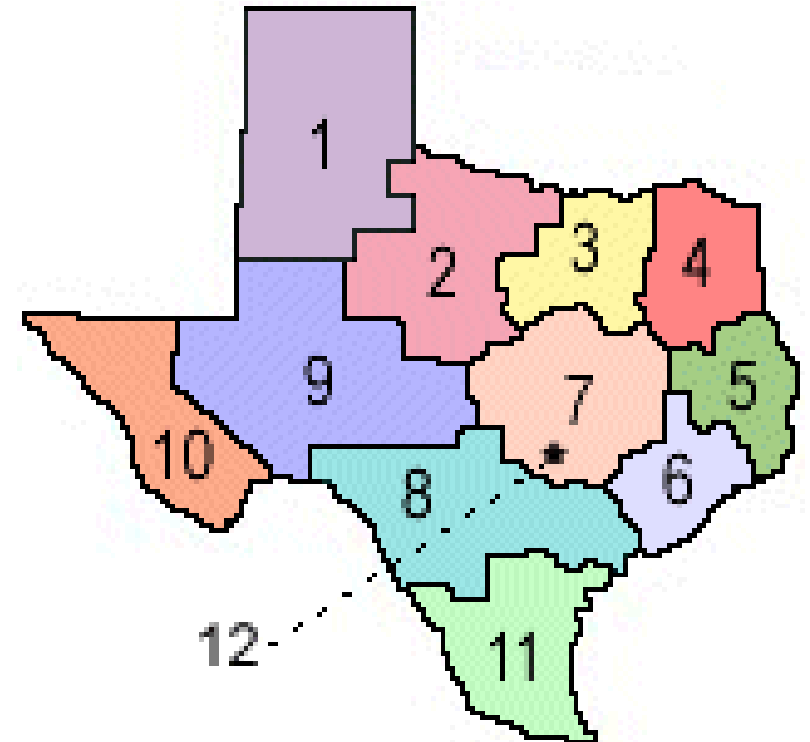


Regions 6 and 11:

Arms Wide

6925 Portwest Drive, Suite 110
Houston, TX 77024
(713) 681-6991, 1-800-460-6298

500 N. Water Street Suite 604, South Tower
Corpus Christi, Texas 78410
www.armswide.org





Questions?

Thank you!
