What Role Will You Play?

5 Areas of Need in Foster Care and Adoption



Family Preservation

- Over 70% of children in biological families
- their families
- Biological families need more support than State requirements to break cycles of abuse, poverty. addiction, etc



Foster Care

• 1400 kids in foster care

Foster homes are most

Children in care can

needed for children age

move on average 6 times

not due to the system.

but because the foster

care for the child

family is not prepared to

Moving and inconsistent

care can cause more

the original abusive

trauma in a child than

in Travis, Willamson,

Hays Counties

6 and over



Adoption

- Minority ethnic group children over 2 years old have a greater risk of aging out of the system than being adopted
- An estimated 250 children are available for adoption- many are sibling groups or teens
- Adoption from the foster care system costs little to nothing
- All children will have trauma, but they can reach dramatic levels of healing with traumainformed parenting



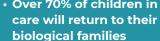
Supporting Roles

- There are many opportunities to serve foster and adoptive families including CASA, meals, mentoring, prayer, babysitting certification, financial support for camps or sports, backpack drives, compassion for foster/ adoption families, etc
- Isolation is often a family's first and most problematic response when they are in crisis with a child



Aged-out Teens

- Teens are given the choice at 18 to extend their time in foster care until 21 or they can leave
- 40% of those who ageout are homeless in the first year
- 66% are in incarcerated in the first year
- 70% are pregnant by their 21st birthday
- Long-term relationships are required to change the future of aged-out



- · After ensuring safety, the State's top priority is to return children to
- Most children in foster care have parents who were also in foster care

