



PARTNERSHIP FOR
STRONG
FAMILIES

Adoption Network Newsletter

AUG. 2026



JOIN THE GROUP!

Don't forget to join our PSF Facebook group! This closed group is another way for parents to reach out to us and an easy way to post helpful information or upcoming trainings/activities that you might want to participate in, as well as lend support to one another if needed. To join, please search for "**PSF's Post Adoption Network**" on Facebook.



FOSTER & ADOPTIVE PARENT ASSOCIATION (FAPA)

Did you know there is a Foster and Adoptive Parent Association run by a foster/adoptive parent in the area? The North Florida FAPA is run by Jerrod Pfeffer and offers helpful information on their Facebook page, as well as in-person monthly meetings. If you are interested in joining the group on Facebook search "**North Florida FAPA!**"

New DCF COLA memo for July 2026

DCF has provided another Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) memo in July 2026. The COLA memo is in regards to foster care board rates for children currently in foster care. There is mention in the memo that adoptive parents can request the current foster care board rate amount as their child's adoption subsidy amount. The current rate for 0-5 year olds is \$663.03, 6-12 year olds is \$680.01, and ages 13 and up is \$795.94.

If you are interested in receiving the current foster care board rate amount as your child's adoption subsidy amount, please send an email to patricia.braitsch@pfsf.org requesting the COLA rate with your name, mailing address, phone number, and child/children name(s). Per the state, all requests must be in writing and phone call requests will not be accepted.

Tricia Braitsch solely processes these requests and will be working on them as efficiently as possible. Once she gets your request and can process, you will receive a new subsidy agreement to sign and date via Docusign email. Thank you in advance for your patience.

Annual Baseline Assessment

Each year the Department must complete an Annual Baseline Assessment that includes requirements outlined in s. 409.1662(2)(a)(7) F.S. that provides feedback from prospective adoptive parents, adoptive parents, children in child welfare system, adoptees, and other stakeholders. The Annual Adoption survey will close on August 31, 2026.

To complete the survey, please go to

https://floridadcf.iad1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_egKMIJcp5w1evly.

Vision Health

With the new school year approaching, don't forget to have your child's vision checked!

Date Change for Post Adoption Subsidy Payments

As Partnership for Strong Families continues to align our financial and operational processes with the Comprehensive Child Welfare Information System (CCWIS), Florida's statewide child welfare case management system, we have determined that it is necessary to adjust the timing of monthly adoption subsidy payments.

Beginning in September, monthly payments will be issued on the **10th of each month**.

This change will help ensure our payment process aligns with CCWIS workflows, improves operational efficiency, and supports the accuracy and consistency of payment processing.

We understand that changes to payment schedules may require some adjustment, and we sincerely appreciate your patience and understanding as we implement this improvement.

Our commitment to serving you and your family remains our highest priority and we want to express our gratitude for your partnership and all that you do to make a lasting difference in the lives of your children.

Please don't hesitate to contact Kelsey Burnette at 352-244-1500 ext. 2063 (office), 352-210-6103 (cell), or Kelsey.Burnette@pfsf.org if you have questions. Thank you again for all you do and for your continued partnership.

Helpful Info

For post adoption services, tuition waivers, or tax documents, please contact Tricia Braitsch, Post Adoption Liaison, at (352) 244-1500 ext. 2106 or Patricia.Braitsch@pfsf.org.

For Medicaid needs, change of address (in or out of state), and subsidy payment questions, please contact Cheryl Williams, Eligibility Specialist I-ICAMA, at (352) 244-1500 ext. 2039 or Cheryl.Williams@pfsf.org.