

### Wisconsin Funding/Support of Post Adoption Services:

Since 1999, the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services, Division of Children and Family Services contracts with regional agencies to provide post adoption services. Each region is funded for \$70,000; funding has remained unchanged except for the addition of Milwaukee County as a region in 2003. The PARC contract amounts of \$70,000 per region/year have remained unchanged since the original contract awards in 1999.

The regions and contract agencies are:

- *Northeastern* – Family Services of Northeastern Wisconsin, Inc.
- *Northern* – Catholic Charities Diocese of LaCrosse
- *Western* – Catholic Charities Diocese of LaCrosse
- *Southern* – Catholic Charities Diocese of Madison
- *Southeastern* – Coalition for Children Youth and Families
- *Milwaukee County* – Coalition for Children Youth and Families

Despite unchanging funding levels, the number of adoptive families and resulting needs continue to grow. Research shows that “Post-adoption support programs must constantly endeavor to expand and grow their services to remain innovative, provide essential care and support, and meet the unique and complex needs of adoptive families.” (NACAC, Supporting the Promise of Permanency: Post Adoption Services for Children and Families).

Sustained adoptions save money and improve outcomes for children.

Post-permanency supports and services save money compared to keeping children in foster care or having them re-enter out-of-home care when challenges arise. One study (Hansen, M.E. (2006) – The Value of Adoption) found that each dollar spent on an adoption from foster care saves about three dollars in public and private costs. This analysis showed that each adoption saved from \$90,000 to \$235,000 in public costs, and even more in private costs.