

*Eligibility Criteria:*

Organizations should consider applying if they meet the following criteria:

1. **Service Provision or Funding:**
  - o Must directly provide services or funding aimed at meeting specific needs identified in the State of Texas needs assessment.
2. **Target Population:**
  - o Services should specifically benefit children, youth, and families with post-adoption and post-permanency needs.
3. **Alignment with Identified Needs:**
  - o The organization's proposed activities must address one or more of the categories highlighted in the results of the state needs assessment, listed below.

*Key Areas of Focus:*

- **Basic and Emergency Assistance:** Financial and concrete support or services that address a family's immediate and essential needs, such as clothing, food, hygiene items, emergency funds for unforeseen expenses, and repairs to maintain safe living.
- **Mental Health and Therapeutic Services:** Therapeutic services including individual, family and group therapy sessions provided by a licensed therapist or counselor. These services can include non-traditional therapies, such as art, equine, music, etc.
- **Respite Care:** Temporary relief or short-term breaks provided to caregivers including respite, overnight respite, emergency respite, babysitting services, and Parents' Night Out events for post-adoption and post-permanency families.
- **Family Bonding and Wellness Activities:** Family bonding and wellness activities include activities or events that build connection within families and the community, camps, and normalcy activities for youth (extracurriculars, sports, art, etc.). It does not include support groups, caregiver training, or caregiver coaching.
- **Caregiver Support, Groups, and Skill-Building:** Services designed to empower and assist caregivers (or family members) through a variety of activities, including peer support groups, educational training, skill-building workshops, and coaching. These services aim to enhance caregivers' abilities to manage responsibilities, build resilience, and improve their well-being.
- **Training for Professionals:** Training or professional development workshops designed to equip professionals with the knowledge, skills, and tools needed to effectively work with families formed through adoption and permanent legal conservatorship.
- **Other:** Services and support that did not fall into the previous categories above.

*All organizations should be affiliated with their Regional Heart Gallery and/or a local collaborative for consideration. If you are not connected to one of the above, please contact Erin Argue [eargue@tacfs.org](mailto:eargue@tacfs.org)*