

## Adoption Promotion Program Use of Funds

Funds received from the Adoption Promotion Program are to be used to enhance and/or expand adoption programs. These funds should not be treated as recurring. Funding amounts are not guaranteed from year to year. Funds cannot be used to purchase automobiles for the county or to supplant the salaries of county workers. If other funding sources are available to pay for an item or service, it should be utilized prior to using Adoption Promotion Funds. (Ex: Medicaid, Adoption Assistance Vendor Payments, Non-Recurring Expenses, etc.)

Allowable expenditures include direct provision or purchase by contract of services provided under the Adoption Promotion Program Fund: Recruitment, Training, Placement Support & Supervision and Legal Services. Below you will find some examples of allowable services that counties and private agencies have reported:

- Contracting with out-of-state agencies that are providing an adoptive family for a child.
- Facilitation of cross jurisdictional placements.
- Activities surrounding the recruitment, training, preparation, assessment and retention of adoptive parents. (Consider activities incorporated in your Diligent Recruitment and Retention Plan and how funding may be able to support them.)
- Targeted child specific recruitment activities. Some examples include: Having professional photos taken for NC Kids registration, creating a photo gallery of waiting children, coordinating matching events, purchasing child specific recruitment materials.
- General Recruitment activities: Purchase a professional recruitment video to use at events, a billboard or banners to display the need for adoptive families in your community.
- Completion of Pre-Placement Assessments.
- Contracting with a Foster/Adoptive Parent to co-facilitate your MAPP classes.
- Services provided to the child and family to sustain the adoptive placement prior to finalization.
- Adoption preparation/readiness activities for youth. Some examples include: Adoption workshops/conferences, Adoption preparation camps such as Under One Sky, identify and utilize resources to assist the child in understanding their biological and cultural heritage, Adoption Journey books (using Shutterfly & letting the youth select their photos), etc.
- Create or update an adoption resource library.
- Contracted Legal services to expedite the adoption process.
- Specialized assessments and subsequent recommended services for a child that would assist in locating and/or sustaining an identified adoptive placement. These services must not be covered by any other funding source or medical insurance program such as Medicaid or private insurance.
- Social worker travel associated with the recruitment, assessment and training of adoptive parents, as well as post placement support.
- Local and national adoption conferences to enhance skills of adoption staff and adoptive families.
- Fees associated with the facilitation of an adult adoption for a young adult participating in the Foster Care 18-21 program.

This is not an exhaustive list of examples for use of these funds. We encourage agencies to network with other agencies to gather ideas or partner together for recruitment and retention events.