

## **Preparing Kids Already in the Home for an Adoption**

### **Adopting an Infant**

- How to prepare children for the adoption of an infant.
- How to answer question from others.
- How to explain open adoption to kids already in the home.
- What if the child already in the home is adopted but with a different degree of openness with their birth family?

### **Transracial Adoption**

- How to prepare children for the adoption of an infant when it is a transracial adoption (where the child being adopted is not the same race or ethnicity as the children already in the family).

### **Adopting an Older Child Who is Not Your Foster Child (adopting from foster care or adopting internationally)**

- How much of your new child's history should you share with the kids already in the family?
- How to prepare kids in the family for potential behavioral challenges.
- How to prepare your kids in advance for changes to the family routine to accommodate the new child's needs.
- Creating a support network in advance.
- Handling the transition period.
- Different expectations and rules.
- How much voice should children in the family have on whether to adopt?
- Advice on parenting if you are disrupting birth order.
- Advice on parenting if kids are in the same grade at school.

### **Adopting an Older Child Who is Your Foster Child**

- Role change from foster sibling to adoptive sibling (and foster parent to adoptive parent).
- Expectations of transition period.