



**Saline/Perry County Affiliate**  
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### Obstacles Facing Foster/Adoptive Families in Arkansas

- Communication between foster/adoptive parents & DCFS in a timely manner
  - DCFS staff shortage?
- Foster parents feel like ‘glorified babysitters’
  - Need for representation
  - Need to be considered part of the team looking out for the best interest of the child (more input from foster families when choosing adoptive families, recommendations for children’s future needs)
  - Communication: prompt return of inquiries, updates on case plans
  - Training
  - Equipping (car seats, toiletries, etc)
- Home Studies
  - Limited number of contractors (DCFS Area 3 covers 9 counties with one contractor)
  - Referred in a timely manner
- Adoption Issues
  - Database limitations
  - More need for face-to-face meetings (The Project Zero, [theprojectzero.org](http://theprojectzero.org))
  - Need for specialists & prospective families to receive trauma training
  - Understanding of specialists of the emotions of adoptive families

The CALL at a glance since becoming a statewide organization in 2011(Sept. 2013 stats):

219 Information Meetings  
832 Background checks- families in process  
113 PRIDE Trainings  
667 Families trained  
424 Certified homes

Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress..." James 1:27.