



April 2025| Issue 4

Hello and Welcome to Spring RISE Families,

April is National Child Abuse Prevention and Strengthening Families Month in Idaho.

Our Family Services team here at RISE is fortunate to partner with local groups, state organizations and MANY of our families who demonstrate an admirable commitment to professional and volunteer service, advocacy, and supportive actions to prevent child abuse before it happens.

While the prevention of child-abuse is a year round focus for many, April serves as a dedicated time to invite others to share in awareness and also responsibility. The prevention of child abuse does not rest with a single family, parent, professional or group. Prevention is a responsibility that we ALL share.

The good news is that we are each capable of engaging in actionable steps to support prevention and honor this responsibility. April is full of opportunities for communities to come together and learn about existing risks, effective prevention and take actions to encourage resources and policy that support healthy families, thriving children and nurturing communities. We have included such opportunities in this newsletter and on our social media posts this month. However, there are many organizations and groups in Idaho that are also doing events, training and community outreach. If you have the opportunity, I would encourage you to check out what is available in your community.

Every child deserves to experience their childhood in an environment that is safe, nurturing and hopeful. While it may be easy for most to agree on this, the reality is that many families face challenges that put the safety and well-being of

their child at risk. When a community comes together to support families, they create a stronger, healthier and more hopeful future for every child in that community.

One of the things that I am most grateful for, is to know that none of us are alone in imagining and working toward a world where every family has the resources they need to nurture and support the children in their care and as a result, EVERY child has what they need to grow, prosper and thrive. I come to work each day and see a team of individuals dedicated to serving hard-working, humble and admirable families. I hear from many of you, and am inspired as you tell me about your efforts to juggle your own parenting responsibilities and then asking what you can do to ease the circumstances of others. When I hang up my professional responsibilities for the day and engage as a member of my community and a parent to my own children, I am consistently impressed and so grateful for all of the opportunities I have to see so many parents, neighbors, teachers, coaches, librarians, volunteers and donors dedicated to giving their time and resources for the sole purpose of supporting families who need it and improving the experience of a kid growing up in our community.

It is surprising that one person can observe so many acts of selflessness, compassion and grit in such a tiny corner of Idaho. It also speaks to the wild potential that we have in working together to support families in meaningful ways and nurture safe environments for our kids to thrive in.

Wishing you a wonderful April from my little corner of Idaho to yours!

Talk soon,

Sarah Andrade, LCSW
Executive Director
RISE Idaho Family Services

Visit our website

Who Is RISE?

RISE, Inc is a non-profit organization that was founded in 1987. RISE provides a range of services to adults, children, and families in Utah, Oregon, Arizona, Florida, and Idaho.



Are you experiencing challenges that you didn't expect following an adoption, achieving permanency or dealing with changes in your family? Well, no one can plan for everything! Encountering unanticipated challenges or circumstances when a family experiences a change is one of the only certainties that can *really* be guaranteed. The other certainly, is that **WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!** RISE Family Services Post-Permanency Support team members are standing by to support you throughout your

journey.

RISE Family Service post-permanency support services offer a wide range of assistance options, tailored to the specific needs of your family. Supportive services can include:

- Supporting your family in applying for a renegotiation of subsidy payments to assist with the increased cost associated with more intensive needs.
- Supporting your child and family in gaining access to grant funding to allow for resources, enrichment activities, stabilization, or the overall well-being of your child(ren).
- Case Management/Intensive Case Management to support you in advocating for exceptional or emotional needs for your child, navigating the child welfare system or community resources and accessing support networks.

The bottom line is that ***we are here for you!*** If you or someone you know is in need of support related to a post-permanency adoption, please reach out to us. We know that supporting Idaho Families through their post-adoption journey is every bit as critical as entering an adoption. ***We are here.***

Please feel welcome to contact us via email at idadoptsupport@riseservicesinc.org or by telephone at **208-252-6117**. As always, we look forward to answering questions and working with your family.

HAPPY APRIL!

Bloom into Spring with Family Fun



The sun's out, the blooms are bold, and energy is rising. April is here, and it's bringing the fresh-start feeling we've all been craving. Whether you're chasing cherry blossoms, tackling your spring cleaning goals, or just soaking up the longer days, this season is all about growth, renewal, and a touch of joy.

Let's take a moment to shake off winter's chill, open the windows (literally and metaphorically), and lean into all the possibilities this season has to offer.

Here's to planting new ideas, watching them bloom, and finding sunshine in the small moments.

Happy Spring, let's make it count!

Here are some free family-friendly events happening in the area this April.

Healthy Kids Day 2025

Date: April 26, 2025

Location: All four Treasure valley YMCA locations

Details: This annual event offers a variety of family-friendly activities aimed at encouraging healthy habits and a fun start to the summer season.

Skyhawks Free Day of Play

Dates: April 26, 2025

Location: Ann Morrison Park

Time: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Details: A day filled with various sports and activities for kids to enjoy.

Family Night at Zoo Boise

Date: April 22, 2025

Details: An evening event where families can explore the zoo together.

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

Every Child Deserves a Safe & Bright Future- Let's Make it Happen



Imagine a world where every child feels safe, heard, and loved. A world where no child suffers in silence, and every family has the support they need to thrive. **That world starts with us.**

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month, a time to take action, spark conversations, and build communities where children grow up free from harm. **Because prevention isn't just possible, it's powerful.**

How You Can Be a Hero for Kids This Month

Wear Blue

Show your support and start the conversation. Wear blue and encourage others to do the same!

Stay Engaged

Download our Daily Action & Fact Calendar for simple, meaningful ways to make a difference- and learn key facts about prevention. [Click here to download](#)

Pinwheels for Prevention

Plant some blue pinwheels in your yard and garden when you put in your spring plantings! Get creative with our pinwheel coloring page, a fun way for families to raise awareness together. [Download here](#)

Snap pictures and send them into us at: id-adoptsupport@riservicesinc.org
We would love to show off your work!

Be a Voice

If something doesn't feel right, speak up. A Child's safety could depend on it. Every action, no matter how small, helps build a brighter, safer future.



Standing Together for Children – Join Us in Raising Awareness!

At RISE Family Services, we believe that every child deserves to grow up in a safe and nurturing environment. This April, we're proud to wear blue as a symbol of our commitment to protecting children and supporting families.

We invite YOU to join us! Wear blue, take a photo, and share it on social media with the hashtag #WearBlueDay to help spread awareness and show your support for prevention efforts. Together, we can spark important conversations and make a lasting impact.

Resources to Support Prevention & Awareness

Protecting children and strengthening families starts with knowledge and access to support. Whether you need help, want to report a concern, or are looking for ways to get involved, these resources can make a difference.

National Resources

- **Childhelp National Child Abuse Hotline**
24/7 confidential support for children & adults
Call 1-800-4-A-CHILD (1-800-422-4453) or visit childhelp.org
- **Darkness to Light**
Training and education on child abuse prevention.
d2l.org
- **Prevent Child Abuse America**

Advocacy and family support programs.
[preventchildabuse.org](https://www.preventchildabuse.org)

Idaho-Based Resources

- **Idaho Children’s Trust Fund**
Statewide leader in child abuse prevention, offering training and family support.
- **Family Advocates (Boise)**
Empowering and educating families to prevent abuse and neglect.
- **St. Luke’s CARES (Boise)**
Provides evaluations, treatment, and support services for children at risk.
- **Bannock Youth Foundation**
Youth-focused prevention programs in Southeastern Idaho.
- **FACES of Hope (Boise)**
Free and confidential services for victims of child abuse and their families.
- **Central District Health – Parents as Teachers**
Offers parenting support and education to promote healthy child development.

Reporting Suspected Abuse

If you suspect a child is being abused, neglected, or abandoned in Idaho, it’s crucial to report it:

- Statewide: Call 855-552-KIDS (5437)
- Treasure Valley: Call 208-334-KIDS (5437)

Reports can also be made by dialing 2-1-1 or contacting local law enforcement.

AUTISM ACCEPTANCE MONTH

Embracing Neurodiversity in Our Communities



At RISE Family Services, our mission is simple yet powerful: **creating opportunities for and with people.** April is recognized as Autism Acceptance Month and an occasion to celebrate neurodiversity and promote true inclusion. At RISE, we are grateful for the year-round opportunities that we have to grow alongside individuals and families who are part of, connected to or learning about the autism community.

Autism Acceptance Month is about more than awareness—it's about listening, learning, and fostering a culture where everyone feels respected, supported, and empowered to thrive. As a nonprofit dedicated to uplifting individuals of all abilities, we are committed to building communities where every voice matters and every person has the opportunity to reach their full potential.

Together, let's continue to create spaces of acceptance, understanding, and opportunity—for and with all people.

THRIVING CHILDREN'S POST-PERMANENCY FUNDS PROGRAM



We are thrilled to announce the opening of the "Thriving Children's Post-Permanency Funds Program," formerly the Post-Adoptive Grant Program. This program has been updated, re-tooled and reimagined to better serve Idaho's Post Adoptive Families in meeting the unique needs of children following permanency. The program is fully funded and currently accepting applications.

For detailed information on the program's updates, eligibility, and how to apply, please see the flyer below.

We look forward to helping your family thrive! If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out to our team at 208-252-6117 or emailing us at [id-adoptsupport@riservicesinc.org](mailto:ad-adoptsupport@riservicesinc.org)

Thriving Children Post-Permanency Funds

Thriving Children Post Permanency Funds help pay for costs related to parenting a child with special needs who was adopted or placed in a legal guardianship. To apply, contact the [Idaho Adoption Resource Exchange](#) at RISE, Inc. at (208) 252-6117 or id-adoptsupport@riservicesinc.org

Who is eligible for funds?

To be eligible for funds, the child must:

- Be under the age of 18
- Have been adopted* in any state or placed in a legal guardianship through the child welfare system in any state (**cannot have been adopted by their stepparent or birth parent*)
- Have a current need related to their emotional or behavioral health, physical health, education or development, culture, trauma history, interests, or relationships with permanent or birth family

Is there a limit to the amount of funds?

The amount of money available for Thriving Children Post Permanency Funds is limited and changes each year. To make sure as many families as possible can get help:

- Priority may be given to families who have not received funds before
- Requests approved one year may not be approved the next year
- Requests that go over \$5,000 for a child over one or more years need additional approval
- Funds may be awarded as requested, in part, or denied

What can funds be used for?

Services, activities or supports related to the child's needs which are:

- One time or time-limited
- Not covered under other resources, programs or community organizations such as monthly subsidy payments, Medicaid, insurance, sponsorships, scholarships, etc.
- May include time-limited assistance in the event of financial crisis threatening the stability of the permanent placement

Examples of services, activities, or supports that can be paid for:

- Transportation to maintain birth family relationships
- Parent registration, travel fees, and child care for training to meet the child's unique needs
- Extra-curricular activities for the benefit of the child that are unaffordable to the family
- Time-limited in-home or community-based therapies (additional requirements apply)

Examples of services, activities, or supports that cannot be paid for:

- Out of home placement including residential treatment services
- Orthodontics
- Attorney/court fees
- Emotional support animals
- Private school, daycare, or child care
- Reimbursement for services, activities, or supports already purchased

CALLING ALL CARING HEARTS

RISE is seeking Treatment Foster Care Parents



Are you passionate about making a positive impact on the lives of children and youth in need? If, so we have an exciting opportunity for you!

We are actively seeking compassionate individuals or families who are interested in becoming treatment foster care parents in Region 3 & 4. Whether you are a seasoned foster parent looking to expand your impact or someone considering treatment foster care for the first time, we welcome you to join our dedicated team.

As a treatment foster care parent, you will have the unique ability to provide a nurturing and supportive environment for children and adolescents who have experienced trauma or have behavioral and emotional challenges.

By opening your heart and home to these vulnerable young individuals, you can play a pivotal role in their healing and growth. As a treatment foster care parent, you will receive specialized training, ongoing support, and a generous stipend to ensure that you have the resources and knowledge needed to provide the best care possible.

If you are interested in learning more about becoming a treatment foster care parent, please contact RISE Family Services at 208-252-6117 or email TFCIdaho@riservicesinc.org

RESOURCES JUST FOR YOU



Southwest District Health provides counseling and behavioral health services at our Caldwell location and offers in-person and telehealth options.

Our **licensed clinical social worker** serves adolescents and adults living within the six counties of Southwest District Health for a variety of behavioral and mental health issues including, anxiety, depression, adjustment disorder and life transitions, women's issues, LGBTQ+, suicidal ideation and self-harm, bipolar, and borderline personality disorder. They conduct mental health assessments, offer counseling, and provide consultation and education related to mental health.

Individuals can be referred by any of the Southwest District Health programs or call 208-455-5300 to schedule an appointment.

The Western Idaho Community Crisis Center (WIDCCC) provides free and in-person crisis care 24/7/365. Care includes:

- Crisis stabilization for a client-defined crisis
- Shower, clothing, food, and a place to rest
- Individualized referrals to community-based resources

We serve adults 18+ experiencing crisis for up to 23 hours and 59 minutes during a single episode of care, but longer stays may be available depending on the needs of the client.

WIDCCC is located at 524 Cleveland Blvd #160, Caldwell, ID 83605 and walk-ins are welcome any time day or night. Referrals or first responder drop-offs are welcome, but not required. To learn more about adult crisis center services, visit widccc.org or call 208-402-1044. Western Idaho Community Crisis Center: Adult Crisis Center Services

The Western Idaho Youth Support Center (WIYSC) provides free and in-person crisis care 24/7/365. Care includes:

- Crisis stabilization for client and family-defined crisis
- Clothing, food, and a place to rest and recreate
- Individualized referrals to community-based resources

We serve youth ages 10-17 experiencing crisis for up to 23 hours and 59 minutes during a single episode of care, but longer stays may be available depending on the needs of the youth and family.

WIYSC is located at 204 10th Avenue South, Nampa, ID 83651 and walk-ins are welcome any time day or night. Referrals or first responder drop-offs are welcome, but not required. To learn more about youth crisis center services, visit westernidahoyouthsupportcenter.org or call 208-899-4727.



Childcare Days

for our Safe Families
community!



What: Babysitting for children ages 12 months–10 years

When: Each Monday, 9a.m.–12p.m.

Where: King of Glory Lutheran Church
3430 N Maple Grove, Boise

Who: For parents who need a little extra time to themselves



[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)



Are your child's mental health problems making parenting seem impossible?

- Watch our FREE parenting video
- Schedule a FREE 15-minute consult
- Use our 90-day in-home program to help you build a bridge to better behaviors

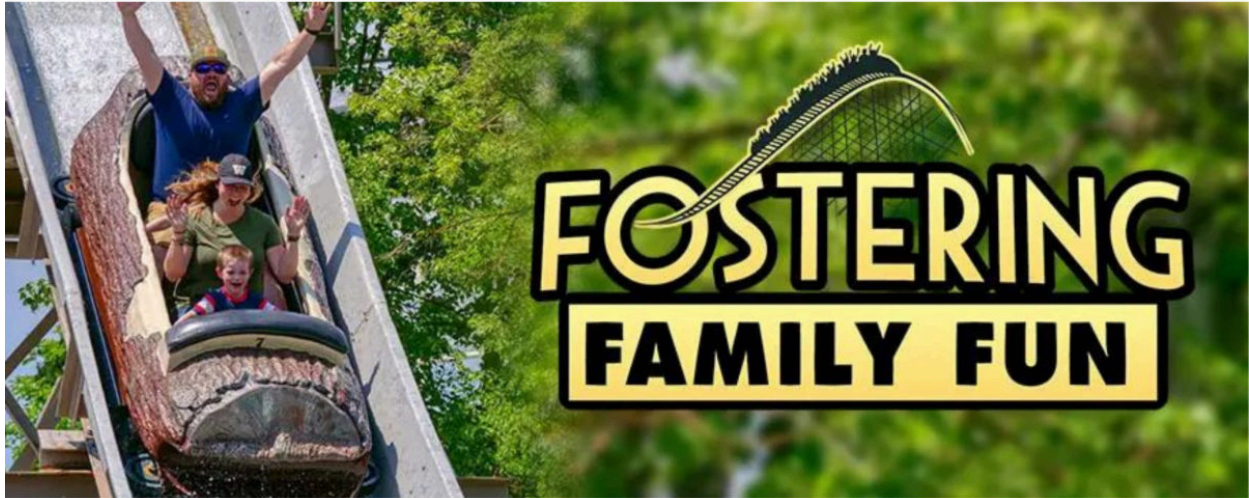
Change your family's future here:
www.healthyfoundations.co (not .com)



The TBRI® Podcast features conversations about Trust-Based Relational Intervention®, an attachment-based, trauma-informed intervention designed to meet the complex needs of vulnerable children.

On this podcast we talk about the elements of trauma-informed care and chat with experts in the field about implementing TBRI® across different communities of care and practice.

To learn more [click here](#)



Silverwood Theme Park has partnered with Idaho Family and Children Services to provide all foster children in the state of Idaho the opportunity to visit the park for FREE once a year! The goal of this program is to help children in foster care create healthy bonds with their new families by providing a safe, fun, and exciting place to make lasting memories together.

[LEARN MORE HERE](#)

Currently, this program is only offered to foster families in the state of Idaho, but we are looking into future expansion to our bordering states.

Idaho Resiliency Project

<https://www.idahoresilienceproject.org/resources>

The Idaho Resilience Project (IRP) is an organization dedicated to helping Idaho's youth and families build resilience and forge a path beyond trauma. Understanding that adversity happens at the individual, family, and community levels, IRP is working with organizations across the state to improve and create a shared understanding of resilience-informed communities. Through regional collaboration, IRP is working to create safe, stable, and nurturing relationships and environments to positively impact the development of skills that will help youth and families reach their full potential. Explore the calendar to find upcoming training and events. Check out the resource page to find videos, documentaries and lesson plans for every age and stage.

Spotlight on Idaho's Wednesday's Child: Making a Difference for Youth in Need

Idaho's Wednesday Child is a vital initiative that helps connect children and teens in foster care with potential adoptive families. Each Wednesday, a child or sibling group in need of a forever home is featured on Idaho's local news station and social media, allowing the community to learn about their unique personalities, hopes, and dreams. By sharing these stories, Wednesday's Child's highlights the incredible young people who are looking for stability, love, and a chance to thrive in a permanent family.

For families and individuals considering adoption, Idaho's Wednesday's Child provides a window into the lives of youth who need support and belonging. Even if adoption is not the right path for everyone, simply spreading the word and supporting these efforts can make a huge difference. by engaging with Wednesday's Child- whether through viewing, sharing, or supporting the program- you help foster awareness, increase opportunities for these youth, and bring them one step closer to a nurturing, stable home.

Let's support Idaho's Wednesday's Child and show that our community stands together in caring for its most vulnerable members.

To learn more about Idaho's Wednesday Child please visit
<https://idahowednesdayschild.org/>

Find Help Idaho

<https://findhelpidaho.org/>

Idaho Health Data Exchange is collaborating with findhelp to provide a safe, secure, and effective platform for users to connect people with social services. Simply search and immediately connect to identify medical, behavioral, financial and basic supports relevant and available to meet your needs.

Brown like Me

Brown like Me has become many of our family's favorite nonprofit organizations in the area. Brown like Me is a "local nonprofit that is helping black youth in Idaho connect with their culture through community outreach".

To learn more about this organization and to view their upcoming events, please visit <https://brownlikeme.org/>.



Idaho Care Line

The 2-1-1 Idaho Careline is a program of the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare. It is a free statewide community information and referral service.



National Parent Helpline®

1-855-4A PARENT 1-855-427-2736

To get emotional support from a trained Advocate and become empowered and a stronger parent.

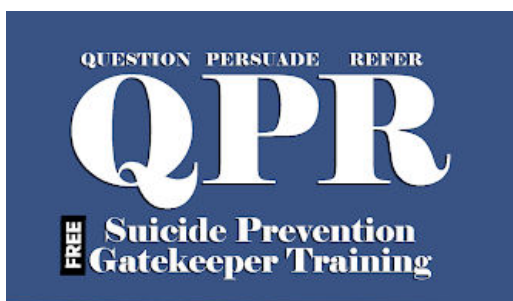
Youth Resource and Opportunity Collaborative

The Youth Resource and Opportunity Collaborative (YouthROC) provides upstream prevention support and resources to assist youth aged 10-17 with

behavioral health needs. The ultimate goal is to prevent youth from entering the juvenile justice and child welfare systems by providing connection to community-based resources and services. YouthROC will assist youth in acquiring the resources and support they need to improve their health, well-being, and future success.

For more information about the YouthROC program or advisory committee please reach out to Savannah Swisher, Project Manager at Southwest District Health.

To learn more, click [here](#)



In partnership with the Department of Health and Welfare, the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction is providing FREE online QPR suicide prevention training for our Idaho school communities through our Idaho Lives Project and the QPR Institute.

As a QPR-trained Gatekeeper you will learn to:

- Recognize the warning signs of suicide
- Know how to offer hope
- Know how to get help and save a life

Adults 18 and older are invited to take this FREE 2-hour online training.

REGISTER



WESTERN IDAHO YOUTH SUPPORT CENTER
We're here to support you in a crisis.

Why Western Idaho Youth Support Center?
The Western Idaho Youth Support Center is open 24/7/365 to provide youth ages 10-17 free help during a crisis. A crisis looks different for every person, but may include thoughts of suicide, bullying, homelessness, physical or sexual trauma, emotional abuse, loss of a loved one, excessive stress, or mental health conditions like anxiety and depression. Whatever the situation, crisis center staff will work with the youth and their families to ensure they get the help they need.

What to Expect
The support center provides a place for youth to rest, eat, and get the help they need during a crisis situation. Once at the center, youth will meet with a compassionate team of professionals and peers who will help them get through their crisis and provide resources to support a healing journey. There's no cost to receive services. Insurance may be billed, but it is not required to get the help youth need.

The Western Idaho Youth Support Center provides:

- A free and safe place to be during any crisis
- Crisis intervention & mental health support
- Basic medical screening
- Mental health evaluation
- Ongoing support after youth leave

We're Here 24/7/365. Learn More »

WesternIdahoYouthSupportCenter.org

WESTERN IDAHO YOUTH SUPPORT CENTER
PROVIDING YOUTH A SAFE PATH FORWARD
operated by Pathways of Idaho

RISE, Inc. | [idadoptresources.org]

RISE, Inc. | 3076 N. Five Mile Rd. | Boise, ID 83713 US

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