

## Rudd Adoption Research Program, Notes from Conference Breakout Groups 2014

### **Adoptive and Foster Parents**

Presenters Dana Johnson and Mary Jo Spencer

Ppt available

#### Brainstorming Session on Needs of Adoptive Parents

- Need for Services
  - Pre-Adoption/Placement, during adoption/placement
  - Throughout development
- Continuous Education
- Space for bottom-up change (i.e. funding)
- Experienced Clinicians
- Access to research and community (for both parents and children)
- Bridging gaps between all parties
- Lack of Services and lack of trained clinicians (esp. trauma)
  - Mentor families
- Need for policy makers to understand these issues need funding
- Educating the educators (in adoptee's school setting)
- "What to expect when adopting"
- Better services during transitions
- Importance of plasticity/perseverance
- Areas of research surrounding the experiences of adoptees throughout entire development
- Post-adoption/placement training and resources
- Combat any stigma associated with asking for help.
- Needs of the child become centralized too
- Programming/education about children who experience early adversity for foster/adoptive parents