



Strong Families. Safe Children.

For more ideas on how you can help, visit www.dcf.ks.gov.



Strong Families. Safe Children.

June is Family Reunification Month. When the difficult decision is made to recommend removal of a child from his/her home, it is always the goal of the Kansas Department for Children and Families to work with the parents to reunite the family. We walk alongside parents so they can provide a loving, safe and healthy home.

Family Reunification Month is a time to commend parents who do the work necessary to make that happen. It's also a time to call attention to the support that families in crisis need to keep moms, dads and their children together. And you can help.

Families in crisis often need:

- To know they are not alone—sometimes, simply knowing you're not the only one battling difficulties in life is enough to help someone realize they can manage.
- A break—watching the kids for an hour or two can provide stressed out parents some time to regroup, calm down and develop a plan.
- Meals—when busy moms and dads don't have to worry about cooking a healthy meal for their family, it's one less stress. Offering to prepare meals is a great way to show you care.
- Words of wisdom—if you've lived through tough times and can mentor a family, the meaningful advice can go a long way.
- Access to community resources—when you're in the middle of a crisis it can be difficult to know where to get help. Make a list of helping agencies that can provide immediate assistance to a family in need.

Nearly 60 percent of children leaving foster care are reunified with their family.

More than 70 percent of children reunited with their family are returned home within 12 months of entering foster care.

More than 90 percent of children reunified with their families do not return to foster care within 12 months.

Children who are reunited with their family spend an average of eight months in care.

(data provided reflects the current fiscal year, since July 2013)