At any given time, there are approximately 100 youth available for adoption in Northwest Florida. These children are all ages, ethnicities and personality types. Many are teens, or part of a sibling group hoping to stay together. **Adoptive parents** bring stability, hope and healing to their future.

**How do I become an Adoptive Parent?**

1. **Contact Us:**
The first step is to call our adoption recruitment specialist at 850-480-3849 or complete the adoptive parent orientation on our website at FamiliesFirstNetwork.org

2. **Inquiry Process:**
FFN’s adoption recruitment specialist will get to know you and your family and answer any of your questions. Once you and the specialist determine it is the right time for your family, you will be signed up for class.

3. **Attend Quality Parenting Training:**
QPT is a 27-hour training to prepare you for adoption.

4. **Home Study:**
Upon completing QPT, you will work on the adoption application packet and a child welfare case manager will conduct a home study, which includes things such as visiting your home, completing background checks, collecting references and getting to know your family in-depth.

5. **Approval:**
When all requirements have been met, your home study will be approved and you will review and sign the final copy. Your family will be considered for local matches with waiting children.

6. **Sign Up for Family Match:**
After your home study is approved, you can create a profile and complete the assessment on Family Match, an innovative technology used to match children in Florida with approved adoptive families.

7. **Match:**
Once you are considered for a potential match for a child, a match staffing will be held to assess your family’s fit for the child in relation to other home studies being considered.

8. **Full Disclosure:**
Once selected as a match for a child, the agency will provide you with all available information and history for the child.

9. **Transition:**
Before a child is placed with you, the child will be introduced to your family through scheduled visits.

10. **Post Placement Supervision:**
After a child is placed, a minimum of 90-day post placement period is required where an adoption caseworker makes visits to assess the child’s and family’s adjustments and readiness to proceed to finalization.

11. **Finalization:**
A hearing to finalize your adoption will be set before a judge. At this hearing the adoption will be finalized and the child will legally become part of your family.

12. **Post-Adoptive Support:**
FFN partners with Children’s Home Society to offer services to continue to support your family after your adoption.