

National Quality Improvement Center

QIIC • AAG

Adoption & Guardianship  
Support and Preservation

A Program funded through a five-year cooperative agreement with  
Department of Health and Human Services,  
Administration for Children and Families, Children's Bureau in partnership with:  
Spaulding for Children,  
The University of Texas at Austin,  
The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and  
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

**TINT:**  
An  
intervention  
available to  
Intercountry  
and Private  
Domestic  
Adoptive  
Families in  
New Jersey

# WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

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# AGENDA

- Overview of the QIC-AG
- Introduction to Tuning in to Teens (TINT)
- Where TINT is Offered through QIC-AG
- Eligibility Criteria
- Review of Research Elements
- Questions and Answers



# OVERVIEW OF QIC-AG

# QIC-AG GOAL

QIC-AG will develop evidence-based models of support and intervention that can be replicated or adapted by other child welfare systems across the country to achieve long-term, stable permanency in adoptive and guardianship homes for waiting children as well as for children and families after adoption or guardianship has been finalized.

# QIC-AG LEADERSHIP TEAM



QIC-AG is funded through a five year cooperative agreement with Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Children's Bureau.

❖ Spaulding for Children



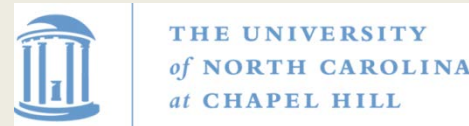
❖ University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee



❖ University of Texas at Austin



❖ University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



# PARTNERSHIP

**QIC•AG** Quality Improvement Center for  
Adoption & Guardianship Support and Preservation



# INTRODUCTION TO TUNING IN TO TEENS (TINT)



# INTRODUCTION TO TINT

- Tuning in to Teens (TINT)
- TINT is a 7 session emotional coaching program
- Teaches parents how to respond to their youth's emotions in ways that increase communication and connection.
- Parents are taught strategies for understanding and managing their own emotions while being educated about adolescent emotional development.

(Sophie Havighurst, Christiane Kehoe and Ann Harley (2015) Tuning in to teens: Improving parental responses to anger and reducing youth externalizing behavior problems. *Journal of adolescence* 42 (2015), 148-158.)

# TINTS PHILOSOPHY

## Increased:

Communication

Connection

Emotional Awareness

## Leads to:

Decreased behavior problems

Improved Relationships

Less Conflict

WHERE TINT IS  
OFFERED THROUGH  
THE QIC-AG

# WHERE IS TINT BEING OFFERED?

- Statewide
- Mid-week
- Evenings
- In Community Locations

## October 2017

Paterson  
Englewood  
Oakland  
Parsippany  
Vineland

## March 2018

Elizabeth  
Plainfield  
New Brunswick  
Hazlet, Monmouth  
Egg Harbor Twp.

## May 2018

Ocean  
Camden  
Mercer  
Burlington

## July 2018

Essex  
Hudson

# WHAT WILL TINT LOOK LIKE

- Small group sizes (no more than 12 parents)
- Comfortable, warm and accepting environment
- Other adoptive and kinship parents
- Experienced, trained group leaders
- Free, interactive and fun
- Learning, sharing and discussion over 7 sessions
- A Meal, Mileage, and Childcare Compensation
- The chance to be part of something ground breaking

# ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

# ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Adoptive parent with an adoptive child between the ages of 10-13
- Child must currently be living in the home
- *NJ Public Child Welfare families are selected for eligibility and contacted directly*

# HOW TO ENROLL FAMILIES

- To be added to a listserv for updated invitations including site locations and dates, contact Site Implementation Manager, John Webb, 973-459-9140 or [john.webb@dcf.state.nj.us](mailto:john.webb@dcf.state.nj.us)
- Families can register to enroll directly with Arleen Jacoby, Project Coordinator, by calling 609-888-7463 or email [arleen.jacoby2@dcf.state.nj.us](mailto:arleen.jacoby2@dcf.state.nj.us)



# RECRUITMENT SO FAR

- Attended adoption conferences
- Developing electronic address lists (for invite distribution)
- Presentations with private agency staff
- Connecting with local adoption associations

# RESEARCH ELEMENTS

# WHAT WE HOPE TO ACHIEVE

## Short Term Outcomes

- Decreased child behavioral issues
- Increased caregiver commitment
- Improved parent or guardian and child relationships
- Improved family interactions or belongingness

## Long Term Outcomes

- Increased post-permanency stability
- Improved child and family well-being
- Improved behavioral health for children and youth

# RESEARCH ELEMENTS

- Families must consent to participate in the study
- Families will be asked to complete pre and post surveys.
- Families will also be asked to complete a satisfaction survey at the conclusion of TINT
- Families will be asked to do a 30 minute phone interview



# SO FAR.....

- Over 60 families have attended TINT workshops
- Families have attended TINT from 9 different counties in New Jersey
- Feedback from families has been extremely positive

# QUESTIONS

Additional Information on the QIC-AG  
can be found at:

[www.qic-ag.org](http://www.qic-ag.org)



Funded through the Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Children's Bureau, Grant 90CO1122. The contents of this document do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the funders, nor does mention of trade names, commercial products or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. This document is in the public domain. Readers are encouraged to copy and share it, but please credit the QIC-AG.

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