



**REMEMBER, NOT EVERY
FAMILY WILL HAVE AN
UNMET SERVICE NEED**

Child welfare systems need to counter concerns that proactively discussing the need for and offering services to adoptive and guardianship families will lead to an overwhelming demand.

As compared with *all* families formed through adoption and guardianship, research tells us that only a moderate proportion of adoptive and guardianship families will need to seek services from the child welfare system. Results from a survey of adoptive parents and guardians in Illinois found that 85% of these families said they were doing well with the supports and services they currently had and did not need additional supports or services (Fuller et al., 2006). **In Tennessee, post-adoption services are available to all adoptive families in the state who are receiving a subsidy. Between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017, of the approximately 5,500 adoptive families eligible for services, 353 (6%) utilized the services.** Data from several of the QIC-AG sites further supports that offering services to adoptive and guardianship families will not lead to an overwhelming demand. Parents and guardians with teenagers in New Jersey were offered a group-based intervention aimed at helping them respond effectively to their child's emotions. Of the 653 families offered the service, 11% have participated. In Illinois, the QIC-AG project offered families with teenagers living in one region a trauma-informed home-based intervention. Of the 353 families offered the service, 6% have participated.

