



*Expanding Meaningful  
Black Relationships  
And Creating Equity*

## **HELPING BLACK KIDS IN FOSTER CARE FIND ADOPTIVE FAMILIES & LIFELONG SUPPORT SYSTEMS. HELPING BLACK FAMILIES THRIVE.**

**In addition to being overrepresented in foster care, Black youth are underrepresented in rates of adoption.**

In 2020, Black children made up 22% of all kids in foster care in the U.S., even though they only represent 14% of the total child population (AFCARS, 2021).

Kidsave's EMBRACE project aims to address the overrepresentation of Black children in the foster care system due to systemic racism, to identify the barriers Black families face to mentorship and adoption, to provide solutions towards culturally competent care, and to cultivate solutions in practice and policy to improve outcomes for Black youth in foster care.

To do this, we have collaborated with the Gallup Center on Black Voices, the Dave Thomas Foundation and the Hilton and Leslie Alexander Foundations to conduct a national research study to better understand the nuances of Black community involvement in foster care, mentoring and adoption.

In addition to the research study, a diverse, volunteer task force of policy professionals and child welfare advocates was formed to propose transformative policies and programs for Black children that leverage the project's findings.

Join us to sustain the change we've already made, and scale it to create more forever families and forever homes for Black Americans.

*Underwriter support by*



**Leslie Alexander  
Foundation**

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## What are Kidsave's goals for challenging these issues and barriers?

Ultimately, our goal is to improve outcomes for Black youth and families who interact with the child welfare system. Research shows that when a child cannot be reunified with their biological families, it is vital for that child to continue to have a support system, whether that is a mentor, foster family, or adoptive family.

Additionally, research has shown that children of a different race from their adoptive parents or support system face unique challenges that their families often are not adequately trained, educated, and supported to handle.

**Kidsave aims to change this narrative and focus on all families who want to support Black foster youth by increasing outreach and recruitment for Black families as well as increase training for non-Black families in culturally competence.**

Some benefits of placing Black children with culturally competent parents or parents of the same race include:

- Reducing the foster care to prison pipeline
- A reduction in homelessness

## Interested in joining us?

We've started to uncover gaps within the foster care system through the EMBRACE project but we're just getting started. More work needs to be done to properly support Black Americans engaging with the foster care system.

You can support this effort to EMBRACE, get more involved and unlock the extraordinary potential of Black children in foster care by donating at [embrace.kidsave.org](https://embrace.kidsave.org)

**EMBRACE**  
PROJECT

