HEART GALLERIES OF TEXAS

Connecting Children to Caring Communities

There are...

5,000
youth in the Texas foster care system are eligible for adoption.

1,500
are older youth, sibling groups, or have complex medical or behavioral needs. These youth often need additional advocacy efforts to be adopted.

800
youth aged out of Texas foster care in 2025. When youth are raised in systems and not in their communities, they are more likely to start adulthood with no support.

These public photo exhibits feature children eligible for adoption in their own communities. **Heart Galleries tell a child's story, capturing each child's spirit, individuality, interests, and unique needs**. The galleries generate awareness and advocacy for these youth while promoting adoption into local homes, helping children stay connected to the communities they know.

In 2025, Texas committed **$5.9 million** to expand the Heart Gallery model across the state and provide extensive post-adoption support and training statewide to promote family well-being. When children in the system are cared for by families formed through adoption, kinship, and/or guardianship, the Heart Galleries will provide those families with the support needed to prevent youth from re-entering the system.

Our Goals

- Build community awareness and collaborations that support children, youth, and families involved with the foster care system.
- Increase the number of families who foster and adopt.
- Improve scope, quality, and access to post-adoption services that reduce adoption disruptions by better educating and supporting families.

- Decrease child wait time in foster care.
- Decrease children placed outside their community.
- Decrease number of youth aging out of foster care.

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FY2025

1K
youth featured on a Heart Gallery website

1.8K
Heart Gallery exhibits displayed throughout Texas

324
youth featured in a gallery were placed in an adoptive home

100K
people attended 844 community outreach events

1.2M
clicks on regional Heart Gallery websites

Get Involved

Share
Spread the story of Heart Gallery and our children by inviting us to your congregation, book club, networking groups, and other circles.

Host
Hold a Heart Gallery exhibit at your church, workplace, or other high-traffic location.

Volunteer
Hold a Heart Gallery exhibit at your church, workplace, or other high-traffic location.

Give
Hold a Heart Gallery exhibit at your church, workplace, or other high-traffic location.

Contact

Check out your local Heart Gallery to find out how you can get involved.

We have a strong network of heart galleries across the state, but local galleries are as unique as the communities they serve.
That's where **YOU** come in!

Learn more: hgtx.org

Key Partners

Texas Department of Family and Protective Services

Governor's Commission for Women Texas

The University of Texas at Austin Moritz Center for Societal Impact School of Social Work

the center TEXAS CENTER FOR CHILD AND FAMILY STUDIES

Texas First Lady Cecilia Abbott