

Dawn Smith



My name is Dawn Smith. I am a native of central Kentucky, and have lived in or near Lexington my whole life, graduating from Lafayette High School, and attending Lexington Community College. During my professional career, I held administrative positions in mental health, engineering, and law.

I left the workforce in 2006 when my husband and I accepted placement of a sibling group of five from foster care. We finalized adoption of all five children in 2008. Since 2006, I have learned a lot about early developmental trauma and how it impacts brain development. I have attended Dr. Karyn Purvis' TBRI training and Orphan Care Alliance's annual Help, Hope, Heal Conference; am a past-member of The Attachment & Trauma Network; currently participate in annual retreats with Beyond Trauma & Attachment; started a local support group; and co-administer two Facebook groups. Having a high ACEs Score myself, I immediately became involved with advocating for my five children; and helping other moms with traumatized children do the same.