# Building on What Works: Advancing Adoption Competent Mental Health Care Through Existing Child Welfare and Mental Health Policy

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Adoption competence strengthens existing child welfare and behavioral health policies by equipping professionals and systems to address the unique effects of trauma, loss, attachment, identity, and permanency on children and families impacted by foster care, adoption, and kinship care. By embedding this approach into workforce development, Medicaid strategies, prevention services, and cross-system collaboration, policymakers can improve access to effective mental health care and promote lasting permanency and family well-being.

Read the report