



**April 20, 2024 • 9 AM - 12 PM**

Featuring former child of kinship care,  
birthmom & kinship adoptive mom

**Raquel McCloud**

## WELCOME!

We are thrilled to have you join us today for the inaugural  
MIFAM Foster Care & Adoption Conference.

We have gathered today to ENCOURAGE you and educate you about caring for vulnerable children, EQUIP you to take the next steps in your journey and CONNECT you to a community of experts and supporters to journey alongside you. People pursue foster care and adoption for many different reasons, and we hope that today you find guidance, support and encouragement.

We are grateful for your time and believe this day will help you whether you are already deeply involved in the foster care, kinship care & adoption community,  
or if this is your first exploratory step.

## WHAT IS MIFAM?

Memphis Interfaith Foster & Adoption Ministries (MIFAM) is a regional alliance composed of local churches, agencies, ministries, and community advocates that exists to encourage, equip, and connect to serve foster and adoptive children and families in the Memphis area.

Our members meet monthly and coordinate activities, share lessons learned, provide support, and raise awareness of needs. MIFAM was started in 2021 and is currently made up of over 30 churches and partner organizations.



# All for the One

8:30 AM

Childcare, Exhibit Booths & Breakfast Open

9:00 AM

Welcome & Introduction

9:15 AM

Keynote Session: Raquel McCloud

10:00 AM

Break & Exhibit Booth Browsing

10:15 AM

Bridging the Gap: Mark Ottinger

10:50 AM

Break & Transition to Breakout Sessions

11:00 AM

Breakout Sessions

12:00 PM

Dismissal & Childcare Pickup

## BREAKOUT SESSIONS:

- Connected Parenting Journey: Navigating Life's Unexpected Outcomes
- Let's Regulate: When Deep Breaths are Not Enough
- Play Styles: Creatively Connect with Your Family
- Q&A Panel of Foster Care, Kinship Care & Adoption Experts



## Meet Raquel McCloud

Best known for her authenticity with the community she has built on Instagram as MCCLOUDLIFE, Raquel, a former child of kinship care, birthmom in reunion, and kinship adoptive mom has brought that same passion and vulnerability off screen as the author of five adoption, foster, and kinship focused children's books, keynote speaker, workshop leader and panelist.

She boldly shares her truth through a lens of empathy and grace without compromising honesty for the sake of comfort. Her story is an inspiring display of tragedy and resilience, hope and healing and the unflinching belief that grief and gratitude can coexist.

When Raquel isn't writing or speaking, you might find her in the gym, meandering down a hiking trail, or enjoying the simple blessings of her life as a wife and mama. She lives nomadically with her husband, the two daughters they parent and their loyal dog, Oak. Though everyday is a gift, the family feels most complete when Raquel's first born comes to visit.





## **Thank you to Safe & Secure TN for providing today's training!**

Safe & Secure TN evolved as an extension of the long history of community training offered by the Memphis Family Connection Center (MFCC). Both MFCC and Safe & Secure TN are programs of Empowered to Connect (ETC). ETC is a dynamic network of programs aimed at increasing access to holistic care for individuals, families, and communities.

As an ambassador organization of Karyn Purvis Institute of Child Development (KPICD) Safe and Secure TN, offers multi-disciplinary training to caregivers and professionals supporting children who have experienced adversity, trauma, and loss. The research-based and empirically validated intervention, Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI®), is utilized to guide their training and consulting services. Safe & Secure TN collaborates with organizations and stakeholders across communities to build capacity for trauma-informed care across systems.



# EXHIBIT BOOTHS

## FOSTER/KINSHIP/ADOPTION AGENCIES & COMMUNITY SUPPORT



# SPONSORS



# Thank you for spending the morning with us!

Whether you're a foster,  
adoptive or kinship parent  
or you're just here  
gathering information,  
we're grateful for you!

At the end of our time together today,  
we'd appreciate your feedback:

**POST EVENT SURVEY**