

# Zero Kids Waiting

is a program solely by Minnesota Adoption Resource Network

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## Welcome!

**Zero Kids Waiting** is the monthly eNewsletter of Minnesota Adoption Resource Network, a 33-year old organization that creates and supports lifelong nurturing families for children needing permanency.

As an email subscriber to Zero Kids Waiting, you will receive a monthly update about what our organization and others are doing to promote adoption of Minnesota children and teens.

To opt out of receiving **Zero Kids Waiting** and other announcements from Minnesota Adoption Resource Network including MN ADOPT training emails for parents and professionals, please click [SafeUnsubscribe](#) at the bottom of this newsletter.

Your email is solely used for the distribution of MARN newsletters, trainings and other news and will not be shared or broadcast.

To learn more about Minnesota's waiting children and our goal to reach Zero Kids Waiting visit [State Adoption Exchange](#)

## Waiting Youth

**Lorenzo, age 16, has Unlimited Potential**



Lorenzo, 16, is a kind hearted and charming young man with unlimited potential. He enjoys listening to music, competing in sports and spending time with friends. Lorenzo has a good personality and likes to have fun. He tries to keep a smile on his face and not sweat the small stuff. He would like an active family that will do fun things with him and support his interests. He needs a family that can provide him with clear expectations, structure, provide positive feedback and has the ability to utilize community resources. Lorenzo is a teenager who is not afraid to say, "I want a family." He would prefer to be the only child in the home or have older siblings. Lorenzo looks forward to joining an active family who enjoy spending time together, having fun and participating in family activities.

For more information about Lorenzo, contact Angela Marks, Hennepin County at [angela.marks@co.hennepin.mn.us](mailto:angela.marks@co.hennepin.mn.us).

## World / National News

### Gazillion Voices Magazine Launches

An ambitious venture, an online magazine called Gazillion Voices, will soon be available. The e-zine is the brainchild of Kevin Volmers and stemmed from a popular blog that grew into a venture that published the anthology, *Parenting as Adoptees* and created *Watch Adoptee Films* to stream adoptee-centric films. Gazillion Voices unites a global adoptee community of many diverse voices under an umbrella of advocacy, research, and art.

[For more information](#)

### Planning Ahead for National Adoption Day

One hundred and seven thousand children and youth await adoption across the United States. To meet that need, dedicated courts, organizations and agencies hold celebrations and events on National Adoption Day, November 23, 2013. Minnesota counties and agencies organizing a National Adoption Day event can get assistance from the National Adoption Day Coalition. The Coalition provides online Toolkits, banners, artwork as well as discounted teddy bears and other merchandise. Groups that register at [www.nationaladoptionday.org](http://www.nationaladoptionday.org) can be a part of national and local effort to draw attention to the needs of waiting children.

### **Civil Rights Suit Filed in Baby Veronica Case**

Just short of the finalization of the adoption of Veronica Brown to Matt and Melanie Capobianco, the Native American Rights Fund filed Civil Rights litigation in federal district court. The protracted case had resulted in the South Carolina Supreme Court ruling in favor of Capobiancos over a Native American birth father who had custody of the child.

[For more information](#)

### **Ethiopia Toughens Adoption Requirements**

Effective Sept. 1, 2013, the government of Ethiopia will require all adoption cases filed by United States prospective adoptive parents to undergo a Pre-Adoption Immigration Review as a criterion for best-interest determination process. Prospective adoptive parents must submit proof that they have passed the review in order to initiate the adoption. The new requirement will not affect adoption cases filed with Ethiopian courts before Sept. 1, 2013.

[For more information](#)

### **Who Do You Think You Are Airs on TLC**

The popular television show that seeks family histories for celebrities will air new episodes on TLC starting on Tuesday, July 23 at 8 pm CST. This season features Kelly Clarkson, Christina Applegate (whose father is adopted), Chelsea Handler, Zooey Deschanel, Cindy Crawford, Chris O'Donnell, Trisha Yearwood and Jim Parsons.

[For more information](#)

### **Adopted Twins Marry**

A set of twins separated at birth through adoption who married each other had their marriage annulled by the British high court. The case has sparked discussions about anonymity in adoption and in donor insemination.

[For more information](#)

## **Local News**

### **Guatemalan Children to Meet Relatives**

As reported by Jon Tevlin in the Sunday, June 16, 2013 *Star Tribune*, when Lisa Kremer travelled to Guatemala she returned with a plan. She knew of children in Minnesota who were caught in the immigration system and not able to see their grandparents, uncles, aunts and even siblings. Working with local churches and the Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota she organized the Abuelos y Nietos Juntos, Grandparents and Grandchildren Together Project. The project allows American-born children of Guatemalan ancestry

the opportunity to visit the country of their origin and meet their extended families. Kremer characterized her trip to Guatemala and her subsequent epiphany as, "We've stopped calling them mission trips and started calling them awareness trips, because it's more about understanding. That's what the people appreciate the most - that we take the time to see what their lives are like."

[For more information](#)

### **PACER'S SIMON TECHNOLOGY CENTER To Host Family Fun Day & Open House Sept. 21**

Make plans to visit PACER's Simon Technology Center (STC) during the free Family Fun Day & Open House on Saturday, Sept. 21, 2013 between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Discover the latest in assistive technology (AT), with a special emphasis on early childhood technology. There will be plenty of fun activities for children. New for adults this year is 'Ask an Advocate,' Do-it-Yourself AT' and the mobile technology station where you can explore apps for the iPhone, iPad, iPad Mini, iPod, Android devices and Windows tablets. [Register online](#) or by calling (952) 838-9000.

### **New Law Reunites Foster Youth with Families**

As of August 1, 2013, older Minnesota teens in foster care can reunite with birth family that lost custody of them. Called the Family Reunification Act, the new legislation allows social services and county attorneys to service children, 15 or older, who were never adopted if the birth parents can demonstrate the competency in addressing the causes for which they lost custody.

### **Heather Forbes Returns to Minnesota to Offer a Groundbreaking Training to Help Challenging Students**

Heather T. Forbes, LCSW and founder of the Beyond Consequences model is slated to host a live training on Saturday, September 21, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Oak Grove Middle School at 1300 West 106th Street in Bloomington, Minnesota. This full day training, "Help for Billy in the Classroom" offers an understanding of why school environments present tremendous challenges to many of our adopted and foster children and why so many of the traditional techniques do not work. A regulatory science and relationship-based model for working with children in the classroom will be presented that makes learning possible for even the most difficult and challenging student. For more information, please visit [www.HelpForBillyLive.com](http://www.HelpForBillyLive.com). Fee is \$25 per person.

[Flyer](#)

## **Inside MARN**

### **Lynx Full House Views Presentation to MARN**

Over 16,000 Lynx fans watched Carley Knox, Director of Business Operations for the Minnesota Lynx, present a check for \$2000 to Minnesota Adoption Resource Network's Anne Johnson and Jolie Ritchie on July 26, 2013. The Minnesota Lynx Foundation awarded MARN funding to create a film recruitment project for social media to highlight the need for families for waiting youth.



### Don't Miss September's Webinar: Transitioning from Foster Care to Adoption with Dr. Richard Delaney

Join returning presenter and author, Dr. Richard Delaney as he addresses the clear benefits of adoption from foster care, including the benefits to the child and to the adoptive family. The main issues to be covered include, how to talk with your children about what the transition means, how to help your child make sense out of their history, their past losses, their traumas, and their ongoing feelings towards important people. This webinar is slated for Wednesday, September 25, 2013 from 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. (Central Time) and all you need is a computer with internet access and a telephone.

#### Fee

\$18 webinar only

\$30 webinar + CD

[Register Now](#)

### \*558 Will Move to ZERO in MN if...

- Each Metro house of worship pledged to find a family for a waiting child or sibling group.
- Corporations promoted adoption "in-house" through bulletin boards, kiosks and newsletters.
- Populations who have been identified as potential parents -- older career women, empty-nesters, communities of color -- were better targeted in recruitment.
- Barriers to adopting were reduced. Call us at 612-861-7115 if you are encountering any obstacles.

\* The number of Minnesota children waiting for families has decreased from 650 to less than 600. While this shows progress our target is ZERO waiting children.

## Donate Today



The Zero Kids Waiting eNewsletter reaches parents willing to adopt children that are not reached by general recruitment measures. Please consider donation as much as you are able so that we may reach ZERO - Zero Kids Waiting.

To make a secure tax deductible online donation, click [Donate](#).

### Minnesota Adoption Resource Network

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