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Welcome to **MN ADOPT Insider**, a quarterly newsletter that gives you updates about current events and happenings at MN ADOPT, as well as providing you with in-depth information about our programming and ways that you can help support our mission of promoting and supporting successful adoptions for Minnesota children and families.



Giving Season is upon us, and we hope you'll consider MN ADOPT as a recipient in your year-end giving plans. Below are some opportunities for you to support MN ADOPT this year.

Support MN ADOPT via GiveMN

Give MN is this Thursday, November 16th. This Minnesota Give to the Max day is a great opportunity to support MN ADOPT's work on behalf of Minnesota children and families. You can click on the photo to the right or the link below to go directly to our Give MN Page, where you can bookmark our page for easy reference on Thursday or pre-schedule your donation now if you like.



[MN ADOPT's GiveMN Page](#)

Make a Donation Directly to MN ADOPT

GiveMN not your thing? You can still support MN ADOPT through our online donation portal. The contributions we receive, no matter the size, have an immediate and important impact on our ability to help children find homes as well as support families created through adoption. You can make a one-time or recurring donation by clicking on the graphic to the right or by clicking [HERE](#)



You can also mail your donation to us at MN ADOPT, 777 Raymond Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55114.

Use the Power of Amazon to Support MN ADOPT

MN ADOPT participates in Amazon Smile, which means that people can use a specific link and 0.5% of purchase amounts will be donated back to MN ADOPT. If you're an Amazon shopper, this is a great way to utilize your holiday spending in a way that supports our work. Use the link or graphic below to shop via Amazon Smile.

Support MN ADOPT Through Amazon Smile



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Making Connections



Circus of the Heart Kicks off Adoption Month

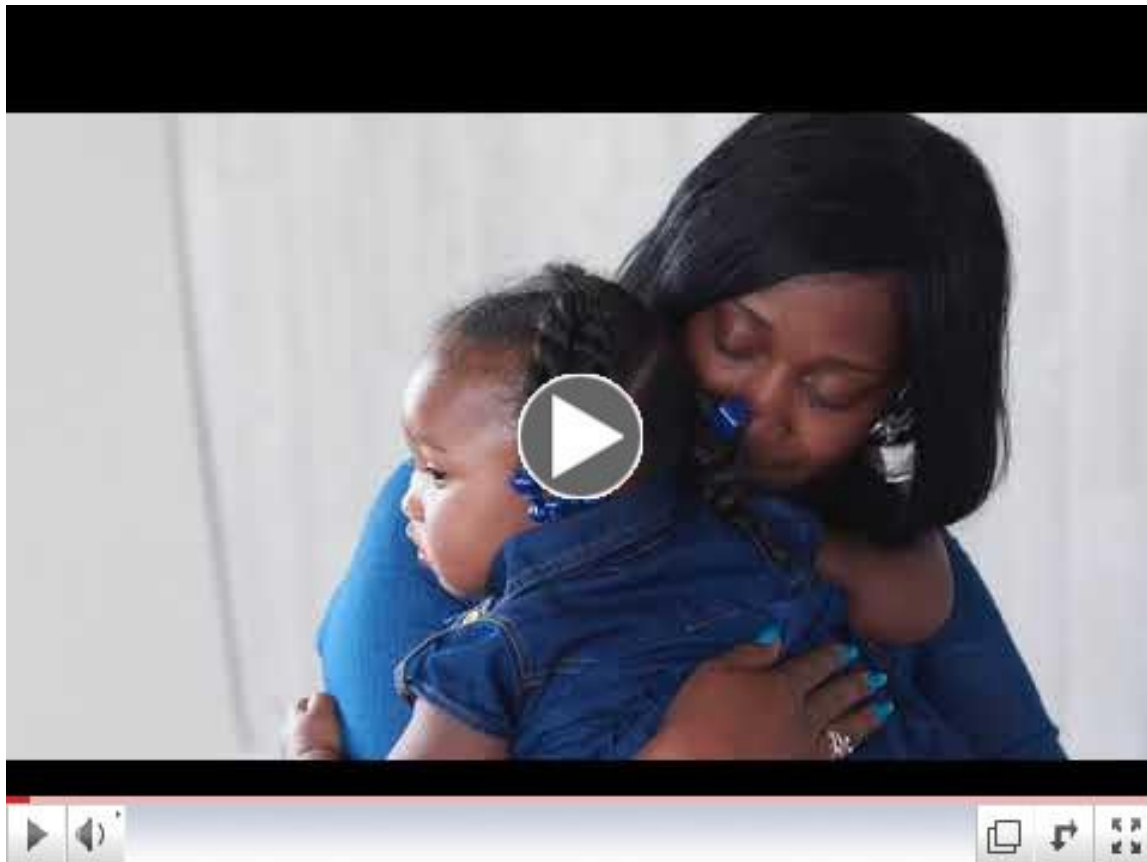
On Sunday, November 5th, the 20th Annual Circus of the Heart was held in Oakdale, MN. Circus of the Heart is a celebration of adoption - a fun, free event for adoptive and foster families and a welcoming opportunity for people interested in fostering or adoption. Almost 800 adults and children enjoyed games, food and great prizes - a record breaking number! The Teen Room was a favorite spot for older youth while many youngsters braved the chilly day to visit the outdoor petting zoo, pony rides and fire engine. As always, the Reptile man was very popular, with his snakes available for draping on shoulders! Photo opportunities, henna tattoos and the many crafts and games were well received.

Throughout the day our lovely and lively MC, Sanni Adefope-Brown, kept the energy high and happy. Recognition of service awards were given to Foster and Adoptive parent, Marsha VanDenburgh, the University of Minnesota Adoption Medicine Clinic and therapist Deena McMahon. Honored guest Minnesota Department of Human Services Assistant Commissioner Jim Koppel spoke eloquently of the urgent need for foster and adoptive families, stating that over the course of the last 20 years 12,509 Minnesota youth were adopted from foster care. In the past year, 868 Minnesota children were adopted, a record number. However, the

need for families remains - currently 766 youth are in immediate need of permanent, loving families.

This year's event also featured our latest "In Our Own Backyard" video feature (below), which highlights the experiences of relatives who adopt.

Keep the Circus in mind for next November! Always the first Sunday in November, National Adoption Month ~



MN ADOPT In Our Own Backyard Series - Relative Adoption

The learn more about specific waiting children visit

<https://www.mnadopt.org/waiting-kids/>



Two-for-One Webinar Sale Throughout November

In celebration of National Adoption Month, the Education Program is offering a "Buy One, Get One Free" discount on our on-demand webinars. People can choose from 70 previously recorded webinars and purchase 2 for the price of 1. There are no limits so now is a good chance for you to stock your library with pertinent adoption information. Our extensive webinar library has a great variety of topics important to adoptive and foster families. Some of the more popular webinars in our library include:

- How to Engage with Adopted & Foster Teens, Adam Arnold
- The Mosaic: When Reactive Attachment Disorder (RAD) Meets Fetal Alcohol Spectrum, Deena McMahon & Wendylee Raun
- Going Forward: Transitioning from Foster Care to Adoption, Dr. Richard Delaney
- Reactive Attachment Disorder: The Developmental Perspective, Dr. Richard Delaney
- Reactive Attachment Disorder Throughout the Lifespan, Deena McMahon
- Avoiding Power Struggles & Healing Hearts, Paul Buckley



Browse our webinar library to check out these titles and more!

[Webinar Library](#)

Please spread the word about MN ADOPT's Webinar Library to families and professionals!

[VIEW OUR UPCOMING EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES](#)

We Get It



Educational Support and Resources

Every fall the HELP Program experiences an uptick in calls from families and community professionals regarding challenges their children are experiencing with regard to their school experience. Examples can include various feelings associated with family tree assignments or intrusive questions from peers, peer/school staff relationship issues or disruptive behaviors within the school setting (including school refusal).


Early trauma, attachment challenges and adoption can result in a variety of considerations exhibited by children and teens associated with school which can impact their learning, behavior and relationships. This often leaves parents and school staff at a loss as to how best help.


These experiences greatly benefit from trauma & attachment informed, relationship based approaches to aid children, families and school staff in navigating these challenges.


To learn more regarding a few options to aid parents and school staff, please visit:

- <https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/adoption/adopt-parenting/school/>
- <http://www.nctsn.org/resources/audiences/school-personnel>
- <https://traumasensitiveschools.org/>
- <http://www.beyondconsequences.com/schools>
- <http://lostatschool.org>
- <http://www.paultough.com/the-books/how-children-succeed/>

To learn more about HELP Program services visit
www.mnadopt.org/help-prog/
or call us at 612-746-5137 (Toll-free 1-866-303-6276)

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Minnesota Adoption Resource Network, 777 Raymond Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55114

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Try it free today