

DONATE NOW



Welcome to [MN ADOPT Insider](#), a quarterly newsletter that gives updates about current events and happenings at MN ADOPT, as well as providing in-depth information about our programming and ways that you can help support our mission of promoting permanency for Minnesota children and supporting adoptive, foster and kinship families.

mnADOPT

News

Save the Date!! Circus of the Heart is November 4

Save the date! The 21st Annual Circus of the Heart is fast approaching. This is the highlight of our year as we kick off adoption month in the company of so many amazing families and individuals. This event is **FREE TO EVERYONE** and offers fun for kids of all ages, as well as resources and information for those who are adopting or fostering and those who are interested in learning more.

This year's Circus is moving to a larger venue and will be at Base Camp at Fort Snelling. Doors will open at 12:45pm and the afternoon ends at 4:00pm.



How you can get involved with Circus of the Heart

There are many opportunities to get involved with Circus of the Heart.

- **Bring your family**, friends and other support people to enjoy an afternoon of fun and community.
- **Volunteer** to help at the event. This is a huge part of our success and we have a need for lots of adult volunteers.
- **Donate a prize** for our free raffle drawing. We're in need of prizes, gift certificates, event tickets, gift baskets, and other prizes that promote family time and fun.

[Learn more about how you can make Circus of the Heart a success!](#)

Distinguished Service Awards

Each year, two Distinguished Service awards are presented at Circus of the Heart to individuals and organizations/corporations that have made outstanding contributions within the Minnesota adoption community.

Follow the link below to nominate an individual and/or organization for this year's awards. Nominations are being accepted through September 15th.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YKWGZ36>

We Get It



U of M and HELP Research Paper Published

Throughout much of the past year the HELP Program has worked closely with the University of Minnesota School of Social Work in an evaluative research study on the HELP Program. Through this collaboration, the HELP Program is happy to share that the resulting paper has been published!

The article, titled 'An exploration of family challenges and service needs during the post-adoption period', has been published in the Children and Youth Services Review (Volume 91, August 2018, Pages 213-220). The research findings suggest the following needs, among others:

- attendance to family developmental transitions
- bolstering emotional and educational supports for adoptive caregivers
- easily accessible, multidimensional adoption specific services
- the importance of gaining support from knowledgeable support entities in addressing family challenges that co-occur across multiple domains in the years following adoption finalization

Should you be interested in exploring further, you can review the abstract, and/or purchase the article through the following link: [HELP Research Study](#)

The HELP Program and the University of Minnesota School of Social Work hope to engage in further research. Stay tuned for any new developments!

Making Connections



MN ADOPT Night with the Minnesota Lynx



MN ADOPT had another great evening with the Minnesota Lynx on Friday, July 13th. We were joined by 175 foster and adopted youth and their families to cheer on the Lynx as they played the Las Vegas Aces. Unfortunately, the outcome wasn't in Minnesota's favor, but the fans still had great time experiencing the energy, excitement and fun that the Lynx provide for their home town audience.

As non-profit of the night, our recently completed Public Service Announcement was debuted at halftime, with an on-court presentation and acknowledgement of two of the amazing youth who participated in the PSA with Coach Reeve this year.

We appreciate the opportunity our partnership with the Minnesota Lynx provides us to raise awareness about the need for foster and adoptive families for Minnesota children.

Please take a moment to check out the above PSA and help us spread the word by sharing our message!



[Know More](#)

Staff and Program Growth for Education Program

Our Education Program is experiencing some exciting changes and we are expanding our work to more fully incorporate the specific educational needs of

foster and kinship families into our programming. This also means the addition of two fantastic team members to our Education Program!

Jackie Brovold

Jackie Brovold has recently joined the MN ADOPT team as the Education Outreach Coordinator. Jackie brings ten years of adoption experience through her work at Lutheran Social Service. Jackie will support the Education Program by providing marketing and outreach to counties, agencies, and tribes across Minnesota. She will focus her time on our new FosterEd Program: [Learn More](#)



Wendylee Raun

Wendylee Raun began working at MN ADOPT in 2001, as a Training Coordinator, then moved into the State Adoption Exchange Program. She is excited to move (back into) the Education Program as the Education Coordinator, where she will work to find quality presenters and relevant topics for workshops statewide. Wendylee is a long time member of the adoption community, as both a professional and an adoptive parent.

Please visit our website [Current MN ADOPT Education Offerings](#) to see our current educational offerings! We also have a library of previously recorded webinars available for download and on-demand viewing [here](#)

Support



The important work we do is made possible through the contributions of people like you who have a deep commitment to ensuring that all Minnesota children have safe, nurturing homes in which to thrive. The following are ways that you can have an impact on our mission to promote and support successful adoptions for Minnesota children and families. Together we can make a difference!

Make a Donation Today

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 an online or recurring donation by clicking on the "donate" graphic to the right or by clicking [HERE](#)

You can also mail your donation to us at MN ADOPT, 2446 University Avenue West, Suite 104, St. Paul, MN 55114.



Fundraise for MN ADOPT

We have seen an increase of individual fundraisers on behalf of MN ADOPT. We are so appreciative of all who have initiated a fundraiser or contributed. This is an amazing way to harness the power of social media to support our work.

[Learn more](#) about how you can create a fundraiser on Facebook.



Advocate for Children in Foster Care

Minnesota children in foster care need all of us to work together to ensure that they can each have a safe and nurturing family to call their own. The following are ways that you can help make this a reality:

- Learn about the possibility of becoming a foster, adoptive or respite family to a child in foster care
- Encourage those in your community to consider becoming a resource for a child
- Spread the word about children in need of a family! Follow MN ADOPT through social media and share our posts that highlight children in need of a family



Visit our website

