



Who is MN ADOPT?

We have new faces! We will be introducing you to new staff in the coming months.

Meet Mary



What is your role and how long have you been at MN ADOPT?

I am the accountant for MN ADOPT. I started in mid-October of 2020.

What do you like to do for fun when you are not working?

I love to travel. This year I have been using my free time to study Spanish and practice conversation with online friends in Mexico. I am planning a trip to explore Mexico City.

What is your favorite season and why?

My favorite season is late spring. I love the bright green of the new leaves and grass after a long winter covered by snow. I love planting my garden and being able to sit on my

Program Highlight



The Zero Kids Waiting (ZKW) Program manages the State Adoption Exchange (SAE) which is a matching tool used by adoption workers throughout the State of MN and also includes the [*Meet the Kids*](#) page on our website.

In hopes of raising awareness around the SAE, we have added two SAE Coordinators in Greater MN.

In August, Jennifer Tolle and Sarah Clarke were hired as the Greater MN SAE Coordinators. Jennifer focuses primarily on counties in central/northern MN & Sarah focuses primarily on counties in southern MN. We are excited about the relationship-building opportunities that have two staff located remotely in these specific regions will bring to the Greater MN and to our program.

Upcoming Webinar

**ENJOY
50% OFF**

For our MN ADOPT Insiders: be sure to enter code **In\$ider02** at checkout to save!

REGISTER NOW

All Behavior has MEANING!

FEBRUARY 9

Audience: Parents & Professionals
Level: Intermediate

Ages addressed: 6-18



Adrian McLemore will provide practical tools for understanding child behaviors with a special focus on intervening before the 'behaviors' become unmanageable. The trainer will provide evidence and examples of proven strategies that will help diffuse, determine, and redirect negative behaviors utilizing strength based approaches. The trainer will also address the 'right' questions to be asking in assessing childhood behaviors and how to cleverly obtain the answers from the child/youth through communication and rapport building analytics.

Armed with a commanding stage presence and a compelling life story that combines humor and humility, Adrian McLemore has inspired and delighted audiences across the country for more than a decade as a professional speaker and trainer.

Listen in to our most recent podcast episode with Adrian McLemore!

He highlights strategies & techniques parents can use who are struggling with behavior at home and ways to communicate with youth.

[**Listen Now**](#)



A MN ADOPT Podcast

Resource Corner

Supporting Black-owned, local businesses

Small businesses are the heart of our communities. Through their entrepreneurship and community investment, small business owners provide opportunities, goods, needed services and often a place for community connection.

This month and beyond, consider



supporting Black-owned, local businesses. The links below will help you identify local businesses to support.

[15 Black-Owned Businesses in Minneapolis You Can Support Right Now](#)

[Where to Support Black-Owned Businesses in the Twin Cities](#)



Community Connections

UMOJA MN

UMOJA MN is a Black Heritage camp that provides high-quality programming and excellent educational experiences based on African American culture and history to transracially adopted and foster youth and relative kin families in the Minnesota community.

Registration is now open for the UMOJA MN February Virtual Camp!

[Learn more & Register](#)



3rd Annual Back-To-School Shopping Event!

"Thank you so much for the gift card!
[He] really enjoyed shopping and we
used every penny!"



It's time to kick off our THIRD ANNUAL Back-To-School Shopping Event!

Last year, we were able to send 170 foster youth back-to-school shopping. Be part of the team that will give kids an experience to remember.

[Learn more about this event.](#)

DONATE TODAY

On Race, Racism and Racial Justice

Discussion and experiences regarding race and racism will vary by family, and for some it can be a difficult and sensitive topic to discuss. Below are some resources to help you have meaningful and developmentally appropriate conversations with your children.

The Center for Racial Justice has compiled a comprehensive list of resources [here](#) on Black History Month. Some articles that may be of interest are:

- [Top 15 Must-Read Children's Books for Black History Month](#)
- [The History Behind Black History Month](#)
- [5 Ways to Celebrate Black History Month with Your Family](#)

For more resources, visit our website: <https://www.mnadopt.org/resources/on-race-racism/>



DONATE

// CONNECT WITH US //

