













Meet MN ADOPT

Check back each month to learn more about us and our organization!





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

My role at MN ADOPT is the Post Adoption Search Specialist and I just started in January 2022!

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

When I'm not working, I love to spend time with my pets, my family, friends, and boyfriend, explore different coffee and bubble tea shops, and do photography.

What is your favorite season and why?

My favorite season is a tie between fall and winter. I'm a big fan of colorful leaves and the cooler fall weather, apple orchards, pumpkin patches--all things related to fall. With winter--I LOVE snow (except the driving part).

Organizational Highlights



Post Adoption Search Program

Who can search?

In Minnesota, adoption records are classified as confidential data. For such reason, state law specifies that the following individuals can initiate a search:

- --Adopted individuals ages 19 years and older
- --Genetic (biologic) sibling, 19 years and older of an adoptee
- --Adoptive parents
- --Birth parents

Can a child or grandchild of an adoptee initiate a search?

Yes! However, a child or grandchild of an adoptee must have notarized, written permission from the adoptee to request a search.

If the adoptee is deceased, a child can search but needs to provide a copy of their birth certificate and a copy of the death certificate of the adopted person.

What is MN ADOPT's role?

With post adoption search services, our role at MN ADOPT is to provide information and connect the eligible searcher to the placing agency or the county where the adoption was finalized and additional resources, if possible. The agency or county assists the eligible searcher with next steps, such as searching, providing non-identifying information, etc.

What are 100-year records?

Minnesota law allows all adoption records to become public on the 100 th anniversary of the adoption decree (the date the adoption was finalized). After the 100th anniversary of the adoption degree, individuals can contact MN ADOPT or the adoption agency that

facilitated the adoption and the adoption record will be released.

How do I begin the process?

Please complete the Post Adoption Search Form found at the following link! https://sae.mnadopt.org/v2/?c=ps inquiry

Some additional documentation may be required.



MN ADOPT is excited to announce our upcoming Spring Summit.

The Spring Summit offers a variety of workshops to help meet the needs of those on the frontline of foster care, kinship care, and adoption.

We've partnered with national speakers and experts to bring relevant, practical, and strategy-based workshops. Please join us for any or all of the workshops offered during our Spring Summit.

- Tuesday, April 5th -- Professional Day
- Wednesday, April 13th -- Parent and Professional Day
- Thursday, April 21st -- Parent Day (Foster, Adoptive, and Kinship parents)

View Schedule & Register

Join our Team!



The person who fills the role of *Education Outreach Coordinator* will have the opportunity to lead the communications & outreach efforts for our Education Program.

Sound like something you'd like to do? Submit your cover letter & resume to hiring@mnadopt.org.

You can learn more about the position: https://www.mnadopt.org/about/employment/

New! Zero Kids Waiting: Meet the Kids

Currently, in Minnesota, there are 641 children and youth that are waiting to be adopted. Our goal is zero kids waiting. Each month in the Insider, we will be sharing information about a child or youth in need of a permanent and loving home. Please help us share the need for loving homes in Minnesota.

Meet Ethan



Ethan, 14, has a love for gospel music and baking! Along with listening to gospel music at church, he enjoys watching an old reality TV show about singers called "Sunday Best". Ethan also loves making cookies and sweet treats to share with everyone.

When he's not singing or baking, he loves watching The Descendants, Winx or Frozen. Ethan also really enjoys going to school; he especially loves when they get to cook at school too! Ethan can be quiet at first but once he gets to know people, he loves making people laugh by telling jokes or pranking people.

Ethan needs a family who can provide a lifelong commitment to him. Following adoption, he will also need to maintain contact with his siblings.

Learn more about Ethan

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.

Where to Support Black-Owned Businesses in the Twin Cities



Community Connections

Ampersand Families is hosting an upcoming legal clinic on February 7 and April 11.

This clinic is for relative & kin families who are hoping to be a permanency resource for a child in foster care.



There will be a brief "know your rights" presentation, as well as an opportunity for a 1:1 consultation with an attorney regarding your situation.

You'll also find connection & support.

Find out more & register

MN ADOPT's 4th Annual Back-to-School Fundraiser

Plus, save the date for our 5K!

MN ADOPT is, once again, raising money for children in foster care. For most kids, this time of year holds endless possibilities and offers a chance to start fresh.

However, for those in foster care, it can be a time of trepidation and wondering if they'll be able to join their peers in updating their wardrobe or school gear.

With your contribution, you'll be able to help a child join in on the excitement of back-to-school shopping.



Becca, from Nexus Family Healing, shares her experience with the back-to-school shopping event for foster kids and what it really means to them.

Yes, I'd like to help

Save the date for our 2nd Annual 5K Fun Run/Walk!



We are back raising money for kids in foster care! Walk your dog, push your stroller, or run through a 5K with us on **Sunday, May 15, 2022**.

Registration coming soon!

On Race, Racism and Racial Justice

Celebrating Black History Month

- Minneapolis Institute of Art Rituals of Resilience Exhibit: https://new.artsmia.org/exhibition/rituals-of-resilience
- Minnesota African American Heritage Museum and Gallery: https://www.maahmg.org/
 - "Erase: The Movement to Exclude Black People from History (Feb 3, 5:30-6:30pm ONLINE)
 - "The History of African Americans in Southeast Minnesota" (Feb 7, 5:30-7pm ONLINE)
 - "Black Joy: Strategies for Improving Mental and Physical Health" (Feb 24, 5pm-7pm ONLINE)
- Hennepin County Library Black History Month highlight. Check-in with your local library about what they're doing to celebrate too!

https://www.hclib.org/about/news/2021/January/black-history-resources

- National Geographic KIDS: https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/explore/history/black-history-month/
- National Museum of African American History and Culture: https://nmaahc.si.edu/blog-post/celebrating-black-history-month
- MN ADOPT's *free* webinar, <u>Kids Hair Fundamentals</u> with Melissa Taylor, of <u>Beauty Lounge</u>. Learn the essentials of styling your little one's hair. This webinar is ideal for someone with limited experience managing textured hair, ie. multiracial families, foster parents, and transracial adoptive parents.



Let's get social









