



Meet MN ADOPT

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

Meet Kayla



How long have you been with MN ADOPT and what is your role?

I started at MN ADOPT in March of 2022 and I am the Education Outreach Coordinator.

What do you like to do for fun?

I enjoy playing with my almost 6-month-old son, Liam, shopping, and making projects with my Cricut.

What is your favorite season, and why?

I love summer!! The sunshine makes me happy and there's so much to do outdoors! I'm especially looking forward to exploring the playgrounds this summer with my little guy.

Organizational Highlights



ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE IN MINNESOTA ZOOM PANEL

A panel of adoptive parents and foster care and adoption professionals will share their stories and answer your questions on what the process looks like to foster and/or adopt in Minnesota.

LIBRARY SERIES: ADOPTION & FOSTER CARE

There are more than 9,000 children at any given time in Minnesota in foster care, over 600 of whom are waiting to be adopted. Common myths can make the prospect of fostering/adopting more intimidating than it should be.

Join us via Zoom and learn the facts about the many options for foster care and adoption.

Tuesday, April 19

6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

[REGISTER](#)

Hosted by Ramsey County Library - Shoreview

Tuesday, April 26

6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

[REGISTER](#)

Hosted by Willmar Public Library

Did you know?

There are 60 Minnesota newspapers that partner with MN ADOPT to share a MN Waiting Child Feature EVERY month.

***Let's Talk: A MN ADOPT Podcast** is a podcast filled with valuable resources for prospective and current adoptive, foster and kinship families, as well as professionals.*

Our Education Program has developed a Foster Care 101 Podcast Series.

***This is a 13 part podcast series** that includes topics beneficial to anyone exploring or providing foster care. These podcasts are specifically designed for potential foster and kinship providers, or foster parents currently providing care.*

WE'RE HIRING!

MN ADOPT is currently hiring for the Education Coordinator Position. This is a part-time, .8 FTE (32-hour per week) position. The person who fills this position will have the exciting opportunity to collaborate with adoption agencies, Counties, and Tribal agencies across Minnesota to bring foster and adoptive families, and professionals the education they need.

Prefer candidates in greater Minnesota but may consider those living in Twin Cities metro area.

[Learn more and apply](#)



Check out more episodes

SPRING SUMMIT HAPPENING NOW!



Join us for 2 more days that offer a variety of workshops to help meet the needs of those on the frontlines of foster care, kinship care, and adoption.

We've partnered with national speakers and experts to bring relevant, practical, and strategy-based workshops.

[Learn more](#)

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 Nevaeh

Nevaeh, 17, is a talkative teen who likes



to laugh and joke around. Nevaeh does a great job advocating for herself. She enjoys spending time with her friends, playing basketball and going to the movies to see a drama or comedy film. She loves Mexican food and going out for coffee. She likes classical and oldies music and admires Tupac. Nevaeh's favorite subject in school is math. Nevaeh is open to the type of family but would prefer an African American family. Nevaeh is open to a family that has other children and does not have a preference if they are older or younger. Nevaeh would do well in a home that is able to keep consistent rules and boundaries. She would like to live in the city versus the country. Nevaeh would enjoy having a cat. Following adoption, Nevaeh would need to maintain contact with her maternal grandmother and maternal aunts.

[Learn more about Nevaeh](#)

Resource Corner

Adoption Tax Credit (2021) Information

The Adoption Tax Credit is a federal tax benefit for parents who have adopted a child under the age of 18 or is physically or mentally unable to care for themselves (the benefit does not include stepchild adoptions). The Adoption Tax Credit helps cover qualified adoption-related expenses and helps offset your federal tax liability for the year. The credit can only be claimed once per child and applies to each child whose adoption was finalized in 2021. It is non-refundable and is not considered to be a deduction.

You may be eligible for the Adoption Tax Credit if:

- You had income tax liability for 2020 (see line 18 on Form 1040 of your 2020 tax return):
 - If you did not have income tax liability for 2020, you should still claim the credit for 2021, as it can be used in the future, should your tax liability change.
 - You will have up to six years to use the credit *(the year your family is first*

eligible, plus the next five years).

- Your modified adjusted gross income falls below \$216,660;
 - The credit begins to “phase out for families with modified adjusted gross incomes above \$216,660” and cannot be claimed by families with incomes around \$256,660. (**Source:** North American Council on Adoptable Children, “Claiming the Federal Adoption Tax Credit for 2021”)
- You finalized the adoption of a child from foster care in 2021.
 - If you receive monthly adoption assistance payments to help cover your child’s expenses, your child’s adoption is considered a “special needs adoption” for the purposes of the Adoption Tax Credit.
 - What this means is that you can claim the maximum amount of \$14,440 **per child** whose adoption was finalized during 2021, even if you did not incur any qualified adoption-related expenses.

Important things to know:

- The Adoption Tax Credit is non-refundable, and it is not considered to be a deduction.
- The Adoption Tax Credit can only be claimed once. If you adopted your child from foster care, the credit should be claimed the same year child’s adoption was finalized.
- The Adoption Tax Credit helps offset your family’s tax liability, so you can use the credit to reduce the amount of federal tax liability your family would owe for 2021.

Example:

Your family finalized the adoption of one child from foster care in 2021 and is receiving monthly adoption assistance payments. Because this is considered a special needs adoption for the purposes of the Adoption Tax Credit, your family would then claim the maximum amount of \$14,400.

So, if your family’s total federal tax liability (the amount owed) is \$4,400 for 2021, you can use the credit to reduce the amount of federal tax liability owed. In this situation, your family’s total federal tax liability would be reduced to \$0, so your family would not owe anything for your federal taxes for 2021.

Say the amount in federal income taxes withheld from your paychecks for 2021 was \$5,000:

- **Without the tax credit**, your family would typically receive a \$600 refund (the total amount of federal income taxes withheld during the year MINUS your family’s total federal tax liability).
- **With the Adoption Tax Credit**, since your family’s total federal tax liability has been reduced to \$0, your federal refund would then be \$5,000 (the total amount of federal income taxes withheld from your paychecks in 2021).
- You would then subtract the \$4,400 already used towards your 2021 federal taxes from your total Adoption Tax Credit amount of \$14,400—which leaves you with \$10,000 that you can carry over to help offset your federal tax liability for 2022, and so on, until the full credit has been used or 6 years have passed since originally

Additional Information

If you have questions regarding the Adoption Tax Credit, please contact Josh Kroll, NACAC's Adoption Subsidy Resource Center Coordinator, at 651-644-3036 x115 or joshk@nacac.org.

Sources:

- North American Council on Adoptable Children (NACAC)
 - Adoption Tax Credit 2021 – <https://nacac.org/help/adoption-tax-credit/adoption-tax-credit-2021/>
 - Adoption Tax Credit FAQs – <https://nacac.org/help/adoption-tax-credit/adoption-tax-credit-faqs/>
- Internal Revenue Service (IRS)
 - Form 8839 – <https://www.irs.gov/forms-pubs/about-form-8839>

Community Connections



**Join us for the 2nd Annual
MN ADOPT 5K**

**A Fun Run/Walk to
support Kids in Foster Care**

We're getting together on Sunday, May 15th to raise money for kids in foster care!

Run or walk your way through a 5K with us. It's a great way to be active with your family while supporting Minnesota kids in foster care.

There will be a variety of resource tables to provide information about becoming a foster parent, supports & other topics of interest to adoptive, foster, and kinship families.

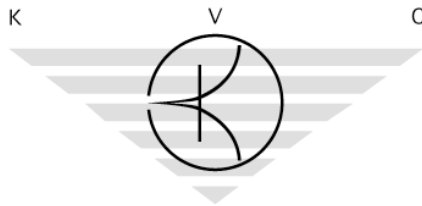
Proceeds will directly support MN ADOPT's [4th Annual Back-To-School Shopping event](#).

Can't make it in person?

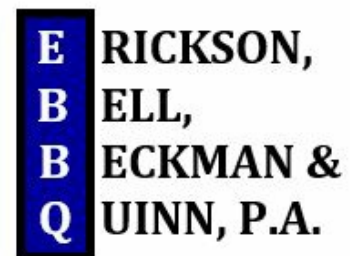
You can join us virtually from May 9 – May 15

REGISTER TODAY!

Thank you to our 5K sponsors

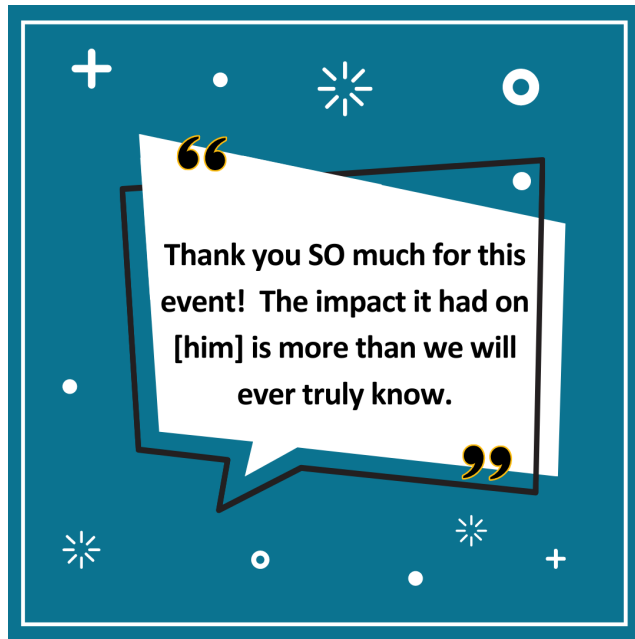


Heartland



Become a sponsor! [Learn more.](#)

MN ADOPT's 4th Annual Back-to-School Shopping Event



Last year, we were able to provide 218 youth in foster care with a back-to-school shopping trip. We are, once again, raising money for even more children in foster care to take part in this event!

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.

On Race, Racism and Racial Justice

Conversations With Your Children & Teens

Find more resources [here](#).

- [Teaching Tolerance](#) – Teaching Tolerance was created to help educators teach their students, but parents can also use this resource to teach valuable lessons in their home. “Cultivate positive identity formation, encourage students to confront racial and ethnic injustice, and prepare them to live and work together in a diverse world. Our resources can help you facilitate discussions about race and guide students through lessons on white privilege, economic inequality, mass incarceration, the complexities of identity and more.”
- [Child Trends](#) – Resources to Support Children’s Emotional Well-Being Amid Anti-Black Racism, Racial Violence, and Trauma
- [Center for Racial Justice and Education](#) – Online resources for talking about race, racism and racialized violence with kids.
- [Talking About Race \(National Museum of African American History & Culture\)](#) – Engaging content and resources for parents, caregivers, and educators to explore talking about race, racial identity, systems of oppression, self-care and much more.
- [They’re Not Too Young To Talk About Race \(The Children’s Community School\)](#) – Infographic highlighting how young children notice and think about race at various ages.
- [Raising Race Conscious Children](#) – Blog, interactive webinars and other resources for talking about race with young children.



Let's get social

