



*Keep reading to stay informed on events and happenings at MN ADOPT, as well as information about our programming and ways you can help with our mission of finding and strengthening Minnesota adoptive, foster care, and kinship families.*

**Make a donation**

# Get to know us

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# Meet Gail

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

I have been with MN ADOPT for four years as a HELP Specialist.

**What do you like to do for fun?**

I think children and dogs are endlessly fun. My grandkids like to tease and call me "Granny" – so I owned it, and this Summer they are registered for the second annual and *crazy fun* "Granny Camp!" And whatever the dogs in my life are doing for fun, chasing balls, dock-jumping, long lazy walks, I'm there!

**What is your favorite season, and why?**

I appreciate living in a 4-season climate, but if I absolutely had to choose, I would probably pick the long days of Summer!

MN ADOPT Staff

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# Supporting kinship families and their unique needs

The MN ADOPT HELP Program is a free, statewide warmline and support service for Minnesota's adoptive, foster and kinship families

[https://www.mnadopt.org/help\\_program\\_overview/](https://www.mnadopt.org/help_program_overview/).

We are reaching more and more relative and fictive kinship families through our HELP Program and HELP Post Adoption Navigator Program

(<https://www.mnadopt.org/pan-overview/>) and are here to support them and their unique needs.



There are so many positives for all involved when children and teens can maintain family relationships and be raised by their kin when at all possible, though there can be challenges as well. Kinship families often have similar needs to other adoptive and foster families around trauma-informed parenting strategies; navigating systems and services and advocating for their child; caregiver support; getting respite; supporting core issues of their youth's grief and loss and identity development. However, kinship families also may have additional needs around navigating complex relationships within the extended family after the child's placement and be dealing with sometimes being underserved with access to core assessment and support services, for example.

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To learn more on kinship needs and how the HELP Program can assist, take a listen to this podcast episode ***Let's Talk: Conversations with the HELP Program - Strengthening Kinship Families*** <https://www.mnadopt.org/lets-talk-conversations-with-the-help-program-part-3-strengthening-kinship-families/>.

And we encourage you to contact the HELP Program at 612-746-5137 or [HELP-program@mnadopt.org](mailto:HELP-program@mnadopt.org)!

We look forward to seeing how we can assist your family with listening and compassion, new ideas and connections to supports and services that can make a positive difference.

**Connect with a HELP Specialist**

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# Grab your paddle and join us!

*It's time for some Pickleball!*

Grab a friend, your paddle and come play with us on July 24th!

Every 2-person team includes: goodie bag, medals for top 3 teams in each bracket, and the opportunity to change lives for countless Minnesota kids.

A flyer for the MNADOPT Pickleball Tournament. The background is a blue and green pickleball court. The text is arranged in a circular, bubble-like layout. At the top, a blue banner reads "mnADOPT PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT". Below this, a central text block states the purpose: "Proceeds benefit MN ADOPT's mission of finding loving, permanent homes for all Minnesota children in foster care". To the left, a yellow circle contains the text "FRANKLIN X-40 OUTDOOR - OPTIC YELLOW". To the right, a yellow circle lists the brackets: "MEN'S, WOMEN'S, MIXED DOUBLES, AGE 50+" and "BEGINNER, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5+". At the bottom left, a blue circle contains registration details: "REGISTRATION: \$100", "REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JULY 17", and a description of what is included. At the bottom right, a blue circle contains the date and time: "SUNDAY JULY 24 PLAY BEGINS AT 9 AM". At the very bottom, a blue circle contains the location: "WOLFE PARK ST. LOUIS PARK, MN".

**mnADOPT**

**PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT**

**FRANKLIN X-40 OUTDOOR - OPTIC YELLOW**

**MEN'S, WOMEN'S, MIXED DOUBLES, AGE 50+**

**BEGINNER, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5+**

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**REGISTRATION: \$100**  
**REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JULY 17**

*\$100 per 2-person team, includes: goodie bag, medals for top 3 teams in each bracket, and the opportunity to change lives for countless Minnesota kids.*

**SUNDAY JULY 24 PLAY BEGINS AT 9 AM**

**WOLFE PARK ST. LOUIS PARK, MN**

Register your team

# Meet the Kids



**Timmy, 12,** is very curious, inquisitive and creative. He loves to build things with building toys and everyday objects. He also likes to play sports and loves to be active and keep busy. Timmy has a very good sense of humor and loves to tell jokes. He can be quiet around new people, but once he gets to know someone he is very funny and talkative. His favorite treat is an Oreo Blizzard.

Timmy is open to any type of family dynamic - either a one parent or two parent family would be fine with him. It would be best if he was the youngest child in the home. It is very important to Timmy that his adoptive family supports and facilitates an ongoing relationship with his brothers.

Only families living in Minnesota are being considered at this time.

## More Info



Share



Tweet

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# Resource Corner

## Summer Activities for the Family

From parks, events, and things to do, you can be sure to find something to get you and your family out of the house and active this summer!



[Start Exploring](#)

Explore the great outdoors, art &



culture, and more!



[Explore Minnesota](#)

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## Kids Bowl Free All Summer Long!

Register your kids for 2 free games of bowling each day of the KBF program, all summer long. [Find a participating bowling center near you.](#)

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# Community Connections

## A big thank you to our event sponsors!

Our pickleball event is brought to you by these generous sponsors. We are grateful for your support!



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# Circus of the Heart

## Nominations are now open for MN ADOPT's 2022 Distinguished Service Awards!

The following criteria will be taken into consideration when reviewing nominees:

This is a great opportunity to acknowledge those who have dedicated their personal or professional lives to making a difference in this work.

As part of Circus of the Heart, two Distinguished Service Awards are presented to individuals and organizations/corporations that have made outstanding contributions within the Minnesota adoption, foster, and kinship communities.

- Type of contribution
- Impact of contribution
- Length of service or commitment

**Nominations will be accepted through September 15, 2022.**

[Nominate Today](#)

# On Race, Racism and Racial Justice

May was a time to celebrate Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) heritage, and to pay tribute to the impact and contributions that these communities have had on our country. Now that this time of celebration has passed, we feel it is also important to recognize the challenges that Asian Americans are experiencing - most notably the disturbing trend of anti-Asian hate crimes, which saw a dramatic 339% increase in 2021.

As an organization that supports the adoption community, we would also like to acknowledge the intersectionality of anti-Asian hate and the experience of Asian adoptees, along with the very unique needs and challenges inherent in transracial and intercountry adoption. As incidents of violence against Asians has increased, the Asian adoptee community has been particularly vocal about the complexities of the impact of anti-Asian hate on adoptees. In the wake of these horrifying and heartbreaking incidents, many Asian adoptees have been faced with the challenge of not being fully accepted within AAPI communities and not receiving the understanding or support they need from their adoptive families- leaving many Asian adoptees to feel very alone and “othered” as they grapple with how to process AAPI hate in the context of adoption.

The resources included below provide opportunities to learn more about the impact of anti-Asian hate crimes on transracial adoptees.

<https://stopaapihate.org/>

<https://www.latimes.com/business/story/2021-04-16/asian-adoptees-and-their-experiences>

<https://www.npr.org/2021/03/27/981269559/am-i-asian-enough-adoptees-struggle-to-make-sense-of-spike-in-anti-asian-violenc>

<https://www.yahoo.com/video/asian-adoptees-raised-in-the-us-describe-the-challenges-of-forging-a-racial-identity-200205665.html>

<https://mineinchina.com/2021/04/09/what-im-reading-23-stop-aapi-hate-edition/>





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