



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



Meet Kris

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

Prior to joining MN ADOPT as the Greater MN Education Coordinator in June 2022, I partnered with MN ADOPT for over 7-years at a private agency

What do you like to do for fun?

Gardening, pretending I golf, attending Gopher football games, listening to music at outdoor venues, eating everything at the MN State Fair!

What is your favorite season, and why?

Summertime, because the livin's easy!

MN ADOPT Staff

News from the Education Program

Do you have a child with a disability between the ages of 14-21? Join DHS Alyssa Klein & Lindsey Horowitz on Monday, August 15th at 10 AM for a

FREE webinar to learn how schools and the Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED)- Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VRS) work together to provide transition supports for these students. [Learn more and register here.](#)



Our webinar library has a variety of topics, as we gear up for back to school visit our School Issues topic [here](#).

Speaking of getting ready for back to school and changing routines; check out Brenda Benning's upcoming webinar on September 13th: *Defiance & Disrespect: Battles with Homework and Chores*. Gain tools in addressing these behaviors when it comes to homework and chores. Click [here](#) to learn more and register.

You may hear from two new faces from the Education team. Help us in welcoming aboard our two new Education Coordinators; Kris Horman and Suni Miller Zmich. MN ADOPT is honored to have these two; along with their valued experiences be part of our team.

Learn all about MN ADOPT's Education Program

Paddles were swung in support of MN ADOPT

MN ADOPT's first annual Pickleball tournament was a huge success! Over 40 teams

participated across multiple divisions for a day of fun, competition, and amazing weather.

Thank you to all who came out to support our work, as well as to our volunteers and sponsors, who made this event possible. We're looking forward to continuing this tradition next year!



Pictured top left is the terrific trio of Eric, Melissa and Sharon who ensured the tournament ran so smoothly!

Resource Corner

MN ADOPT's Back-to-School Resources

- [Let's Talk Podcast: Back to School - Ideas to Create Your New Normal.](#) Join Christina Haddad Gonzalez and Chantelle Vaughn, education professionals experienced with supporting children and families, for a



conversation filled with ideas and strategies to smooth back to school stress

- [MN ADOPT Fast Facts: School Concerns](#). This fact sheet provides topics important to success for your children in school, including connection before curriculum, family projects and more!
- [MN ADOPT Webinar on School Support](#).



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Community Connections

A big thank you to our Pickleball 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

Save the date!

Circus of the Heart will take place on **Saturday, November 5.**

More details to come!

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

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.

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

- 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

August is [National Black Business Month](#).

You can find where to support black-owned businesses in the Twin Cities here: <https://mspmag.com/arts-and-culture/black-owned-businesses-in-the-twin-cities/>



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