



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 Brë

Zero Kids Waiting
Program Analyst

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

I have been with MN ADOPT since Sept. 6, 2022 as a Zero Kids Waiting Program Analyst

What do you like to do for fun?

I enjoy getting out in nature-walking or light hiking, baking & cooking with my two-year-old daughter, attending local events such as farmers markets, craft fairs etc., and exploring new restaurants.

What is your favorite season, and why?

Fall is my favorite time of the year. Everything about it brings me joy. The shifting colors of the beautiful trees, the crisp air and perfect temperature, fall crops and yummy treats that pop up at Target. I love Halloween and Thanksgiving. My daughter and I also have fall birthdays, so that most likely adds an additional special element to fall for us as a family.

MN ADOPT Staff

MN ADOPT: Then and Now

Welcome to our new 5-part series, MN ADOPT: Then and Now.

MN ADOPT is embarking on a new and exciting chapter in 2023! As we look to the future, we want to highlight some key moments and accomplishments from the past 42 years.



PART 2: THEN

Our first rebranding took place in 1992, and our name changed to Minnesota Adoption Resource Network, commonly referred to withing the adoption community simply as MARN. During this time MARN began implementing increased support services for the Minnesota Adoption Community.

The State Adoption Exchange expands to the digital age

With the phenomenon of the world wide web, we began the development of a web-based State Adoption Exchange in 1998. This allowed the SAE to evolve from a paper booklet that would easily become out of date, to a digital website-based platform that allowed for a more dynamic and accurate representation of the current need for families. Today the State Adoption Exchange is the most viewed page of our website, with over half a million users visiting each year.

2009 – Education Program begins under the “MN ADOPT” contract

Based on our strong record of providing beneficial support programming, our contract with the Department of Human Services expanded with the creation of an educational program to provide trauma and adoption-focused training. This program has evolved into our current AdoptEd and FosterEd programs, providing educational opportunities to more than 17,000 attendees per year.

2011- The HELP Program is launched

Due to the increasing therapeutic and support needs of the adoption community, in 2011 we expanded our contract with the Department of Human Services to include the establishment of a program focused on providing post-adoption support and resource linkage to the Minnesota Adoption Community. Initially focused on supporting families who had been adopted through the Minnesota foster care system, it quickly became apparent that there was a significant need for these services to expand to all of Minnesota.

Join us in *November*

Join us for two full days of educational opportunities geared toward professionals, foster, kinship, and adoptive parents.

fall forum

a mnADOPT 2-day event

NOV. 1 & 2 | 13 SESSIONS | GIVEAWAYS | \$5 PER SESSION

Meet our Presenters

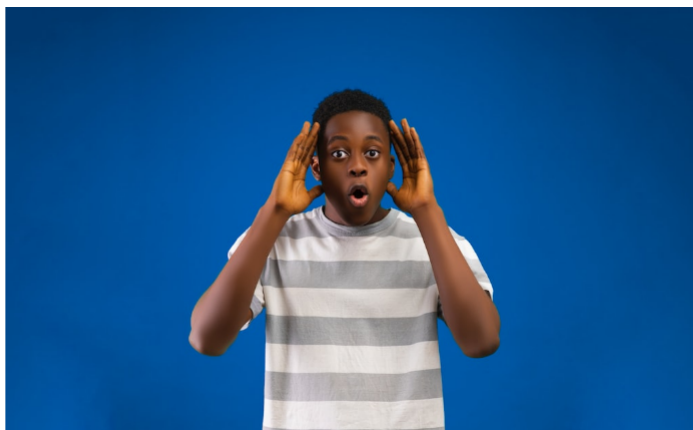


Mona Delahooke | Thad Shunkwiler | Adam Arnold | Jessica Gourneau | Jennifer
Arndt-Johns | Nia Clark | Sani Brown-Adefope | Torrey & Nikki Carroll | Breanna Gronli
| Margaret Aymer | Nicole Sheppard | Cam Lee Small | John Sobraske

There will be opportunities to win Amazon gift cards each day of our Fall Forum. If you register for and attend 4 or more trainings throughout our Fall Forum, you will be entered to win the Grand Prize of a \$200 Amazon gift card!

Claim your spot

**But wait,
There's
more!**



Half-Price October Webinars:

[Understanding Human Trafficking and Internet Safety for Youth](#)

Use code: **YBH&T** for 50% off upon checkout.

[Parents as Educational Advocates](#) Use code: **KLP*R** for 50% off upon checkout.

Meet the Kids

Meet Ambreyah



Ambreyah, 16, is a vibrant and outgoing teen who loves socializing with peers and adults. She has an artistic personality and enjoys drawing and writing. She also enjoys watching TV and movies and dressing up to participate in cosplay. Ambreyah likes animals (especially reptiles) and is open to all kinds of pets.

She has tried horseback riding and really enjoyed it. Ambreyah's favorite foods are sushi, Chinese food, and popcorn. An ideal family for Ambreyah would be a two-parent household with no other children in the home.

Following adoption, Ambreyah would need to remain in contact with her grandmother and siblings. Only families living in Minnesota are being considered at this time.

Inquire



Resource Corner

October is LGBTQIA+ History Month

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- www.outhistory.org/ - (most comprehensive search features, very much like an encyclopedia)
- <https://www.glsen.org/lgbtq-history> (variety of resources- history cards, podcasts, coloring book, student resources, educator resources)
- <https://www.history.com/tag/lgbt-history> (stories from LGBTQ history)
- <https://www.penguinrandomhouse.com/the-read-down/the-queer-history-book-list/> (list of queer history books for all age ranges)

October 11 is National Coming Out Day

Resources for caregivers to be a support to their child

- [How to Support LGBTQ Children](#)
- [What to do when your child comes out](#)
- [Supporting and Caring for Transgender Children LGBTQIA+](#)

Resources on MN ADOPT Website

- [MN ADOPT'S LGBTQ resource page](#)
- [CORE Teen Right Time Video](#)



Share



Tweet

Community

Connections



EVOLVE Family Services is recently contracted with the Department of Human Services as a PPAI agency. EVOLVE has been providing services to children and families for over 40 years through various services.

Currently, EVOLVE serves families through our adoption, foster care, youth services and UMOJA/education programs.

Through PPAI, EVOLVE will be providing child-specific recruitment services, assisting families in adopting children under state guardianship, supporting relatives through licensure and placement of their relative children and providing post-adoption services. EVOLVE approaches our work through a child-centered, trauma-informed and inclusive lens. We are driven and guided by our core values, child-centered, anti-oppressive, collaborative, transparent and evolving and our mission is a world where everyone has nurturing, permanent and supportive familial relationships.

In addition to EVOLVE's core values, we are also guided by our [Standard of Antiracism and Anti-Oppression](#).

EVOLVE does not currently have a wait list for any of the above programs and we are accepting referrals immediately.

For more information regarding relative services contact Holly Gabby via email at HGabby@evolveservices.org or via phone at 651-342-2634.

For more information regarding child-specific recruitment, adoption home studies for families looking to adopt children under state guardianship, and post adoption services contact McKenzie McMillan via email at MMcMillan@evolveservices.org or via phone at 651-342-2589.

EVOLVE looks forward to partnering together to achieve permanency for youth.

Join us for the 25th Anniversary of Circus of the Heart



CIRCUS OF THE HEART

*Registration
Now Open!*

Minnesota Department of Human Services and MN ADOPT would like to invite you to participate in this year's Circus of the Heart!

Registration is now open! We have exciting things planned for you - so go **register before October 10** and you'll also receive your very own CIRCUS BOX! 📦

This year will look a little different - this year's event will take place on Zoom on Saturday, November 5 from 9 am-noon.

Register Today

On Race, Racism and Racial Justice

Specific Book Recommendations:

- **Something Happened in Our Town** by Marianne Celano, Marietta Collins, and Ann Hazzard (Children)
- **Daddy, There's a Noise Outside** by Kenneth Braswell (Children)
- **A Terrible Thing Happened** by Margaret Holmes (Children)
- **Let the Children March** by Monica Clark-Robinson (Children)
- **The Hate U Give** by Angie Thomas (Teen/Young Adult)
- **All American Boys** by Brendan Kiely and Jason Reynolds (Teen / Young Adult)
- **Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You** by Jason Reynolds and Ibram X. Kendi (Teen / Young Adult)
- **Raising White Kids: Bringing Up Children in a Racially Unjust America** by Jennifer Harvey (Adults)
- **So You Want To Talk About Race?** by Ijeoma Oluo (Adults)
- **How To Be An Anti-Racist** by Ibram X. Kendi (Adults)
- View EmbraceRace's list of 20 picture books "to help engage the broad range of emotions and needs of diverse children in our multiracial society": <https://www.embracerace.org/resources/20-picture-books-for-2020>

Find more resources



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