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Keep reading to stay informed on events and happenings at Foster Adopt MN, 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.

Join our team!



FAM has an open position for an Education Program Director! The person in this position will fill a key role in providing leadership to our Education Program, which offers trauma-informed learning opportunities, including live and on-demand webinars, live training, and podcasts geared toward families in all stages of the process, as well as professionals.

Apply now and be part of our mission to strengthen and support Minnesota's foster, adoption, and kinship communities.

Learn more and apply

**FAM** in the Community



Pictured left to right: FAM Staff Kim Sacay, Ed Ingram, FAM Staff Christine Heimann

On Tuesday, December 17th, Foster Adopt Minnesota, along with Adoptee Bridge, was honored to have the opportunity to work with Vikings Offensive Lineman, Ed Ingram, for a special holiday experience!

Ed has a personal connection to the foster care and adoption communities, so he is very passionate about supporting children waiting for permanency.

Ed's vision was to host a private shopping event for children waiting for permanency in foster care. Through Ed's generosity, we were able to invite ten children to this private shopping event.

Ed, his girlfriend Jesey, and Vikings Punter, Ryan Wright, also joined us for this special event! They spent 1:1 attention with the children who attended the shopping event, sharing personal stories, chatting about the latest technology and toys, and Ed shared his personal connection and experiences with foster care and adoption. So many smiles, laughter, and connections were made.

A big thanks to Ed Ingram, Jesey, Ryan Wright, and the Minnesota Vikings for creating lifelong memories and especially to Ed Ingram, for his generosity and for taking the time to bring holiday joy to the lives of these children.

### **Foster Adopt Shop**

### Thank you Donors!

We have received many donations to our Foster Adopt Shop this holiday season, that we can't go without thanking everyone who has donated a new item to our shop.



We had over 15 families shop in December with more planned this month. Thank you for your generosity towards the adoption, foster and kinship families we serve!

To learn more about our Foster Adopt Shop and how to donate, or if you are a family in need of items, <u>please visit our website</u>.

## **Opt-In to Text Messaging**



Sign up to receive text updates of current events and happenings at FAM, new resources, community connections and more!

SIGN UP TODAY!

Featured Child: Avery



**Avery, 15,** is artistic, outgoing, and adventurous. Avery loves music and has been writing his own rap songs. He has also been teaching himself to play guitar. Avery loves to play video games, read anime, and is interested in having a garden someday. He enjoys going out to eat, especially Mexican food.

Avery had his first job this summer working outside. He enjoyed the work and the chance to earn his own money.

Only MN families will be considered at this time.

Learn more

# Resource: Calm Down and Slow it Down with Sesame Street



Sesame street has always provided high quality socioemotional education through their programming. The impressive resources they have on their Sesame Workshop webpage are great for kids who are learning to cope with big feelings, identifying and practicing strategies for self regulation and more.

Follow this link from the Sesame Workshop for this hands on calming activity that is perfect for a phone or tablet: <u>Calm Down and Slow it Down - Sesame Workshop</u>

## **Honoring International Adoptee Voices**

As we begin 2025, we want to take some time to honor, celebrate and learn from the voices and experiences of International Adoptees. We invite you to take some time to explore the following resources created by international adoptees that highlight the experiences, perspectives, and stories of those adopted internationally.

<u>Harlow's Monkey</u> – A website and blog with an adopted person's perspective on the experience of transracial and transnational adoption.

<u>InterCounty Adoptee Voices</u> – A list of podcasts created by transnational and transracial adoptees from around the world.

<u>The Janchi Show</u> – A Podcast that explores the Korean Adoptee experience in America.

<u>Adoptees for Justice</u> – An international adoptee led organization with YouTube videos of adoptees sharing their experience of not having US citizenship and how this has impacted their lives.

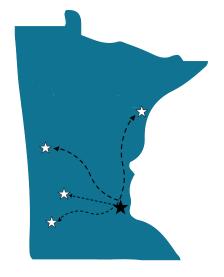
# Where in the State is Foster Adopt MN? Find us in the community

#### **Community Event — Adoption:**

Saturday, January 25, 2025 at Pacifier Kids. <u>Learn more.</u>

#### Minnesota Social Service Association Conference:

Wednesday March 26 and Thursday, March 27, 2025 at the Convention Center in Minneapolis. Learn more.



#### Forward this email to a friend

Information and resources for the foster, adoption, and kinship communities in Minnesota and the professionals who support them.

The Zero Kids Waiting Program is the gateway to information about adoption, foster care, and kinship in Minnesota.

Support, guidance, and resource connection for Minnesota's adoption, foster and kinship communities

Information, resources, and referrals regarding post-permanency support in Minnesota.

Our Education Program provides workshops on topics relevant to foster, adoptive, and kinship families.

Provides information and referral to adopted persons, birth families, and adoptive families who need records or have questions about the search process.











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