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National Adoption Center[®]

There are no unwanted children...just unfound families

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May 2013



E-NEWSLETTER



Nasir is 15, but he hasn't given up hope for a family. He has big plans for the future-he dreams of becoming the second African American president of the United States-but for now what he wants most is to be part of a loving family, one that will be "fun, firm and fair."

Typical of teenagers, Nasir loves playing video games and is proud of how easily he masters new ones. He enjoys swimming and playing baseball and football.

"People often associate adoption with babies or younger children," says Ken Mullner, the Adoption Center's executive director. "But we're seeing more teenagers who, like Nasir, still envision becoming part of a family. The adolescent years are crucial in a child's life and can make all the difference in the way he or she grows up and what he becomes as an adult.

"We urge those considering adoption to think about an older child. What we hear from those who have done it is that they wished they had adopted sooner."

For more information about Nasir, contact Sheina Martinez at the Adoption Center- smartinez@adopt.org.

Photo courtesy of Heart Gallery Philadelphia, photographer, David DeBalko

EVENTS



A good time was had by all as we honored Philadelphia District Attorney Seth Williams at our 2013 Celebration of Family! We had 300 guests and raised \$150,000 with the help of our auctioneer, Jeff Hammond. Pictured are our co-hosts, board members Steve Grandizio, Bryce Graham and Seth Goldblum, along with Bruce Davis, Jr, President of the Board of Directors. We thank our two main sponsors - Wawa and Wendy's.

Coming up.....

June 22, 2013

SWAN Older Youth Match Party - Pennsylvania
New Castle, PA

You must be home studied to attend this party.

For more information contact Julie at 267-443-1875 or
pateen@adopt.org

September 23, 2013

Golf Classic

Whitemarsh Valley Country Club, Lafayette Hill, Pa

Join us for a day of golf at this exquisite course! A \$10,000 Putting Contest will start your day off right. As you wind your way around the course, there will be various contests, like the GPS Challenge, Rockerballz Challenge and the Straightest Drive. Hit a Hole in One and you will win a car from Mercedes/EuroMotorcars Devon! Complete your day at the Awards Banquet hosted by Stan Hochman with entertainment provided by comedian Joe Conklin!



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CENTER'S TV FEATURE WINS FIRST PRIZE

The Center's Wednesday's Child television feature, sponsored by the Freddie



Mac Foundation, won first prize from the Adoption Exchange Association (AEA) as the best in the country. The winning feature, judged by a panel of media experts on the basis of technical quality, appeal and sensitivity, focused on "Robert," a New Jersey child who has found a forever family. The award was presented at the May conference of the Adoption Exchange Association (AEA) in Boulder,

Colorado; the winning feature, aired on NBC10, will be housed in the Museum of Broadcasting in New York City.

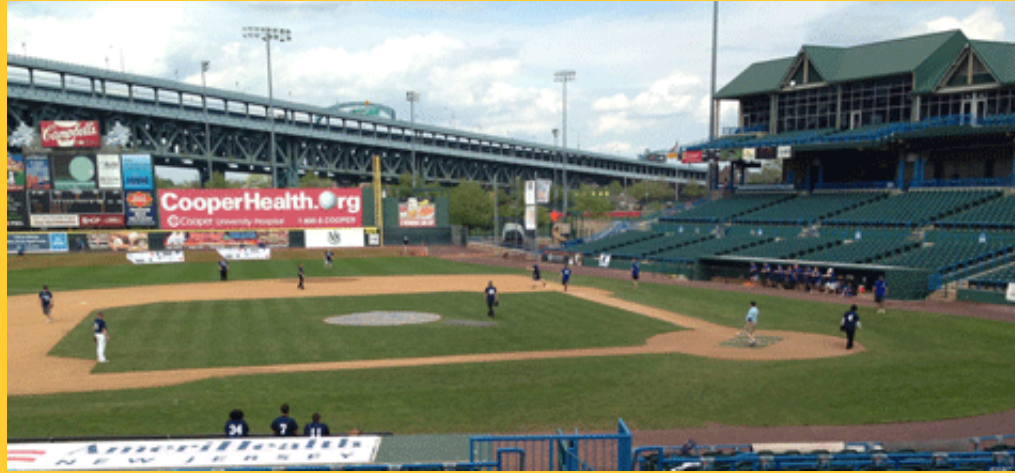
Christine Jacobs, the Center's program director, and Alexandra Buczek, manager of online presence, delivered a timely and challenging workshop on the use of social media. It was titled: "Adapting to Change: Ethical Guidance on the Use of Social Media in Openness in Foster Care Adoption," a topic relevant to the increased use of social media by adoptive parents, foster parents, birth parents and those who have been adopted. The theme for this year's conference was "Reimagining Adoption Exchanges in Our Rapidly Changing World".

The Center has been a member of AEA for more than 25 years

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

Play Ball!

The Center was pleased to have been selected as the beneficiary of proceeds realized from the 2nd Annual Charity Softball Tournament sponsored by Chubb Group of Insurance Companies - Philadelphia Branch. The event, held at the Camden River Sharks Stadium, also included teams from the following agencies: Conner Strong & Buckelew; ECBM LP; Johnson, Kendall & Johnson; Altus Partners and NSM Insurance Group. CHUBB's team won the day, congratulations!



Special thanks and appreciation to Kelly O'Leary, Chubb's Pennsylvania Regional Branch Manager, and Bryce Graham, Chubb's vice president and marketing manager, for its extraordinary \$10,000 match challenge at the Center's Celebration of Family gala held in April. "Chubb has been a valued supporter of the Center," says Ken Mullner, executive director, "and was recipient of our Champion of Adoption Award for its outstanding adoption benefits program.



Flower Power!

The Adoption Center was one of the charities selected to receive the proceeds from the 99th Rittenhouse Square Flower Market for Children's Charities. This is the the oldest continuously-held event in Rittenhouse Square, and every dollar raised at the Market is distributed to the group of charities

featured that year. We had to fight some rain, but many people came up to our table to learn more about adoption. Thanks for giving us this opportunity to spotlight what we achieve in the the Philadelphia region!



BLOG CORNER

NAC's [Blog Center](#) highlights the work we do, national adoption trends, advocacy alerts and anything else that we think you'd like to know or share. The [Blog Center](#) is a result of the efforts from NAC's staff, interns and occasional guest bloggers. [Visit us often.](#)

[The Difference of Being Affected vs. Being Impacted](#)

From Monday May 13th through Wednesday, May 15th, I had the pleasure of attending the Wendy's Wonderful Kids Summit. Wendy's Wonderful Kids is the signature program of the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption, an Ohio based organization whose goal is to implement proactive, child-focused

recruitment programs targeted exclusively on moving America's longest-waiting children from foster care into adoptive families (DTFA)...»



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[The National Adoption Center](http://www.the-national-adoption-center.org) expands adoption opportunities for children living in foster care throughout the United States, and is a resource to families and to agencies who seek the permanency of caring homes for children.

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