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National Adoption Center®

There are no unwanted children, just unfound families®

E-Newsletter

October 2012



Dear Friends,

The work and enterprise of the [National Adoption Center](#) have spread internationally. The United Kingdom has recently launched Adoption Activity Days, modeled after the National Adoption Center's "match parties." After consulting with the Center, seeking our expertise and reading our best practice materials on how to design and execute these events, the British Association for

Adoption and Fostering (BAAF) held its first three "Activity Days." Twenty-three of the 120 children who attended have been "matched" with prospective parents.

"Activity Days" is a pilot project involving several adoption agencies and made possible through BAAF's funding and management. In this country, the Center's program has become a model which has proven to be twice as effective as any other method of finding homes for waiting children.

In this country, the Center has recently provided "match party" consultation to The Metropolitan Council of Government in Washington DC and to Prince Georges County in Maryland, both of which orchestrated successful events that they plan to continue.

This coming year, the Center has seven "matching events" planned-five in New Jersey and two in Pennsylvania, all part of a medley of recruitment opportunities the Center provides for children who wait for permanent families. Children are also featured on television, radio, on appropriate websites and in newspapers. We feel grateful that in our 40th year, we can say with pride that since 1972 we have helped to create families for more than 23,000 children. With your help and support, we will continue to offer children a lifetime of love.

Ken Mullner
Executive Director

EVENTS

Coming up.....

November is National Adoption Month!

Every November thousands of community organizations plan events, share information, and challenge the myths of foster care adoption to draw attention to the 104,000 children and youth living in foster care who wait for permanent families.

Every day during the month of November...

[NAC's website](#) will feature either a child available for adoption or a family who has been united through adoption. Please check our [site](#) often as we celebrate National Adoption Month and pay tribute to the forever families formed through adoption.

November 19, 2012

Adoption Awareness Event

The Shops at Liberty Place

1625 Chestnut Street, Phila., PA

11:00am - 4:00pm

Join NAC and a team of energetic students from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania at an event that will celebrate adoption

and highlight the ongoing need for families for children living in foster care. This event will feature live entertainment, adoption resource tables, snacks and giveaways. Contact Beth at 267-443-1873 or bvogel@adopt.org for more information.

November 17 - 19, 2012

Check it out! NAC will light up the sky November 17th - 19th on the PECO Crown Lights in Center City Philadelphia!

ADOPTION SUCCESS STORY



L to R: Kadir's grandfather, grandmother, his mother Gina, Kadir, and Vai Sikahema

Kadir, the fun-loving 6-year-old, stole hearts across the nation after his big debut on [Wednesday's Child](#) in March 2011. Kadir was Gina's first foster child

and while they were both anticipating a short stay before Kadir was placed with his forever family, one weekend turned into a lifetime when Gina was forced to imagine her life without Kadir's laughter and energy. In November 2011, Kadir was adopted into Gina's family and has been in full bloom ever since. His behavior, academics, emotions, and social skills have all matured as he continues to tackle an array of special needs. Although once told that he would not be able to last in a full day classroom, Kadir continues to beat the odds and does exceptionally well in his full day kindergarten class, receiving many different award certificates that he proudly displays in his home. Kadir is just one of the 61% of children featured on [Wednesday's Child Philadelphia](#) that have found a permanent home and loving family. Kadir is proud to have found his forever family and a place to call home.

TEE-OFF FOR KIDS ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC



Wednesday, October 3rd, started out as a rainy gray day but that did not

dampen the scheduled Tee-Off for Kids Annual Golf Classic at Radnor Valley Country Club. Thankfully the fog lifted early, the sun peeked through and 100% of the registered golfers arrived! The day was fantastic! Guests enjoyed a gorgeous course, a \$10,000 putting contest and chance to win a Mercedes with a hole-in-one, cocktails and gourmet dinner, high-end prizes and a fabulous auction! We sincerely thank all of our [generous sponsors](#) and supporters for helping us raise nearly \$60,000 for our life-changing work.

A FAMILY GIVES BACK

Gwen and Les Trent were planning for a summer wedding, blending two families with children who are older teens and young adults and merging two homes into one. They felt that at this point in their lives they didn't need a lot of wedding gifts; they had plenty already and both had a desire to give back. So they started thinking outside the box and asked their family and friends to consider donating a gift to the [National Adoption Center](#) instead of following the traditional

wedding gift route.

The outpouring of generous donations in honor of Gwen and Les' marriage was inspiring.

What a wonderful way to start a life together. We are very grateful to the generosity of Gwen, Les and their community of friends and family. Congratulations and thank you!



One can never be too creative when it comes to [donating](#) to your favorite charity. Gwen and Les are a case in point. By enlisting your larger community of friends and family to donate a gift to help mark an important event like a birthday or bar or bat mitzvah, you can make a more significant impact on a charity close to your heart.

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.](#)

[LGBT Adoption - Cafes & More](#)

"I don't know what the best thing is, but I am glad I am not the type of person who thinks that gays are from a different world. I am glad that I accept the fact that I have gay dads. I am glad that I'm more accepting of different types of families." Quote from an adopted youth involved in a research [...»](#)



L to R: Adoption Cafe Panellists: Mark Woodland, Becky BIRTHA, Sarah Barnwell and Susan Shachter

[Introducing Our Philadelphia Fellow](#)

Greetings all! I want to formally introduce myself since I hope to contribute more to this blog throughout my year of service at the National Adoption Center/Adoption Center of Delaware Valley. My name is Abiodun (Abi) Azeez, and I recently graduated from Princeton University (class of 2012) with a degree in Public and International Affairs (Public Policy). I'm serving as a Strategic Advancement [...»](#)



ACTION ALERT

Direct your United Way donation to us.

Does your workplace participate in a United Way campaign? If they do, you can [donate](#) a portion of your paycheck to NAC through the United Way of the Tri-State Area!

On your United Way contribution enrollment form, simply indicate the United Way code:

#47476 - National Adoption Center

#00556 - Adoption Center of Delaware Valley



ADOPTION MOBILE ALERTS

Join our Adoption Mobile Alerts List!

Text **NAC** to **27138**

or click on the phone



Adoption Mobile alerts will be sent to your mobile phone 2x a month with timely adoption information.

No hidden fees. Msg and data rates may apply.

KEEP IN TOUCH!



Visit our website!

www.adopt.org

Join the conversation!

www.adoptspeak.org

Join our mailing list!

[The National Adoption Center](http://www.adopt.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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