

rethink the **impact** you can have—
because your action will reshape
the life of a child forever



For more information & success stories, visit www.giftofadoption.org or call 877.905.2367

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bbb.org/charity

rethink the **impact**
you can have
on a child
who's alone
and without
a family



HELP RESHAPE A CHILD'S LIFE TODAY



Selab

“As a Gift of Adoption volunteer and donor, I’ve witnessed how one person can impact a child’s life. As an adoptee, I understand the vitality of belonging in a permanent, loving family and the need to get involved with this cause.” —Peter



Livi, adopted from China in 2007,
pictured here in 2009

*“I’m proud to donate to Gift of Adoption.
Where else could a small investment give
an orphaned or foster child a family’s love
for a lifetime?”*

*My gift literally pays a lifetime of dividends.
I challenge anyone to come up with a
charitable endeavor that has a higher
return than adoption.” —Tim*

OUR MISSION:

To inspire adoption by providing grants to qualified parents—giving children who need families a permanent home and a chance to thrive.

OUR VISION:

Create a new category of philanthropic giving by making adoption a charitable cause.

Your action will reshape the life of a child forever

Gift of Adoption is a **national 501(c)3 charitable organization** that inspires adoption by providing grants to qualified U.S. citizens—giving children in dire need of families a permanent, loving home and a chance to thrive.

Grant recipients must meet strict funding criteria including demonstrating financial need, showing commitment to funding much of the adoption on their own, and having a successful adoption home study from a COA accredited agency.

Gift of Adoption is putting adoption in reach for some of the most vulnerable children in the world—by continuing to mobilize thousands of contributors who believe adoption is an essential charitable cause.

Rethink the impact you can have—because *you* don't need to adopt to give a child a family.

Call or visit us online today!

1.877.905.2367 or www.giftofadoption.org

Make adoption your charitable cause

There is a growing desire to do something immediate and concrete to transform the lives of children around the world who are alone and without a family.

Rethink the impact you can have on the lives of these children.

Gift of Adoption addresses the needs of unparented children in a tried and true way; by providing adoption assistance grants to qualified parents to complete the adoption process – giving children who need families a permanent home and a chance to thrive.

Children need the safety, nurturing, and ongoing guidance afforded by a loving family. Without this, children suffer.

Since families are how children grow up strong and into adulthood, a child's prospects for the future immediately improve with adoption. Their lives are unequivocally better.

To drive real change that will literally last a lifetime – get involved and help transform the life of a child today.

“We were amazed to get a letter from the children who were helped by our gift. Hearing about their new family confirmed the real impact that we had on these kids through our support of Gift of Adoption.” —Nancy

Gift of Adoption grants provide the last bit of funding necessary to complete the adoption process.

Gift of Adoption is a leading provider of adoption assistance grants awarded without regard to race, marital status, gender, age, sexual orientation, national origin, creed or religion.

50% of all Gift of Adoption grants give children born in the United States permanent families.

15% of Gift of Adoption grants keep children from ever entering the foster care system.

Help the vulnerable circumvent foster care

There are over 500,000 children in the U.S. foster care system. On average, those children in the system who are eligible for adoption will wait 5 years before finding a forever family.

Sadly, the longer a child remains in foster care, the less likely it becomes he or she will be adopted.

Un-adopted children experience poor life outcomes. They're significantly more likely to drop out of school, suffer from mental illness, commit crimes, experience homelessness and commit suicide. Nearly 80% of people in U.S. prisons were once in foster care.

Without a family to care for and guide him, what's a child to do?

Chloe

Adoption is an answer to the injustice

Consider Chloe. Abandoned as a small child, Chloe was about to age out of the Chinese orphanage where she had spent most of her life.

If Ronald and Vickie were not able to complete Chloe's adoption before her 14th birthday, she would have become ineligible for adoption. Fortunately, a grant from Gift of Adoption gave the last bit of funding needed so Ronald and Vickie were able to change Chloe's life forever.

Thriving at home, Chloe now has a loving family to call her own.

"After traveling to an orphanage in China to adopt our first daughter, Ron and I realized so much more about the perilous plight of these children. That's when we decided to blend an older child into our family." —Ronald and Vickie



Gift of Adoption grants have helped orphaned and abandoned children in over **32** countries.

Gift of Adoption grants range from **\$1,000** up to **\$7,500** and provide the last 15-20% of adoption costs.

The average total cost of an adoption for our applicants is about **\$25,000**— comprised of home-study and training costs, legal paperwork and filing fees, and travel expenses.

Prevent a child from aging out of an orphanage

In international orphanages, children become ineligible for adoption in their early teen years, some as early as age 14. When most teenagers are thinking about driver's licenses, dances, and dating, these children are forced out of the institutions that have given them the only care they have known.

Without the love and support of a family, these children have little hope of finding a job, a spouse, a network of friends, or a way to improve their lives. Consequently they often end up homeless, forced into the sex trade or militia, or members of the working poor.

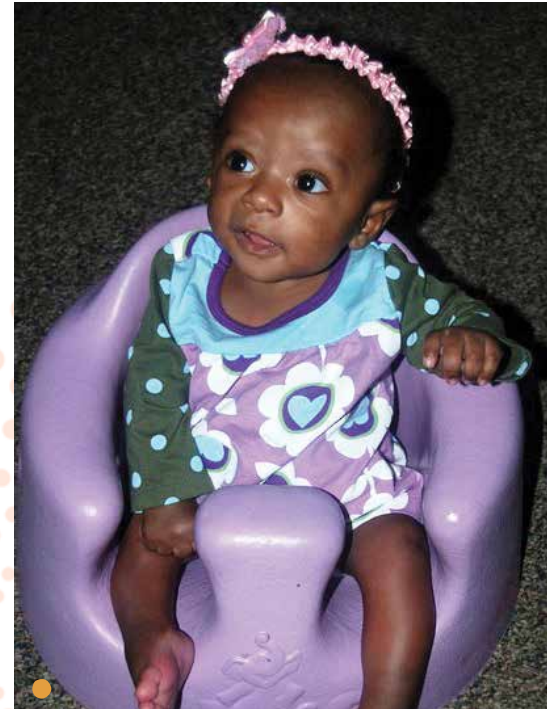
Adoption is a tried and true social solution

Consider Jasmine. Born with spina bifida, a tethered spinal cord, club feet, and other serious medical needs, Jasmine was just 24 hours from being placed in state foster care. If not adopted, she would have likely ended up in foster care long-term.

When Donna and Paul heard about Jasmine they knew they needed to act fast. With the aid of a Gift of Adoption grant, Donna and Paul adopted Jasmine, giving her the opportunity to blossom.

“We felt compelled to give Jasmine the family she so desperately needed and deserved.

Our baby is already so much stronger than when we first brought her home. The doctor recently told us he believed Jasmine will be able to walk even though her muscles were extremely atrophied prior to her adoption.” —Donna and Paul



Jasmine

15% of Gift of Adoption grants go toward uniting or keeping biological siblings together.

IN THE UNITED STATES

Unite or keep biological siblings together

Imagine the uncertainty adoptive parents feel when contacted with the unexpected news that the birth mother of their adopted child has just given birth to their child's biological sibling and plans to place this child for adoption. These parents are forced to make an urgent decision that will shape the future of everyone involved.

Unfortunately, with the adoptive parents having little to no time to plan and save in order to adopt another child, the siblings are at critical risk of being forever separated.

Sibling relationships help children maintain a positive sense of identity and knowledge of their cultural, personal, and family histories. This makes uniting biological siblings through adoption a priority.

Adoption is a hope for a better life

Meet Monika, Kira and Drew. This inseparable little trio lived in extreme poverty in Hungary. Despite facing hunger, abuse, and an unknown future, they still had each other.

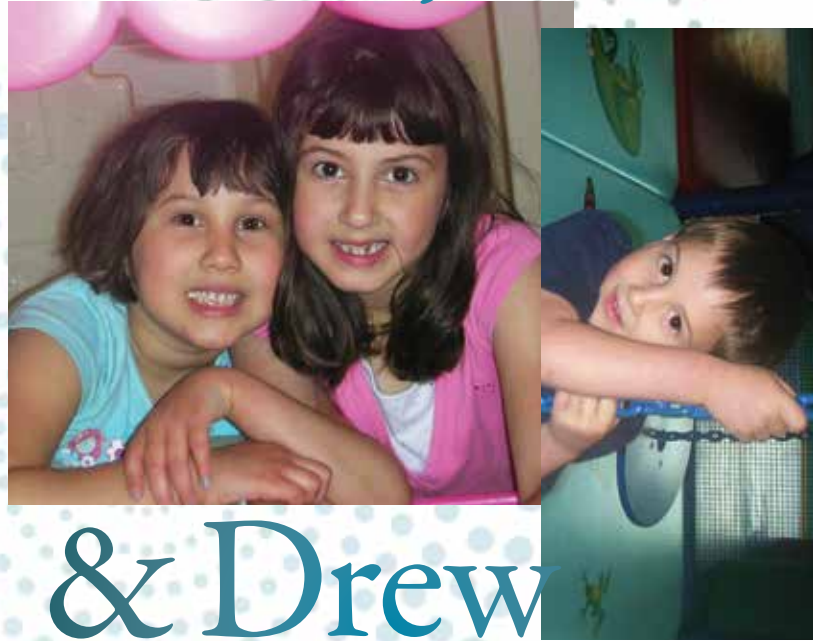
Having escaped from Hungary with his parents when he was a child, Tom knew first hand what these children faced. So he and his wife, Kristin, were determined to keep these three siblings together.

As a result of their Hungarian heritage and help from a Gift of Adoption grant, Tom and Kristin have given Monika, Kira and Drew a lifetime together in a safe, loving family.

“These children were discarded to face a future of hunger and potentially prostitution. It is very hard to place children who are in sibling groups of three or more. Many times they are separated so that the younger children have the chance for adoption.

We'll provide them with much needed medical, dental and educational opportunities plus a family to love and care for them.” —Kristin and Tom

Monika, Kira



& Drew

Over 500 volunteers and a small staff are the backbone to Gift of Adoption's eight regional chapters.

Keep orphaned or abandoned siblings together

Built around a deep mutual trust and need for survival, the bond between orphaned or abandoned siblings is strong and intertwined.

Research shows separating orphaned siblings during adoption is often devastating as the unadopted child feels left behind by the one person who had always been there.

Preserving these family microcosms, by adopting siblings into the same home at the same time makes the transition easier and strengthens the new family into the future.

Isaac & Joseph



Adoption provides children with a heritage

Meet Isaac and his biological brother Joseph. Isaac's birth mother had planned to parent him, but seven months into her pregnancy she realized it was impossible.

When Dorothy and Robert learned the biological mother of their adopted son was expecting again but unable to parent the child, they knew immediately the two siblings must be united in one family.

Gift of Adoption provided the last bit of funding necessary to bring Isaac and Joseph together in one loving home.

"If we didn't adopt Isaac, he and Joseph, his biological brother, may never have known each other. So of course we said 'yes' even if there was no planning time.

With the help of Gift of Adoption, Isaac will not only grow up in a loving, stable environment, he'll also build lasting memories with his very proud, biological brother Joseph."

—Dorothy and Robert

45% of Gift of Adoption grants have helped children with severe medical needs—those who would not receive the care they needed unless adopted.

About **15%** of Gift of Adoption grants helped parents serving in the U.S. military complete their adoptions.

Provide an antidote to deprivation and poverty

Globally, over 143 million children worldwide are abandoned or orphaned. This equates to half the population of the United States.

Alone, often neglected and susceptible to violence and exploitation, these children end up growing up in institutions or worse, on the streets.

The impact is staggering. For every 3 to 5 months of orphaned life, a child will lose 1 month in normal development and growth.

Many children with critical conditions go untreated, or receive minimal treatment. Adoption becomes their only opportunity to receive proper care.

“As an adoptive parent, I know the positive impact adoption has on a child. Donating to Gift of Adoption allows me to help more children and parents have that essential experience.”

—Allyson

A way to help children with critical medical conditions

Consider Selah. A 10-year-old girl from Ethiopia, Selah has stage 4 AIDS. Suffering from complications around her HIV positive condition, she desperately needed medical treatment and hospitalization.

Inspired by love, compassion and tremendous will, Carolyn and Kiel moved mountains to adopt Selah into their family.

A grant from Gift of Adoption helped Carolyn and Kiel bring Selah home so she could get the vital support and medical care she urgently needed.

“Selah was the first adoption of a child in stage 4 AIDS. She would have died, literally, had we had any delays in timing because of funding.”

Thank you Gift of Adoption for helping us make Selah a special part of our family.” —Carolyn and Kiel



Selah