

QUARTERLY

Third Quarter 2015



A publication for Gift of Adoption Investor Board members. Please pass along to others who may be interested in this cause. Send comments and feedback to pdevereux@giftofadoption.org

1 2 3 4 news

Gift of Adoption is a national charitable organization that inspires adoption by providing grants to qualified parents – giving children who need families a permanent home and a chance to thrive.

Dear Investor Board Members,

This quarter's guest perspective is provided by Investor Board and National Board member Glen Mangold, Managing Director of Markel Corporation.

Why Would Insurance Professionals Invest in GOAF?

Insurance and investments. What do these have to do with adoption? Many people, when asked about insurance, state that it's necessary to protect things of great value. Still others reply that insurance is required due to a mortgage or loan on your car. Investments give opportunity to increase value over time and provide a sustainable future. Investments supply ability for personal improvement but also ability to give back to communities enriching them for everyone.

There are some parallels between children and insurance. Children are the most valuable thing we have. They represent the foundation for the future – within the family and to the community as well. The

Meet Cody

On March 1st, Illinois Chapter High School Junior Board members held their 1st Annual Family & Friends Reflection, Blessing & Brunch. Following the event, the Longaberger Company Welcome Home baskets prepared by the High School Junior Board members were sent to recent Gift of Adoption grant recipients. Families have been gratefully receiving the baskets and several have posted photos of the children with the baskets on Facebook.

Proceeds from the brunch and other High School Junior Board activities over the course of the 2014–2015 school year were used to fund the grant that helped give Cody a family.

Cody was adopted from Washington state by Christopher & Deanna (and older sister, Jordyn) of DeKalb, IL. Deanna shares, "Cody is a dream come true. After we finalized the adoption of our daughter, Jordyn, we didn't think we would ever adopt again. Then our agency called to see if we would be



interested in adopting a newborn they were having trouble placing. We said 'yes'. Cody has been a light in our lives, he is our son now and it's a shame that finances have overshadowed our joy. Thanks to this grant, we now have the funds to finalize his adoption and that means that we can breathe, laugh and smile even more."

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interaction of children in school provide knowledge and building blocks for working together and successes a group. Children grow and become the future leaders and shareholders of society. They work, vote and guide the next generation.

The real risk to us all is not allowing children to achieve and become all that they might. The children in need of a family is staggering. 140 million children around the world today don't have a Mom, Dad, Brother or Sister. In the United States 500,000 children are in foster care without a permanent home; 100,000 of them have been waiting for over three years to be adopted.

Adoption is key to reducing the opportunity gap for us all. While many consider adoption, less than 1% actually adopt a child – often high cost is a cause.

Gift of Adoption has awarded grants providing more than 1,425 children a permanent family – parents and siblings to laugh, hug and to pick one another up when someone stumbles. A safe home with stability allows growth and achievement not otherwise possible.

The need is real and those that support adoption come from many backgrounds, not unlike the diversity of children in need. The mission of Gift of Adoption is vital and real and while progress has been made, there is more to do. Today we can't support all the requests received for children in need of a loving Mom and Dad.

Investment in adoption provides permanency of improved condition for the children and adoptive families. It also insures a lifetime of contribution by the adopted children as a family member, friend, co-worker or mentor to others in life.

Thank you for your support and interest in such a worthy cause with lasting impact. I am proud to be involved as an Investor Board Member of Gift of Adoption.

I can think of no more important or noble investment that provides immediate benefit, lasting dividends and insures improved opportunity for many in the future.

The Longaberger Company Welcome Home baskets prepared by the High School Junior Board members were sent to recent Gift of Adoption grant recipients.



What a fun surprise to receive a gift basket today from Gift of Adoption Fund congratulating us on Aven's finalized adoption. Extra special thanks to Patrick who packed up the basket and hand picked books for Aven to enjoy. – **Suzanne**



Thanks so much for the grant to adopt our baby girl and for the sweet care basket! – **Monika**



Thank you so much for the basket for our Mimi girl! – **Heidi**

As if an amazing grant to help us get Jonah home wasn't enough. Thank you so much for helping us to celebrate World Down Syndrome Day with this amazing gift basket for our sweet boy. – **Morgan**



We are completely humbled and in awe by your generosity! To say that we were shocked to receive this welcome home package today would be an understatement. Thank you not only for the adoption grant, but for taking the time to bless us after we returned home with our son. We are forever grateful! – **Jennifer**

Domestic Fund

Gift of Adoption is hosting the 4th Annual Domestic Fund event on April 16, 2015, with **Keynote Speaker Tom Ricketts** (Executive Chairman of the Chicago Cubs and Chairman and Co-Founder of Incapital LLC), **Special Guest Tony Dungy** (Super Bowl winning coach of the 2007 Indianapolis Colts), and **Emcee Kathy Hart** (co-host of the Eric and Kathy Morning Show on 101.9 THE MIX).

If your schedule allows you to attend, email Pam and we'll put you and a guest on the RSVP list.

Upcoming Gift of Adoption Events

Investor Board members receive gratis entry to any of these events. Contact Pam Devereux to reserve a spot for you and a guest.

Arizona

Chapter Launch Reception
Featuring Dr. Peter Likins, author of The New American Family and past President of Lehigh University and University of Arizona
Friday, May 1
Tucson, AZ

Illinois

Chicago Event
Thursday, May 14
Bin 36
161 N. Jefferson, Chicago, IL

Michigan

Comedy Castle Event
Wednesday, May 6
Royal Oak, MI

National

4th Annual Domestic Fund Event
Thursday, April 16
Chicago, IL