

QUARTERLY

Third Quarter 2016



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



Gift of Adoption is a national charitable organization that fills the void that separates child from family by providing grants to qualified parents – giving children who need families a permanent home and a chance to thrive.

This quarter's perspective is provided by Sharon Komlofske, Gift of Adoption Major Gifts Officer, Investor Board member, and previous President of the National Board of Governors.

Dear Investor Board Members,

For twenty years, Gift of Adoption (GOA) has been a trusted partner of families and adoption professionals because our funding is a tool for achieving a shared goal of permanency for children. However, our philanthropic niche is still highly fragmented, underfunded, and has limited visibility in a time when the need is greater than ever. With 250,000 adoptions worldwide annually and 18 million children available for adoption right now, a child's probability of being adopted is a mere 1.5%.

GOA grants of up to \$7,500 do make a huge difference in the adoption journey for the grant families we support. We

Meet Charles

On February 27th the Carolinas Chapter of Gift of Adoption held its 5th Annual Gala – their most successful yet. We wanted to share the Thank You message the chapter sent to their supporters as it so eloquently states what we are all working together to accomplish – and specifically, the impact on one child and family.

Thank you for attending the 5th Annual Gift of Adoption of the Carolinas Gala. We hope you enjoyed the evening and left convinced that Gift of Adoption is bridging the financial barriers of adoption to connect deserving children to loving families in North and South Carolina.

As a result of your overwhelming generosity we were able to raise enough money to fund over 25 financial grants which will provide a life changing gift to families in our area... a new record!

A grant we awarded last month to an upstate South Carolina family prompted this thank you message from Charles's soon-to-be adoptive mom.

She shares, "there is a lot of good that goes along with the hard. A mother and father gain an amazing son. Sisters gain their first brother. A child gains a family who is completely committed to helping him thrive and become all that he was created to be. I look forward with great anticipation to the moment when I get to feel the weight of Charles in my arms for the first time. What a day that will be."



Investor Board Members

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Anonymous
Anonymous
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House of Huckleberry*
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Tim Swett & Suzanne Burke
Michael Uzer & Leslie Smith
Jill & Jim Vint
Susan & Tom Wenzel in memory of
Jim & Betty Garner
The Wyka Family
Allyson & Richard Zak
Renato & Gina Zanichelli

In Memoriam
Peter S. Gutrich

** joined this quarter*

repeatedly hear the sentiment expressed by Pamela and Chad, “Without GOA, we would have had to walk away from the adoption because of the inability to pay the final fees.”

Yet we know there is a significant unmet need for adoption funding. For every grant we award, we still turn away two, constrained by the amount of funds raised. In addition, when we open a new chapter, applications from that market increase as awareness increases. Estimates put the need for adoption funding at approximately \$50 million and only 1/10th of that need is being met by the current nonprofits in the industry.

GOA is poised to lead the charge to make adoption funding a philanthropic priority. We are the only adoption funding charity that engages and leverages a talented base of volunteer board members to raise funds, build awareness and be the face and heart of our mission to others. We are the largest adoption funding organization that awards grants to qualified parents regardless of age, gender, marital status or religion, and places the plight of the child first in our grant making. We have an unmatched reputation for being highly responsive and respectful to our service partners and our grant applicants.

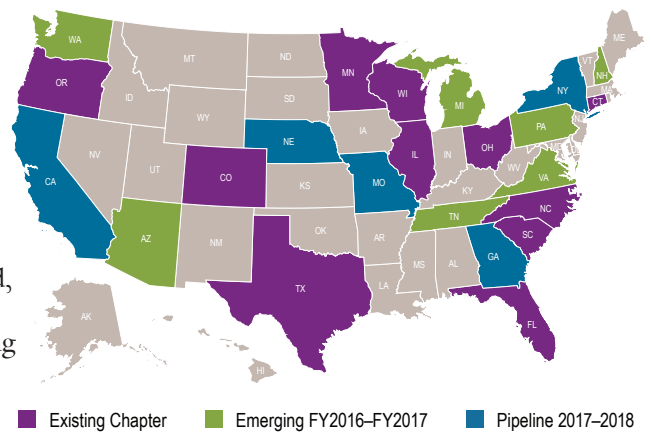
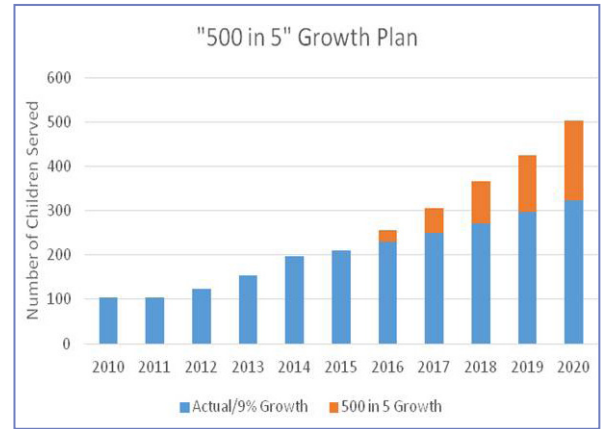
Adoption touches so many lives, yet too few know they can help more children become adopted.

As the largest inclusive provider of adoption grants, it is our obligation to be a leader in the field and mobilize those who believe that having a loving family is the basic right of children everywhere to join our cause.

Our 500 in 5 Growth Plan calls for expanding our Chapter network from 10 chapters to 30, creating a national footprint to spread awareness of our mission, to galvanize volunteers to raise funds for grants, and to attract corporate and foundation support. The Chapter volunteer leadership will be supported by centralized expenditures in brand development and donor stewardship to build a broad, sustainable donor base and programs capable of bridging the financial gap in the adoptions of 500 children annually, literally doubling our impact in a quarter of the time.

If you know leaders who might be interested in helping with our chapter expansion, we would appreciate an introduction. If the timing is right for you to consider our national board and work side by side with us, we would be

delighted. As always, we are so grateful for your commitment to our mission and we look forward to reporting back to you our progress towards our lofty goal of giving 500 children a year what they need most: a family of their own.



THE DONALDSON ADOPTION INSTITUTE

1 in 35 children in the U.S. are adopted

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.

National
Gather for the Gift
 Thursday, April 28, 2016
 Keynote Speaker: Tony Dungy
 Chicago, IL

Carolinas
Annual Gala
 Saturday, February 25, 2017
 Charlotte, NC

Illinois
Annual North Shore Event
 Friday, June 17, 2016
 Winnetka, IL

Minnesota
Rod Simons' Golf for the Gift
 Thursday, June 23, 2016
 Hudson, WI

Texas
Annual Event
 Saturday, October 22, 2016
 Dallas, TX