

*You don't have to adopt to give a child a family.*

**Mission** Gift of Adoption is a volunteer-driven charity that provides adoption assistance grants to complete adoptions — giving children in need of families a permanent home and a chance to thrive. The organization provides the final funds to complete the adoptions of children born in the U.S. and around the world.



**Why** Today, there are more than 150 million orphans in the world with 415,000 children in the U.S. alone living without permanent families.<sup>1</sup> For many children, it's the high cost of adoption that stands in the way of being united with a family. In fact, the median cost of a domestic adoption in 2016 was \$38,000 with international adoptions averaging \$42,000.<sup>2</sup>

**History** Gift of Adoption was founded in 1996 by adoptive parents Gene and Lucy Wyka of Grafton, Wisconsin. Due to overwhelming response for adoption assistance grants, the Wykas converted their foundation from a private family foundation to a public charity in 2001.

**Impact** Nationally, since August, 2019, more than \$8.7 million has been awarded since 1996 to help complete the adoptions of more than 3,036 children.



**Grants** Gift of Adoption offers grants of up to \$10,000 to provide families – regardless of race, religion, age or marital status – the financial support needed to welcome a child home.

**Eligibility** Any U.S. citizen adopting from anywhere in the world (domestic or international) who has an approved home study from an Intercountry Adoption Accreditation and Maintenance Entity (IAAME) accredited agency is eligible to apply. Financial need must be demonstrated.

**What makes Gift of Adoption unique?** Gift of Adoption prioritizes grants for the most vulnerable children facing what is possibly their last or only chance at adoption. This includes families who are working to unite or keep siblings together and those adopting children with critical medical conditions or kids aging out of orphanages.

**National Presence** The national organization, headquartered in Illinois, is comprised of 23 chapters successfully operating in Alabama, Arizona, California, the Capital Region, the Carolinas, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska & Iowa, New Hampshire, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Washington and Wisconsin. The goal of the regional chapters is to assist with raising funds to support local adoption grants.



<sup>1</sup> AFCARS Report, No. 24 (2017) <sup>2</sup> Adoptive Families “Annual Adoption Cost & Timing Surveys” (2016)

Gift of Adoption is a 501(c)3 charity (EIN 39-1863217)