

QUARTERLY

North Quarter 2018



A publication of the Gift of Adoption National Board members. These pages reflect all views and are not necessarily the views of Gift of Adoption. Feedback comments will be shared in subsequent editions.

1 2 3 4 news

Gift of Adoption's quarterly publication provides a variety of information, including news, stories, and photos, to help you stay informed about our work.

Dear Investor Board Members,

This quarter's perspective discusses insights from two chapter presidents who were interviewed by Samantha Clipman, a former intern.

Linda Buczyński, former president of the Wisconsin Chapter and current president of the Illinois Chapter, and Adam Phill, president of the Texas Chapter, started volunteering with Gift of Adoption over twenty years ago. Both joined the cause primarily because of the strength of the Gift of Adoption network.

Linda says that volunteering at Gift of Adoption is different from working with other nonprofits, due to the immediacy of Gift of Adoption's work. Adam agrees that this is a key differentiating factor from other organizations. One hundred percent of the money received by chapter volunteers is paid out in adoption assistance grants which immediately improve the lives of children in need of families. Thanks to the commitment of the Investor Board and National Board members who cover the case operating costs and administration of the grant program, both presidents feel that there is a full and immediate return on the investment of their time, demonstrated by the positive outcomes of children helped with a Gift of Adoption grant.

That's the real part of the work at Gift of Adoption, "talking and meeting the great families, hearing their stories." Adam mentioned a case in which a fourteen-year-old girl from China wanted to be adopted within a



WELCOME HOME GREETING AT ROLING AIRPORT

week, or she would have aged out of her country's orphanage system. Gift of Adoption's help in completing that adoption may have saved her life. Linda recalls hearing two messages from Ethiopia speak many years ago. "The organizations and children hope to school show just how adoption improved their quality of life and hope for the future."

Adam shares that the "top two moments of my life" were the two Welcomes Home greetings he organized for families bringing their children home through the Dallas airport. With signs and balloons, a small group of volunteers cheered the families as they walked through the doors of Customs, officially entering the U.S. with their new citizens and members of the family. Even though exhausted from travel, the joy of the new families was inspiring.

While the overwhelming numbers of orphaned worldwide can seem daunting, Linda cites the statistic possible, in which

a child is questioned for having one of many starfish stranded on the beach wash into the ocean. The child points out that even if he can't save all of the starfish, the mission is still worthwhile, due to the profound impact on the individual starfish he is able to save. Similarly, just helping one child find their way home to a permanent family positively impacts the trajectory of that child's life, and for generations to come.

Linda says that, Gift of Adoption might be "the best kept secret in philanthropy." Adam points out that Gift of Adoption's growth is changing that scenario. With the addition of new chapters, the ever-expanding Gallop For the Gift event in Chicago, and the Charity Navigator rating, Gift of Adoption will continue to increase its impact, helping more children in need of families.