

# Nebraska & Iowa Chapter

Founded in 2017

As of July 2019, Gift of Adoption has awarded \$223,000 in adoption assistance grants across Nebraska and Iowa to complete the adoptions of **78 children**.

#### **Chapter Goal**

Each year, Gift of Adoption Nebraska and Iowa receives requests from approximately 15 qualified families - representing a funding need of \$60,000. The goal of the Nebraska and Iowa Chapter's all-volunteer board is to raise enough funds to help complete each of these adoptions. 100% of the money raised by the chapter is directed to uniting children with forever families in the area.



### Mission

Gift of Adoption (GOA) is a national charity that raises funds to provide grants to complete the adoptions of vulnerable children – giving them a permanent family and the chance to thrive.





Priority is placed on helping children facing what is possibly their only chance at adoption, including children at-risk of separation from siblings, entering foster care, aging-out of an orphanage or with critical medical conditions. Our grants are given without regard to age, race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation or marital status and are paid directly to agencies and attorneys working on the child's behalf.

### **Eligibility**

Any U.S. citizen adopting from anywhere in the world (domestic or international) who has an approved home study is eligible to apply. Financial need must be demonstrated.

#### **History**

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

#### National **Impact**

Updated November 2019

Since inception, GOA has awarded \$9.3 million to complete the adoptions of 3,176 children. Because we receive twice as many applications as we can fund, we invite you to join us in making a difference in the life of a child today!

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











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



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### **Meet Theo**

Adopted from U.S.A. by Frank and Jessica, Coralville, IA

Our sweet Theo was placed in our arms when he was 4 days old, less than 24 hours after we found out about him. He is now 4-months-old and is a smiley, curious, and beautiful baby boy. We hope that Theo will have the best chance at a successful life.



## Meet Eli

Adopted from China by Jenna and Nathanial, Omaha, NE

Eli has been thriving. He has gained weight and is now in the 3rd percentile (he was previously < 1% for height and weight). His personality is growing as he is forming secure attachments and connections. Additionally, Eli was able to receive a life-saving kidney transplant which would not have been possible had he not been adopted.



### Meet Ava

Adopted from U.S.A. by Kevin and Tessa, Altoona, IA

Ava will have a stable home from the very beginning.
We have been able to bond with her – something that could have been disrupted in the foster care system.
Because we have a fairly open relationship with her birth parents she will have the opportunity to visit them and get to know them as she gets older.