

*Drew Urteaga is a GOA Investor Board Member and a member of the Florida Chapter Board of Directors. Drew sat down with GOA to share his story about his desire to get involved personally and engage his company, SBI Growth Advisory, in GOA's mission.*

Drew and his wife Ginger are based in Tampa, FL where Drew helps clients grow their revenue, margin, and enterprise value as a Senior Partner at SBI Growth Advisory. Drew and Ginger are proud parents to two young boys, Colton (age 12) and Anderson (age 8). After welcoming Colton, Drew and Ginger faced secondary infertility and eventually welcomed Anderson to their family through adoption.

"We knew we wanted more children. We both have multiple siblings and believe in the importance of family. Adopting Anderson was a beautiful experience, but it also opened our eyes to the financial barriers to adoption. The process is not always straightforward. We saw firsthand how quickly costs can escalate."

Drew was introduced to GOA through National Board Member Andrea Armstrong. Andrea was a client of Drew's, and they came to learn they both had personal connections to adoption. Drew and Ginger felt called to get involved. As a couple, they are committed to living their faith and values. Giving back to help other families afford adoption made sense to them.

As Drew explained, "Joining the Investor Board was a logical first step for us. We were impressed by GOA's track record of success and wanted to be a part of strengthening the organization. We also wanted to learn more. We knew about our personal experience of adoption but felt GOA could educate us on the field as a whole. Anderson has been a true gift to our family. He has taught us so much and made us better parents. We want to give that gift to others and help more children, like Anderson, find their forever families."



Colton & Anderson

Drew took his involvement with GOA to the next level by joining the FL Chapter Board of Directors and by introducing the organization to SBI. "There is wonderful mission alignment between SBI and GOA," Drew emphasized. "SBI strives to help our clients and employees reach their full potential, and GOA helps kids do the same by giving them permanent families. SBI was immediately receptive," he added.



Drew, Colton, Anderson & Ginger

SBI is providing funding to unite as many as 3 children with their permanent families each quarter. GOA shares the stories of the children who are given the opportunity to reach their full potential through the gift of adoption. Drew has assembled a team of volunteers at SBI to help share the stories internally and work with GOA on special projects. A longer-term goal is to engage SBI employees more broadly on chapter boards nationwide.

*"We see this as living our brand. This summer when SBI hosts our annual Full Potential Summit, GOA will be one of our presenters. We are excited for all our employees to hear the stories and the impact SBI is making."*



[www.sbigrowth.com](http://www.sbigrowth.com)

*Gift of Adoption provides provide grants to complete the adoptions of children in vulnerable circumstances—giving them permanent families and a chance to thrive.*

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 [devereux@giftofadoption.org](mailto:devereux@giftofadoption.org)

## Meet Ruston

*Below is the story of Ruston, whose adoption was made possible by SBI funding.*

Ruston was born in 2022 to a birth mother who was only 15 years old at the time of his birth. She parented Ruston as well as she could for 9 months but when she and Ruston experienced homelessness she bravely chose to place him for adoption so he would have stability and all the opportunities she desires for him. Because Ruston's birth mom does not have a family support system, she knew Ruston was at high risk of entering the foster care system. She felt strongly that adoption was the best way to give him a wonderful life and help her get back on her feet and to finish high school.

Rachel and Dustin of Knoxville, TN have two biological daughters but felt they had room in their home and hearts for another child. They began to think about adoption, knowing that there are too many children in need of permanent, loving homes. Both Rachel and Dustin are nurses and though they worked overtime and saved, they did not have the personal funds to afford an adoption on their own. A grant from Gift of Adoption, made possible by SBI, The Growth Advisory, enabled them to say yes to Ruston and complete his



Ruston

adoption in February 2023. They shared, "We knew adoption was a very costly journey, and we were only living on one income at that time. We know that without Gift of Adoption we would not have our sweet son at home today."

Rachel and Dustin are honoring Ruston's birth mom's wish to remain a part of his life by embracing an open adoption. "We knew we wanted an open adoption...to give a child a chance to grow up in a safe, permanent home, but also the opportunity to stay in contact with their birth family. Ruston always smiles. He loves to hug and give high fives.

His favorite toys are cars and stuffed animals. Ruston will have a chance to flourish in life. He now has stability, access to opportunities, and two big sisters who we hope will be a positive influence on him! He was developmentally delayed when we received custody of him, but he has made great progress and is now developing right on track. We are so grateful for the support we received in bringing Ruston home. He has been such a blessing to us, and we know that adoption was a true gift to our family."



Ruston with sisters

See all upcoming Gift of Adoption Events at  
[giftofadoption.org/events](https://giftofadoption.org/events)

Investor Board members are invited to participate in events. If you would like to join in the fun, please email: [hschwartz@giftofadoption.org](mailto:hschwartz@giftofadoption.org).

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