

Media Contact: Julie Pendell  
jpendell@giftofadoption.org  
(847) 205-2784 ext. 509



#### MISSION

Gift of Adoption is a national charity that raises funds to provide grants to complete the adoptions of children in vulnerable circumstances—giving them permanent families 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

Through November 2024 Gift of Adoption has awarded more than \$19.9 million in funding to complete the adoptions of 6,129 children.

#### GRANTS

Gift of Adoption offers grants of up to \$15,000 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 30 chapters successfully operating in Alabama, Arizona, California, Metro DC, the Carolinas, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington and Wisconsin. The goal of the regional chapters is to assist with raising funds to support local adoption grants.

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



giftofadoption.org

1 (877) 905-2367

EIN# 39-1863217

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