



As of December 31, 2025, Gift of Adoption has awarded **\$1,953,770** in adoption assistance grants across Illinois and the Midwest to complete the adoptions of **639 children**.

CHAPTER GOAL

Each year, Gift of Adoption receives requests from approximately **31** qualified families in Illinois — representing a funding need of **\$198,400**. The goal of the Illinois Chapter's all-volunteer board is to raise enough funds to help complete adoptions for every qualified application. 100% of gifts to the Illinois Chapter fund adoption grants, uniting children with permanent, loving families.



MISSION Gift of Adoption (GOA) 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.

PRIORITY 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 Since inception, GOA has awarded \$23.9 million to complete the adoptions of over 7,000 children. Nationwide, Gift of Adoption is only able to fund 2 out of 3 qualified applicants putting adoption out of reach for many families who otherwise would adopt. We invite you to join us in making a difference in the life of a child today!

UPDATED DECEMBER 2025

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 Micah

Adopted from the USA in 2025 by Madeline and Joshua with the help of a Gift of Adoption grant.

“We hope Micah receives every advantage of a safe and loving home, radically different than what he would have otherwise likely faced in foster care. This GOA grant has been the last and perfect piece in our fundraising efforts to fully fund our adoption of Micah! We are so very grateful to have learned about GOA and for your generosity in supporting our adoption of Micah!”

Meet Reichel & Keishany

Adopted from Costa Rica in 2025 by Brittny and Austin with the help of a Gift of Adoption grant.

“Reichel & Keishany are sisters who were living in a children’s home. They are smart, loving, bright young girls who love to play and laugh. Now, they are both thriving and learning so much. The generosity of this grant can’t be understated. Adoption is a gift in itself, and your gift means so much to our little family.”



Meet Nevven

Adopted from the USA in 2025 by Shenna and Jonathan with the help of a Gift of Adoption grant.

“Nevven’s adoption has changed his life dramatically. From the minute we got to the hospital, we could tell he was feeling safer and more loved. Hopefully, we will be able to continue to build a bond and help him grow up in a loving way. This adoption wouldn’t have been possible without your generosity, and from the bottom of our hearts, we thank you!”