

On National Adoption Day Saturday, Nov. 19, an unprecedented number of courts and communities across the nation will come together to finalize thousands of adoptions of children from foster care and to celebrate all families who adopt.

The day brings together hundreds of judges, attorneys, adoption agencies, adoption professionals and child advocates who are dedicated to creating forever families for waiting children.

Goals

- Finalize adoptions from foster care in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam and Puerto Rico
- Celebrate and honor all families who adopt
- Raise awareness about more than 107,000 children in foster care waiting for adoption
- Encourage others to adopt children from foster care
- Build collaboration among local adoption agencies, courts, and advocacy organizations
- Communicate availability and need for post-adoptive services

History

Since 2000, National Adoption Day has grown from nine events in its first year to more than 375 events in 2010 with 4,800 adoptions finalized in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam and Puerto Rico.

Partners

A coalition of national partners sponsor National Adoption Day to draw special attention to foster children waiting for permanent families and to celebrate all loving families that adopt.

The Alliance for Children's Rights—The alliance for Children's Rights is Los Angeles' only free legal services organization devoted solely to helping children living in poverty and foster care.

The Alliance's mission is to ensure children get the support and services they need to become healthy, productive adults.

Since 1992, The Alliance has worked together with the Los Angeles Juvenile Court and the Department of Children and Family Services to expedite and increase the number of children adopted from Los Angeles foster care.

Children's Action Network – Formed in 1990 by leaders in the entertainment industry, the Children's Action Network (CAN) is dedicated to improving the lives of America's children. Through extensive public education campaigns, community-based programs and policy initiatives, CAN uses the power of the entertainment community to increase awareness about children's issues and make them a top priority in everyday life.

The Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute – The Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute (CCAI) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to raising awareness about children in need of permanent, safe, and loving homes; and to eliminating the barriers that hinder these children from realizing their basic need of a family. CCAI serves as an informational and educational resource to policymakers as they seek to draft positive adoption legislation and to focusing public attention on the advantages of adoption.

Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption – The Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption is a national nonprofit public charity dedicated exclusively to finding permanent homes for the more

than 130,000 children waiting in North America's foster care systems. Created by Wendy's® founder Dave Thomas who was adopted, the Foundation implements results-driven national programs, foster care adoption awareness and advocacy initiatives.

Freddie Mac Foundation – The Freddie Mac Foundation, sustained by its endowment, is dedicated to making home a place where children and families thrive.

The Foundation funds programs in the areas of stable homes/stable families; academic and career success; and foster care and adoption.

Through the Freddie Mac Foundation Wednesday's Child program in five major metropolitan areas, and the Freddie Mac Foundation Heart Gallery, we have helped find adoptive homes for more than 1,500 children in foster care.