

January 2021

DONATE

mnADOPT Insider

MN ADOPT 2020: YEAR IN REVIEW

2020 was a year of adjustments as we navigated the COVID-19 pandemic and the impact it has had on our clients, staff and the community. Throughout this difficult time, we have been able to adapt to meet the ongoing and changing needs of those we work with, while also looking toward the future and how we want to continue to address the growing and changing needs of the Minnesota adoptive, foster and kinship communities. As we look back at 2020, below are some of our key highlights and accomplishments:

EDUCATION

- **8,191** people participated in MN ADOPT trainings in 2020.
- **436** total trainings were provided to the adoption & foster care communities.
- The Education team grew with the addition of **2** staff.
- While the pandemic has impacted our ability to hold in-person trainings, we were able to quickly adapt to offer 100% of our educational offerings through an online webinar format.



ZERO KIDS WAITING



- **3** new staff joined the ZKW team, allowing us to expand our role in Greater MN
- **713** web inquiries from people interested in becoming foster parents, allowing us to connect them to foster care licensing organizations.
- We helped **503** relatives/kin needing information or assistance.
- We provided information to **2,419** people interested in adopting.
- There were **3,421** inquiries about specific Minnesota waiting children featured on the State Adoption Exchange.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL SHOPPING EVENT

Our 2nd Annual Back-To-School shopping event was a huge success. We were able to give **170** waiting foster youth a back-to-school shopping experience!

*(Fundraising efforts for our **3rd Annual BTS Event** has begun!)*



HELP PROGRAM



- Offered flexible scheduling to better meet the need of families during the pandemic.
- Expanded our network of consultants to bolster family support while ongoing therapy and resources were coordinated.
- Expanded funding assistance to include additional needs families may experience due to the pandemic.
- Launch of HELP in the Moment on social media to regularly share tips and resources with families.
- Developed 2 new resource guides:
 - [Covid 19 Support](#)
 - [On Race & Racism](#)

POST SEARCH

- We received **144** search inquiries by those interested in connecting with birth family.
- **367** people requested name of placing agency or county that facilitated the adoption so they can begin a search.



ORGANIZATION



- Transitioned our annual Circus of the Heart to a Virtual event, which had over 350 registered families and 1700 participants
 - Increased our online presence to better connect with the communities we serve.
 - Completing the 1st "Building" tier of Human Right Campaign, All Children All Families accreditation process.
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- Worked together as a staff to further our commitment and work in becoming an anti-racist organization.
 - The addition of 8 staff who bring a broad range of diversity, experience, and perspective to our work. [Meet our staff.](#)
 - The addition of 4 Board of Directors who bring experience, strengths and skills that enhance our work and mission. [Meet our Board of Directors.](#)

Looking Ahead to 2021

As we look ahead at 2021, our goal is to build on what we have achieved in 2020. We will continue to explore and create opportunities to better serve adoptive, foster and kinship families and youth, and to work further toward our goal of becoming a more inclusive and anti-racist organization.



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