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Keep reading to stay informed on events and happenings at Foster Adopt Minnesota, as well as information about our programming and ways you can help with our mission of finding and strengthening Minnesota adoptive, foster care, and kinship families.

Support our work

Upcoming Events with FAM

**CIRCUS OF
THE Heart** ❤️



Save the Date!

We're thrilled to be back in-person with you to celebrate adoption at our 26th Annual Circus of the Heart! Mark your calendars for **Saturday, November 4**. **Registration opens**

Friday, September 15th. Registration is NOT required, but needed to reserve your box lunch.

A virtual event will also take place at the same time as the in-person event. You can choose to attend in-person OR virtually!

[Find out more details about this event](#)



Fall Forum

Save the dates for our upcoming Fall Forum in November!

The Fall Forum offers a variety of workshops presented by nationally renowned speakers to meet the needs of those on the frontline of foster care, kinship care, and adoption.

- Wednesday, November 1st - Parents Day
- Thursday, November 2nd - Parents & Professionals Day
- Wednesday, November 8th - Professionals Day

Details will be added to our workshops page soon.



Giveaways with FAM!

We're going live on Monday, September 18 for a giveaway! Tune into our [Facebook page](#) at around the noon hour to participate!

We'll be giving away FAM merch and more! Don't miss it!

Resource Corner

September is Kinship Awareness Month



[Kinship Family Support Services](#) with
Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota

[Resources for Relative and Kinship
Caregivers](#) – Child Welfare Information
Gateway

Kinship Care Webinars

Take a look at our list of pre-recorded webinars about Kinship Care. Use this code to listen to one for FREE.

Coupon code: YNPWKNJM
Expires Oct 31, 2023



Find your free webinar



Upcoming Webinar for families

Kinship Family System Dynamics -
Wednesday, September 27

Learn more

Meet the Kids

Meet Jarell 🤝



Jarell, 15, is energetic, athletic, caring, and personable. He is a gifted athlete who especially excels in football but is also talented at basketball and soccer. Jarell's favorite subjects in school are PE and Art. When not in school, he enjoys playing video games. Jarell values his friendships and loves hanging out with friends.

Jarell would do best with calm caregivers who can support him in his interests. It would benefit him to remain in the greater metro area, preferably in a diverse community. Jarell enjoys participating in church activities that are child focused and likes animals.

Following adoption, Jarell will need to maintain contact with his siblings, some extended

family members, and his former foster family.

Only families from Minnesota are being considered at this time.

[Learn More](#)

High Five with Foster Adopt MN

Recognizing professionals in our community and the good work they do.



Meet Sunnie Stauff

FAM would like to extend our deepest thanks to Sunnie Stauff at Children's Home Society of MN & Lutheran Social Service for her hard work and dedication to the post adoption community. Sunnie provides a wonderful presence and welcoming demeanor. She goes out of her way to assist adoptees, foster youth, families, and professionals. We greatly appreciate her collaborative spirit and her willingness to work together. Her work has greatly impacted the lives of so many individuals. Thank you so much, Sunnie!

From Sunnie: "In post adoption, we play an intricate role in helping individuals connect with their personal identity, history, experience, and culture. We assist with birth family searches and are the intermediary support as families continue to correspond. We support individuals at any age who have connections to adoption - whether you are an adopted adult, birth parent, adoptive parent, or a sibling.

Post Adoption is a very rewarding program to be a part of. You witness first hand, families reuniting after so many years, and learning so much more about where they came from. Post adoption is all about getting those puzzle pieces to fit back together, even tracing back 100 years. You also play a pivotal part of support for families when

they are seeking extra resources in their adoption journey. I couldn't be happier with the role that I get to playing Post Adoption, being the first point of contact for individuals seeking assistance."

[Learn more](#)

Circus of the Heart

Nominations are now open for Foster Adopt Minnesota's 2023 Distinguished Service Awards!

This is a great opportunity to acknowledge those who have dedicated their personal or professional lives to making a difference in this work.

As part of Circus of the Heart, two Distinguished Service Awards are presented to individuals and organizations/corporations that have made outstanding contributions within the Minnesota adoption, foster, and kinship communities.

The following criteria will be taken into consideration when reviewing nominees:

- Type of contribution
- Impact of contribution
- Length of service or commitment

Nominations will be accepted through September 22, 2023.

[Nominate today](#)

Social Justice, Race and Equity

Last month we highlighted organizations doing important work around equity in education. This month, we would like to share the following school-focused resource to support BIPOC students as they begin a new school year.

- [Supporting BIPOC Student Mental Health](#)
 - [How school staff, parents and caregivers can help kids of color feel safe in the classroom](#)
 - [Support cross-racial friendships between kids: the lessons of “prejudice mindsets”](#)
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Learn more about our services



The Zero Kids Waiting Program is the gateway to information about adoption, foster care, and kinship in Minnesota.



The Fostering Network Program provides awareness, information, support, and referral to improve the safety and well-being of Minnesota children in foster care.



Support, guidance, and resource connection for Minnesota's adoption, foster and kinship communities



Information, resources, and referrals regarding post-adoption support in Minnesota



Our Education Program provides workshops on topics relevant to foster, adoptive, and kinship families.



Provides information and referral to adopted persons, birth families, and adoptive families who need records or have questions about the search process.



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