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Keep reading to stay informed on events and happenings at Foster Adopt MN, 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.



In celebration of Kinship Month, Foster Adopt Minnesota will be hosting a free Self-Care & Resource Fair for Kinship parents and caregivers at our St. Paul office on Tuesday, September 16th, 1:00-6:00PM!

Please join us for resources, community, self-care opportunities, and visit our Foster Adopt Shop!

Guests will be treated to food, self-care gifts, prizes, and more!

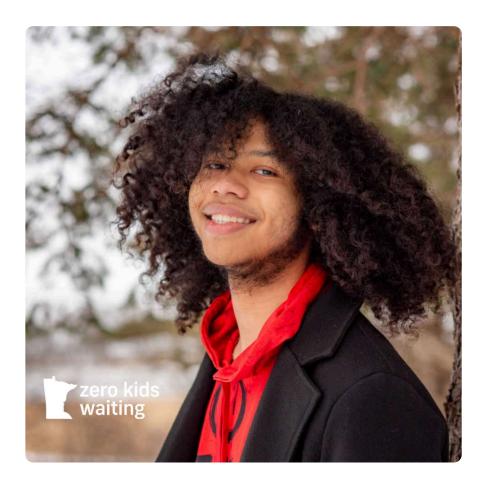
# Registration will open in mid-August!



Foster Adopt Minnesota is funded through the Minnesota Department of Children, Youth, and Families.



## Featured Child | Meet Choi



**Choi, 17,** is a lively and charismatic conversationalist. He's always game for social connection and isn't afraid to stand up for what he believes in. Choi is passionate about music which can be seen when he plays the guitar, listens to music, and creates his own music. His creativity can be seen when he creates card tricks and plays *Magic: The Gathering*.

Choi will need to maintain contact with his birth family. Only MN families are being considered at this time.

Learn more about Choi

Join our Board of Directors

Foster Adopt MN is actively recruiting board members who bring strategic leadership and lived experience to support children and caregivers in adoption, foster, and kinship communities.

Are you interested in learning more? Take a look at what it means to be a board member with FAM.

**FAM Board of Directors** 



### Find HELP with Back-to-School Transitions

As the calendar turns over into August, many of us are tting in what we can to the last weeks of summer fun.

And... many are looking forward to, many are groaning at the thought of "back-to school."

The <u>HELP Program</u> at Foster Adopt MN is here to support no matter the reaction you or your kids are experiencing right now.



Tools and support around transition planning are so important to have a head start on, to be reminded of, to feel a little more prepared with when it comes to this back-to school time. Kids and teens who are adopted, have experiences in foster care or familial separation often are experiencing some complex layers when it comes to transitions.

### Resources from the HELP team on this topic:



<u>Supporting Transitions</u> - Beacon House

<u>Effective Back to School Strategies for</u>
<u>Parents</u> – Beyond Consequences,
Institute

Back to School – What Parents and Educations Should Keep in Mind - Center for Adoption Support & Education

School Concerns Fast Fact Sheet
Foster Adopt MN & Stephanie Mestery,

<u>School Support Section</u> – Foster Adopt MN Podcast Library



Could you use more support on topics like this? Looking for an adoption, trauma, attachment competent therapist? Looking for supports in your community that really understand and can help you with your unique needs?

Please reach out directly to the HELP Program at 612-746-5137 or <a href="help@fosteradoptmn.org">help@fosteradoptmn.org</a>.

We are here to intently listen and get you to a new spot of hope and tangible supports!

## Foster Adopt Shop: How to Donate



## Permanency Services Resource Hub



The <u>Permanency Services Resource</u>
<u>Hub</u> is a centralized tool and site to find

We're are seeking to increase our inventory for our Foster Adopt Shop. All new items for children 0-18 are appreciated, including clothes, toys, books, outerwear, sports equipment, toiletries, etc.

Find out <u>how to donate</u> through Amazon or locally.

In need of items? Fill out the form.

a wide range of resources and support services for the kinship, foster and adoption communities across Minnesota and the professionals who serve them.

View available resources

### Distinguished Service Awards at Circus of the Heart

Each year, Circus of the Heart proudly presents two Distinguished Service Awards—one to an individual and one to an organization or corporation—in recognition of outstanding contributions to Minnesota's adoption, foster care, and kinship communities.

#### **Event Details**

Date: Saturday, November 1, 2025 Time: 1:00-4:00 PM

**Location:** North End Events Center, Minnesota State Fairgrounds

We invite you to nominate individuals or organizations that have made a meaningful impact in these communities. The selection committee will consider the following criteria:

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

Nominations will be accepted through Friday, September 19, 2025.

Help us celebrate those who go above and beyond—<u>submit your nomination</u> today.

## **August is Black-Owned Business Month**

This month, we celebrate the contributions of Black entrepreneurs across Minnesota and the nation. Black-owned businesses play a vital role in shaping our communities through creativity, leadership, and economic impact.

Here are a few ways to support and engage:

- Discover and support Black-owned businesses locally through the <u>Black</u> <u>Business Network MN</u>, which offers a searchable directory and event listings.
- Connect with the Minnesota Black Chamber of Commerce at minnesotablackchamber.org, where you can learn about programs like the 10,000 Black Business Initiative and upcoming networking events.
- Explore Black-owned businesses through <u>BuyBlack.org</u> The largest national directory of Black-owned businesses, featuring over 50,000 listings across industries
- **Shop local and amplify** Black-owned businesses by sharing your favorites on social media, writing reviews, and encouraging others to support.

Let's use this month to celebrate excellence and build lasting support for Black business leaders—locally and nationally.

## Where in the State is Foster Adopt MN? Find us in the community

#### **CHLSS Back-to-School Bash**

Thursday, August 21, 2025 in St. Paul, MN.

#### **Dakota County Foster Care Picnic**

Tuesday, August 26, 2025 in West St. Paul, MN.

#### **Mankato Pride Festival**

Saturday, September 6, 2025 in Mankato, MN. <u>Learn more.</u>

Check out our Events Calendar.





Information and resources for the foster, adoption, and kinship communities in Minnesota and the professionals who support them.



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



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



Information, resources, and referrals regarding post-permanency 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.











Foster Adopt Minnesota acknowledges and honors the lived experiences and identities of the individuals and communities we serve.