Welcome,

Thank you for contacting us about adoption.

**Raise the Future** believes every young person deserves to go through life knowing they have a caring adult by their side. Every day, we show up for kids in foster care by listening to their needs and introducing them to adults they can rely on. We then surround those connections with support, so they grow into meaningful, lasting relationships that help youth heal from the past.

The youth we serve are generally:

- Over the age of nine
- Members of a sibling group
- Youth of color
- Youth with physical, cognitive, and/or emotional delays

All of the youth with whom we work have experienced the trauma of being removed from their families and placed in foster care. Many have also experienced other traumatic events in their lives. **Raise the Future** works with state and local child welfare systems to connect these youth with adults who can provide them with non-judgmental, unconditional love and commitment to help them thrive throughout their lifetimes.

If you are new to the adoption process, we encourage you to do the following:

- Contact your public human services agency and private adoption agencies in your area to ask about their adoption programs
- Engage with local adoptive parent groups, including social media groups
- Learn about adoption and caring for youth who have experienced trauma
- Explore our lending library for titles on adoption, trauma, and grief and loss
- Attend our informational monthly webinars: Adoption Options and Foster to Adopt

The following information will help you get started on your journey towards adoption. Please be aware that guidelines, policies, and procedures differ between states and even sometimes between counties within the same state. Use this information as a general guide, and let us know if you have questions or need more information. Although **Raise the Future** is not a licensed child-placement or adoption agency and does not have custody of any children, we are here to help you learn about your options for growing your family and about how you can make a difference in the life of a child.

We wish you well in your adoption process.

- **Raise the Future** Staff
Adoption Steps

Opening your heart to a child in need of connection is a selfless and loving act. This valuable information can serve as a guide as you consider expanding your family and learn about your options. The adoption process varies from state to state, so please feel free to call us at 1-800-451-5246 or email us at kids@raisethefuture.org for more information. You can also find the name and contact information for your state’s Adoption Program Manager on the National Foster Care & Adoption Directory Search at www.childwelfare.gov/nfcad.

1. Decide What Kind of Adoption Is the Best Fit for Your Family. First, you will want to decide the age of child you are interested in adopting and through which pathway.

Adoption from Foster Care: Typically, children legally available for adoption are over age nine. Younger children who become legally available for adoption while in foster care are commonly adopted by relatives or their current foster family. If you wish to adopt a younger child from foster care, you will first need to consider becoming a foster parent. Foster parents must support the primary goal of reunification for children and their families. Learn more about foster care at https://www.raisethefuture.org/foster-care.

Infant Adoption: Generally, this type of adoption is facilitated through a private adoption agency or an adoption attorney. Birth parents typically choose an agency to facilitate the adoption of their infant and play a key role in selecting the adoptive family.

International Adoption: Children and youth up to age 16 years of age may be available for adoption from other countries. Adoption regulations vary widely by country, and the process can be lengthy. Finalizing an adoption of a child as an infant is not common in international adoption. Check out the U.S. Department of State’s Intercountry Adoption webpage at https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/Intercountry-Adoption.html to learn more.

2. Select an Agency.

- Interview agencies to find the right fit for you. See ‘Choosing an Adoption Agency’ section below for a list of questions to ask.
- Attend orientation meetings offered by public and private agencies in your area.
- County and state departments of social services seek adoptive homes for children who have been in foster care due to abuse and/or neglect and cannot return safely to their families.
- To adopt a child from abroad, you must work with an agency that is specifically licensed to conduct international adoptions.

3. Attend Information Classes. Most public and private agencies require you to attend a series of classes to learn about the adoption process and the emotional and behavioral issues that adopted children may experience. In many cases, you must complete these classes before the agency will begin the family assessment process.
4. **Complete the Family Assessment Process.** The family assessment (also called an adoption study or home study) varies by agency and by type of adoption. It should be an educational and self-evaluation process, as well as a way for the agency to assess your strengths, ability to meet a child's needs related to adoption and trauma, identify any areas of concern or growth, and help you determine which child would best fit your home.

The family assessment will include some or all of the following:

- Initial application to adopt
- Autobiographies written by each parent
- Visits to your home
- Medical reports from your physician
- Proof of employment/ability to financially support a child
- Checks for any criminal record, including the state child abuse registry
- References from friends and associates
- Participation in adoptive parent training classes to prepare you for raising a child likely to have a history of trauma, educational needs, behavioral challenges, emotional needs, or who is of a different race, religion, or ethnicity
- A family picture book or video to present to the birth mother or waiting child, or overseas agency interviews with your social worker that should touch on the following topics:
  - The reasons you want to adopt
  - Your hopes and expectations for your child
  - Your readiness to parent
  - Your family's values, strengths, and weaknesses
  - Your own history
  - How your family handles crises and changes
  - Where you will get support or professional help if you need it
5. **Child Matching** Once your family assessment is completed and approved, your social worker will begin considering your family for a child/ren. After being selected, you will be given extensive information about the child to help you consider whether your family is a good fit for this child. Some social workers, from both public and private agencies, may encourage you to be involved in exploring the profiles of waiting children to find possible matches for your family. Always let your social worker know what you are doing to help identify a child. Actions you might want to take include:

- Look for waiting child features in adoption newsletters, social media posts, newspapers, and magazines
- Watch televised features about waiting children ("Wednesday’s Child")
- Search for online Heart Gallery websites in your state, region, or across the nation
- Register as a prospective adoptive family with AdoptUSKids ([www.adoptuskids.org](http://www.adoptuskids.org))

6. **While You Wait.** This is one of the most challenging aspects of the adoption process. Waiting happens:

- After the message you send to an agency to ask about adoption (voicemail, email, etc.)
- While you wait to attend an orientation meeting
- After you submit your application and before training classes begin
- Before your home study begins
- After your home study is approved
- While you wait for a placement
- After a child is placed in your home

Waiting can be frustrating, lonely, and disempowering. Although you must make many decisions throughout this time (i.e. when is the right time to build our family through adoption? can I handle this? can we afford it? what age/gender of child do I prefer? should I quit my job? and so on), it may feel as if this very important part of your life is not in your own hands.

During this period, we encourage you to use the time to learn as much as you can about adoption and its lifelong impact on the lives of adoptees and adoptive families. Some ideas to consider include:

- Read adoption and trauma-related materials (these can be recommended by our staff)
- Visit your school district to introduce yourself and learn about the process for registering a new student
- Find local mental health providers, both public and private, who have experience and expertise working with adoptive families
- Connect with pre/post-adoptive parent support groups and blogs
- Identify a pediatrician in your area who you trust and with whom you can talk openly
- If you plan to adopt from foster care, find a pediatrician who accepts Medicaid
- Begin to line up your support network of family and friends
- Consider becoming a respite care provider for other adoptive or foster families; contact your local department of social services to learn what is needed and how to connect
- Attend adoption and trauma-related training; we offer many live (https://www.raisethefuture.org/upcoming-classes) and on-demand (https://www.raisethefuture.org/on-demand-learning) courses
- Review the materials and information on the Child Welfare Information Gateway (www.childwelfare.gov/topics/adoption/)

7. **Pre-placement**. During this time, you may visit with the birth family of the infant you plan to adopt, you may have several visits of increasing length with the child you are adopting from foster care, or you may begin making travel plans to bring home the child you plan to adopt internationally. Your agency will help facilitate these visits or plans.

8. **Placement**. Your child finally comes home!

9. **Post-placement**. Your agency, social worker, parent group, and professional counselors can help your family during this often challenging time. The social worker will be required to visit with you regularly, provide support and assistance, and make reports to the court to be sure the placement is progressing well before finalizing the adoption. During this period, your agency will assist you in filing a petition to adopt with the court.

10. **Finalization**. Your social worker will usually go to court with you when you go before a judge to finalize the adoption and officially welcome the child as a legal member of your family. Most infant adoptions are finalized six months after placement. In many states, adoptions from foster care may be finalized six months after placement; however, this timeframe can often extend for a year or more after placement to give the child and family enough time to adjust and to be sure that the family can successfully meet the child’s needs.

11. **Post-finalization**. Adoption is a lifelong process for the child and the adoptive family. Do not hesitate to contact your agency and social worker for help, support, referrals, and to share successes. **Raise the Future** is also here to support you long-term. Visit our Family Support webpage (https://www.raisethefuture.org/common-resources).
“Adoption is a special kind of love that is shared not by people who are related by blood, but by people who are related by love.” – Seventh-grade student
Choosing an Adoption Agency

When you are considering adoption, the wide variety of options can seem overwhelming. You will have a number of choices to make, so gather as much information as possible.

1. Talk with others. Members of adoptive parent groups have firsthand knowledge about adoption and can offer valuable insight.

2. Attend agency orientation meetings.

3. Interview public and private agencies. Contact your state’s Adoption Program Manager within the Department of Human Services to receive a list of licensed adoption agencies.

The following questions may help you determine which agency is best for your family.

- What types of adoptions does the agency conduct - infant adoptions, adoptions of children from foster care, adoptions of children from other countries? Agencies that conduct more than one of these types of adoption or place children from different countries will refer to their different “programs.”

- How many children did the agency place last year? How many were placed from the specific program you are interested in?

- What are the agency’s general requirements about the characteristics of the prospective parents they work with (i.e., age of adoptive parents, single or nontraditional families, marital history, length of marriage, religious affiliation, fertility restrictions, number of children already in the family)? Do these requirements vary depending on the type of adoption?

- How much will it cost to complete an adoption? Are there sliding fee scales? When will payments be required?

Adoptions of waiting children through public social services agencies are often free. If fees are charged, you may be eligible for reimbursement for some of those costs when a child from that agency is placed with you.

Agency fees for private infant and international adoptions can range from $10,000 - $50,000. Request a fee schedule from the adoption agency you are considering so you know, before you begin, exactly what costs are covered in the adoption fee and what costs may be added later. Examples of typical charges include legal fees, the birth mother’s and/or infant’s medical expenses, expenses for travel to visit a waiting child in another state, or expenses for travel to bring a child home from another country.

Further information about financial reimbursement and adoption assistance/subsidies can be found in the ‘Adoption Assistance and Other Financial Assistance’ section below.
How long will it take to complete an adoption? Each adoption is unique. However, you can ask about the average length of time families wait between applying to adopt and beginning the family assessment. You can also ask how long you should expect to wait between completion of the assessment and having a child placed in your home.

What steps are required in the process? Although each agency's procedures vary and there are different requirements for each type of adoption, you can expect to complete some or all the following:

- Initial interview
- Application form
- Adoption preparation classes
- Family assessment (also called an adoption home study)

At what point does the agency notify prospective parents of their approval for placement? Can you see a copy of your family assessment/home study? If you are not approved, can you find out why? What is the agency's grievance process?

What steps will the agency take to help identify the right child for your family? What can or must you do to help?

Does the agency conduct home studies for families seeking to adopt both in-state and out-of-state children? Most public agencies placing children from foster care are primarily concerned about placing the children in their custody. As an adoptive family, they see you as a resource for their children. Often, states or counties require you to be a resource for their children for at least six months before they will release your home study to another agency or state. Most private agencies facilitate adoptions within your state and other states. Most private agencies placing newborns will facilitate a match between you and one of the birth mothers with whom they are working.

In an infant adoption, do the birth parents select the adoptive parents? Are the birth parents and adoptive parents able to decide how much communication they want before and after the child is placed? Who determines how open the adoption will be?

Does the agency have a website or photos and profiles of waiting children (in your state and in other states) that you can view?

If adopting from foster care, is adoption assistance available to help cover the costs of the
child’s medical or emotional needs? Do not finalize an adoption of a child from foster care until you have an adoption assistance agreement in writing from the child’s agency. A fact sheet to review can be found here: www.childwelfare.gov/pubPDFs/f_subsid.pdf.

- In an international adoption, once a family accepts a child, how long will it be before the child can travel to the United States? Is the adopting family required to travel to bring the child home? How long will one or both parents need to stay in the child’s country of origin?

- In an international adoption, is the agency or attorney licensed or Hague Accredited to conduct international adoptions? Do they work with foreign agencies that are licensed or accredited in their own countries?

- What happens if prospective parents do not feel they can accept the child the agency has matched with them?

- What kind of support services does the agency offer to the adoptive family and birth parents before, during, and after placement of the child? Does the agency offer counseling or support groups? What services are available after the adoption is finalized?

- What if the adoption does not work out? Will you be considered for another child?

- Is it possible to talk with families who have adopted through the agency or through the specific program you are interested in? Most agencies will provide names of families who were happy with their adoption experience. Most states maintain complaint files for licensed agencies in the licensing department at their department of human services office. Again, parent support groups are often an excellent resource for evaluations of local agencies.

- Is the agency a non-profit or a for-profit organization? How does the agency allocate its money?

Choose your agency based on their programs and your feelings of comfort and trust in them. After your choice is made, get to know your agency. Subscribe to their newsletter mailing list. Get to know the staff and, in turn, they will feel increasingly more familiar with you.
Adoption Assistance and Other Financial Assistance

There are several sources of financial help available to those who adopt children from foster care. Financial help is more limited for other types of adoption. The following is a list of financial assistance resources.

**Title IV-E Adoption Assistance Program:** Most, though not all, children in the foster care system are eligible for benefits under this program. Other government assistance (i.e. state-funded adoption assistance) may be available for children in the foster care system who do not qualify for Title IV-E benefits.

For an adoptive family to be eligible for reimbursement, the state must have determined that:

- The child should not or cannot be returned to the home of the birth parents.
- There exists a specific factor or condition—such as age, membership in a sibling group, or the presence of physical, mental, or emotional challenges—that makes it reasonable to conclude that the child cannot be placed with adoptive parents without providing adoption assistance.

There are several rules which govern adoption assistance/subsidy agreements:

- The amount of the subsidy is to be determined by the adopting parents and the state agency.
- The agreement must indicate the nature and amount of expenses to be paid.
- There must be no income eligibility requirement for the adopting parents to qualify for payment.
- Reimbursement will not be paid if expenses are reimbursed through another source, such as adoption benefits you receive from your employer.
- The agreement must be signed prior to the final decree of adoption. Obtaining adoption assistance after finalization is very difficult, though it is possible to request assistance retroactively. Parents can appeal a negative decision.
Adoption assistance is a resource to help adoptive parents meet the demands of caring for the special needs of a child adopted from foster care. This agreement may or may not include the following components: a monthly cash stipend, Medicaid, or access to other supportive services.

Most financial assistance is based on the needs of the adopted child, regardless of the family's financial resources, though those resources will be considered when determining the amount of assistance to be provided.

Many children waiting in foster care are eligible for financial assistance.

Assistance may be short-term or may last until the adopted child reaches maturity (age 18 or 21, depending on the state's requirements).

Adoption assistance can come from local, state, or federal funds.

An adopting family must apply for adoption assistance through their county or private agency social worker.

A one-time reimbursement of non-recurring expenses related to the adoption of children in foster care who meet the state's eligibility criteria may be available. In cases where siblings are placed and adopted, either separately or together, each child is treated as an individual and reimbursement of non-recurring expenses is allowable for each child, up to the state's maximum amount. Qualifying expenses may include costs to have the family assessment (home study) completed, costs for undergoing physical health and psychological examinations, court fees, and attorney fees. Reasonable costs associated with transportation, food, and lodging for the child and/or the adoptive parents, when necessary to complete the placement or adoption process, may also be included.

Additional Sources of Financial Assistance for Adoptive Families:

**Federal tax credit.** Since 2003, families who adopted a child with special needs from foster care can claim a federal adoption tax credit. Children who receive adoption assistance/subsidy benefits are considered children with special needs.

*For adoptions finalized in 2020, there is a federal adoption tax credit of up to $14,300 per child. The 2020 adoption tax credit is NOT refundable, which means taxpayers can only use the credit if they have a federal income tax liability. The credit applies one time for each adopted child and should be claimed when taxpayers file taxes for 2020. For more information about the adoption tax credit, visit the IRS website at [www.irs.gov/taxtopics/tc607](http://www.irs.gov/taxtopics/tc607).*

**Employee benefits programs.** Check with your employer to see what benefits they offer for adoptive families.

**Special subsidies for adoptive families in the military.** Explore the National Military Family Association's website at [www.militaryfamily.org/info-resources/adoption/](http://www.militaryfamily.org/info-resources/adoption/) to learn about the benefits and supports available to military families who adopt.
Adoption loans and grants. Various foundations establish grants to help defray the cost of adoption. You can also talk to your banker or credit union about loan options. Visit the National Adoption Foundation’s website at www.fundyouradoption.org for information about their grants and loans.

Lastly, a good place to read and learn about the costs of all types of adoption and resources available to support these expenses is Planning for Adoption: Knowing the Costs and Resources, which can be found at www.childwelfare.gov/pubPDFs/s_costs.pdf.

Raise the Future encourages you to ask your social worker about available subsidies/assistance when adopting any child with special physical, mental, medical, or emotional needs.
“I’m so glad you found me. I had something missing.”

—Malik
Adoption Assistance: Financial or medical assistance can be given on a one-time or ongoing basis to an adoptive parent on behalf of an adopted child. This subsidy may be provided through federal, state, county, and/or local resources. (See Title IV-E.)

Adoption Exchanges: Organizations designed to help identify prospective adoptive parents by sharing information about children for whom an adoptive family is needed. Exchanges also provide advocacy, training, information, and referrals for adoption agencies and adoptive families, as well as post-adoption services.

Adoption Home Study: The process of educating prospective adoptive families about adoption, ensuring that their home would be a safe and appropriate place for a child, and determining what child characteristics would best fit with the family. Home studies are usually done by licensed social workers affiliated with a public or private adoption agency. Independent social workers, adoption attorneys, and other adoption facilitators may also provide this service. A home study is required before a child can be placed for adoption.

Adoption Services: Any activity/procedure designed to facilitate the entire legal process of adoption including intake, pre-placement activities and planning, adoptive placement of the child, post-placement activities, and post-legalization (or post-finalization) services.

Birth Parents: Also called biological parents. This is the preferred term for the parents who gave birth to a child.

Closed Adoption: An adoption in which identifying information about the birth parents and adoptive parents is considered confidential and is not made available. Records containing this confidential information are usually sealed because of state law and/or court order.

Designated Adoption: The birth family selects a specific family to adopt their child either directly or with the aid of a liaison or adoption facilitator. In some states, birth parent counseling is required, and the adopting family must complete an adoption home study.

Disruption: When a child who was placed for adoption is removed from the prospective adoptive home and returned to foster care before the adoption is finalized. Reasons for disruptions vary but are generally the result of some incompatibility between the child and the family. In most cases, the child is eventually placed with another adoptive family.

Finalization: The legal act that establishes a family connection between the adopting person and the adopted person. Usually occurring in a courtroom setting, this act grants rights and responsibilities to the adoptive parent and child equal to those rights and responsibilities granted to families created by birth. Finalization can take place as early as six months after the child is placed in the adoptive home, but it often does not occur until a year or longer after placement.
**Foster-Adopt:** This type of placement is used when the child has a concurrent permanency plan goal of reunification and adoption. The foster parent, who is fully certified as both a foster and adoptive parent, agrees to work with the birth family toward reunification and is committed to adopting the child if reunification efforts fail.

**Foster Parent(s):** Adult(s) who provides a temporary home and everyday nurturing and support for children who have been removed from their homes. The individual(s) may be a relative or nonrelative and is required to be licensed to provide care for children in foster care and to support reunification of the child with their birth family.

**Group Home:** A large foster home licensed to provide care for several children. Some group homes function as family homes with parents who are always available; others have staff members who work at different times along with the group home parents.

**Guardian Ad-Litem (GAL):** A person appointed by the court to represent a child in all court hearings that concern the child. A child's GAL is usually an attorney.

**Hold:** Term used to inform families inquiring about children waiting to be adopted that the child's agency is not interested in receiving inquiries about the child at this time. Reasons for the “hold” vary. The term is also used in reference to prospective families who may be registered with an adoption exchange.

**Independent Adoption:** An adoption that takes place without the involvement of established public or private agencies. This type of adoption may also be called a private adoption and is generally facilitated by an attorney.

**Interstate Compact:** (ICPC) - Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children: This is an agreement between states to coordinate the placement of children for adoption across state lines. The compact guarantees that each state's adoption laws and procedures are met, and the child's placement is properly managed and finalized.

**Matched:** This is the term used when an adoptive family has been selected for a waiting child. In most cases, the family is learning more about the child, but the child has not yet moved into the adoptive home.

**Open Adoption:** An adoption in which there is some interaction between the birth family, adoptive family, and the adopted child. Generally, the adoptive family and the birth family agree to a level and style of communication that is comfortable for both parties and is in the best interest of the child. Communication may be by phone, written correspondence, or personal contact. In a semi-open adoption, contact may be maintained through an intermediary—usually the adoption agency.

**Placement:** A child may have had numerous out-of-home placements after a social services agency has determined that the child is not safe in their current home. The agency may place a child with relatives, in emergency shelters, foster homes, group homes, residential treatment centers, or psychiatric hospitals. This term is also used to refer to the day when a child moves into an adoptive home (i.e., placement day).
Post-Legal Adoption Services: Services provided by an adoption agency to the adopted person, the adoptive parents, and/or the birth parents after an adoption has been legally finalized. These services may include counseling, support groups, and respite care.

Post-Placement: The period between the date a child moves into the adoptive family home and finalization of the adoption. A variety of post-placement activities may be offered by an adoption agency to an adoptive family, such as counseling, referrals, support, and visits by a social worker.

Purchase of Service: A contract between two agencies whereby the agency having custody of the child pays the agency working on behalf of the adoptive family for recruitment, placement, and post-placement services.

Receiving Home/Shelter Care: A licensed foster home that is prepared to take children immediately after they have been removed from their birth home. Receiving homes keep children for a short period of time, generally no more than 90 days. If a child cannot return home within that period, they will be moved to a regular or specialized foster home that is prepared to meet their needs.

Relinquishment: The voluntary act of transferring legal rights of the care, custody, and control of a child and any benefits, which, by law, would flow to or from the child—such as inheritance—to another family. An adoption agency or lawyer must work with the court system to make a relinquishment legal (See Termination of Parental Rights).

Residential Child Care Facility / Residential Treatment Center (RCCF/RTC): A facility that provides care for more than 10 children. May also refer to a residential treatment center where housing, meals, schooling, medical care, and recreation are provided onsite. Therapists, counselors, and teachers are trained to meet the needs of children with emotional and behavioral problems who live at the facility.

Respite Care: The assumption of daily caregiving responsibilities on a temporary basis. Usually designed as a 24-hours-a-day option to provide parents or other caregivers temporary relief from the responsibilities of caring for a child.

Termination of Parental Rights (TPR): Legal action taken by a judge to terminate the parent-child relationship. This action ends the rights of a parent to the care, custody, and control of a child and to any benefits, which, by law, would flow to or from the child, such as inheritance. When the parental rights of both birth parents have been legally relinquished or terminated, the child is considered legally free for adoption.

Therapeutic Foster Home: May also be called a treatment foster home. A foster home where the parents have special training to care for children with significant emotional and behavior problems.

Title IV-E: The Title IV-E Adoption Assistance Program is a federal program that provides assistance to families adopting qualifying children from foster care. Resources through this program are distributed to adoptive families by each state.
Transracial Adoption: When a child of one race or ethnic group is placed with adoptive parents of another race or ethnic group.

Waiting Child: Term used to identify a child–usually in the foster care system–who is waiting for adoption. These children generally are of school age, members of a sibling group, children of color, and/or have physical, mental/cognitive, and emotional problems that may be the result of experiences of abuse and neglect.
Adoption & Related Child Welfare Websites

**AdoptUSKids**  
www.adoptuskids.org  
AdoptUSKids provides the following services:

- On-site and off-site technical assistance for public and tribal child welfare agencies
- A national public awareness outreach campaign
- A toll-free information and referral line
- A full-service website with photo listings of waiting children and a database of home studied, potential adoptive families
- Support for foster and adoptive families
- Evaluation and research

**Academy of Adoption & Assisted Reproduction Attorneys**  
https://adoptionart.org/  
This site includes reform of adoption laws and dissemination of information on adoption ethics.

**Child Welfare Information Gateway**  
www.childwelfare.gov  
This site is the nation’s #1 source of comprehensive information about adoption.

**Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption**  
www.davethomasfoundation.org  
The purpose of this site is to help the thousands of waiting children throughout the United States find permanent homes and loving families.

**North American Council on Adoptable Children**  
www.nacac.org  
Highlights of this site include adoptive parent support groups, adoption subsidy information, and federal adoption tax credit.

**CBS4 Denver**  
https://denver.cbslocal.com/category/wednesdays-child/  
View Wednesday's Child video clips for children featured in Colorado.

**KSNV News 3 Las Vegas**  
https://news3lv.com/sponsored/wednesdays-child  
View Wednesday's Child video clips for children featured in Southern Nevada.

**KSL5 TV Salt Lake City**  
https://www.ksl.com/?nid=1291  
View Wednesday's Child video clips for children featured in Utah.
“Getting adopted is like sitting down after standing up for a long time.”

—Former youth in foster care