



North American Council on Adoptable Children

2015 Annual Report

Accomplishments

For more than 40 years, NACAC has promoted and supported permanent families for children and youth in the U.S. and Canada who have been in care—especially those who are or who have been in foster care and those with special needs. Our focus is adoption support, parent and youth development, policy advocacy, and education and information sharing. Below are highlights of our accomplishments in 2015.

Adoption Support

Adoption Subsidy Resource Center

- Through training, one-on-one targeted support, and information sharing, NACAC provided more than 10,000 individuals with information that increased children's chances of receiving needed adoption assistance or adoption tax credit benefits.
- In Alabama and three other states, NACAC helped improve adoption assistance policies. In Alabama, we helped administrators expand the pool of children and families who would be eligible for needed support.

Adoption Support Network

- Through one-on-one peer support, private Facebook groups, and more than 20 in-person groups, more than 1,300 Minnesota adoptive parents received emotional support, learned how to meet their children's needs, improved family stability, and built connections with one another.
- Dozens of children and youth participated in support groups where they built connections with peers and learned more about themselves and adoption.

AdoptUSKids Family Support Team

- In 2015, under the AdoptUSKids project, NACAC distributed *Support Matters*, a publication to inform state, tribal, and territorial leaders about how to best support adoptive, foster, and kinship families. Staff also provided training to several hundred members of the adoption, foster care, and kinship care community about the value of providing support, how to assess families' needs, and model programs supporting children and their families.
- NACAC also guided hundreds of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender prospective parents as they sought to welcome a child to their family through foster care or adoption.



“I've said it before — I think the support and help we got from this (group) made our adoption possible when it felt like we were drowning & way out of our depth. So grateful to all of you!!”

Parent and Youth Development

Community Champions Network

- In 2015, NACAC helped more than 40 parent group leaders to start adoption support groups or enhance the post-adoption services their groups provide to families. We also trained 30 parent group leaders and supported the launch of two foster/adoptive parent associations.
- More than 35 youth leaders were informed and empowered to create and enhance support and advocacy networks to benefit other children and youth in foster care and adoption. We helped 10 groups either create or expand their youth support services.

“You are caring and compassionate, professional and competent. Always there to answer questions, always there to research needed information. ... I know that you don't hear this nearly enough, but I and countless other foster and adoptive children and parents truly appreciate you; for without you, WHERE WOULD WE BE?”

Policy Advocacy

Advocates for Families First

- As part of our collaboration with the National Foster Parent Association and Generations United, NACAC met with more than 24 members of Congress to edu-

— 2015 Accomplishments continue on back page —

Income & Expenses

Income

Foundation/Corporate Grants & Contributions . . .	\$694,834
Government Grants and Contracts	\$179,143
Contracts	\$97,344
Conference	\$259,251
Membership Fees	\$52,608
Miscellaneous	\$4,279
Total Income	\$1,287,459

Expenses

Community Champions Network	\$267,755
Public Education (includes conference)	\$241,909
Advocates for Families First	\$219,733
Adoption Support Network	\$164,889
Adoption Subsidy/Tax Credit Resource Center	\$88,014
AdoptUSKids Family Support	\$66,005
Public Policy Education and Advocacy	\$28,887
Management	\$186,955
Fundraising	\$63,102
Total Expenses	\$1,327,249

Balance

Excess of Income over Expenses	-\$39,790
Net Assets—January 1, 2015	\$102,799
Net Assets—December 31, 2015	\$63,009
Total Assets—December 31, 2015	\$222,808



Major Funders

- Adoption Exchange Association (AdoptUSKids, a service of the Children's Bureau)
- Annie E. Casey Foundation
- The Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption
- Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative
- The Jockey Being Family® Foundation
- Jockey International
- Los Angeles County Department of Child and Family Services
- Minnesota Department of Human Services

NACAC is grateful to all of those individuals and organizations who donated to us in 2015! We couldn't do what we do without you.

cate them about the importance of placing children in prepared and supported kinship, foster, and adoptive families.

- The partnership provided training to more than 300 leaders to enhance their capacity to support and advocate for kinship, foster, and adoptive families, and shared resources on key issues in adoption, foster care and kinship care with more than 1,500 advocates.
- Advocates for Families First also supported coalitions in three states to help local leaders coordinate and advance advocacy for adoptive, foster, and kinship care families.



Policy Education and Advocacy

- As part of the Adoption Tax Credit Working Group, NACAC continued to lobby Congress to pass a refundable tax credit to ensure lower- and middle-income families benefit from the adoption credit.
- NACAC also continued to advocates for federal and state funding for post-adoption services, and partners with Voice for Adoption to educate members of Congress about key issues in permanency and adoption.

“Hugs to you through the e-mail..... Thank you so much! I knew you’d be able to help! I so appreciate what you do to support adoptive parents!!!”

Education and Information Sharing

NACAC Conference

- At the 41st annual NACAC conference in Long Beach, California more than 800 adoptive parents, child welfare professionals, and others learned how to better parent their children and improve outcomes for children, youth, and families touched by adoption.

Other Training

- In webinars and in-person trainings across the U.S. and Canada, NACAC helped thousands of adoptive parents and adoption professionals increase their knowledge of adoption-related topics such as trauma, parent group development, adoption assistance, core issues in adoption, and adoption competence.

Public Education

- NACAC provided hundreds of prospective adopters with information to help them successfully navigate the adoption process.
- More than 20,000 members of the adoption community received parenting strategies, policy updates, child welfare practice tips, and other resources through *Adoptalk*, NACAC’s website, the electronic newsletter News from NACAC, and Facebook.

“I loved this conference — I learned so much and found ‘community’ with others who are passionate too! Thanks so much!”



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on Adoptable Children**
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