



## About National Adoption Day



National Adoption Day is a collective effort to raise awareness of the more than 108,000 children waiting to be adopted from foster care in the United States.

A coalition of national partners – the [Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption](#), [Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute](#), [Alliance for Children's Rights](#) and [Children's Action Network](#) – founded National Adoption Day.

On November 18, 2000, the coalition and the Freddie Mac Foundation encouraged nine cities to open their courts on or around the Saturday before Thanksgiving to finalize and celebrate adoptions from foster care.

The first National Adoption Day was inspired by the innovative efforts of Michael Nash, a former presiding judge of Los Angeles County's Juvenile Court. He opened the court on Saturdays, engaged the volunteer efforts of court personnel and finalized adoptions to reduce the backlog of one of the busiest courts in the nation.

Policymakers, practitioners and advocates have collaborated to plan these annual events in **400 cities across the United States.**



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Every year, nearly 20,000 children age out of foster care without the safety net of a permanent, loving home. They are at a much higher risk for negative outcomes like homelessness and unemployment, which can happen to a child who can't go home and say, 'I need some help.' Collaboration among adoption professionals, judges and child welfare advocates is essential during National Adoption Day and year-round to find children still waiting in foster care the forever families they deserve.

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**Rita Soronen, President & CEO**  
Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption

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### Events

Visit [nationaladoptionday.org](http://nationaladoptionday.org) to register or find an event, and access brand and planning resources

### Media

Send inquiries to [news@davethomasfoundation.org](mailto:news@davethomasfoundation.org)

### Foster Care Adoption

Access FAQs, research, stories of impact and other resources to support the adoption journey at [davethomasfoundation.org](http://davethomasfoundation.org)

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**Thank you for sharing  
our belief that every child  
deserves a permanent  
home and a loving family.**