

Monthly Calendar

January 2023 Events and Programs

ADULT ADOPTEES, BIRTH PARENTS & DNA DISCOVERIES

General Discussion Meetings

Support and discussion groups for adult adoptees, birth parents, siblings, adoptive parents, prospective parents, professionals, and anyone interested in exploring the lifelong journey of adoption. Individuals from any location are encouraged to join. All meeting times are shown in Eastern Time. Meetings are held via Zoom and registration is required to receive the meeting link. For more information on General Discussion Meetings and a list of upcoming special topics, please visit our website at <http://bit.ly/GDMatANC>.

General Discussion Meeting Dates (Virtual)

Jan. 5, 7:00 – 9:00 PM ET led by facilitators Linda & Jim

Jan. 10, 7:00 - 8:30 PM ET led by facilitators Marni & Mindy

Jan. 11, 7:00 - 9:00 PM ET led by facilitators Kim & Denice

Jan. 19, 7:00 - 9:00 PM ET led by facilitators Dottie & Estes*

Jan. 26, 8:00 - 10:00 PM ET led by facilitators Barbara & Dan

General Discussion Meeting: Special Topic, Identity as a Core Issue with Dottie & Estes* (Virtual)

Thursday, Jan. 19, 7:00-9:00 pm ET

As a lifelong intergenerational journey, adoption affects an individual's identity. Adoptees may feel as though their identity is incomplete, as if they are missing some pieces of their puzzle. Late discovery adoptees and those with misappropriated parentage may wonder who they are when not genetically the child of their parent of experience. Transracial adoptees may wonder what it means to be Asian, Black, Latino, or multiracial in a sea of White faces. Adoptive, foster and kinship parents may not feel entitled to the parent identity for not being a child's birth/first parent. Birth/first parents may be unsure of their role in their child's life since they are not actively parenting the child day to day. The losses in adoption and permanency create complexities for all constellation members that need to be addressed to achieve a healthy identity.

How has adoption impacted your identity?

To Register for Any Program on this Page:
<http://bit.ly/CalendarANC>.

Birth Mother Support Group (Virtual) Wednesday, Dec. 7, 7:00-9:00 PM ET

Our Birth Mother Support Group provides a safe and supportive environment to help with the complexities that are often part of the adoption experience. The meetings are open to birth mothers connected by the lifelong journey of adoption and are an opportunity for birth mothers to encourage one another in their healing process through discussion and interaction. Birth mothers who have experienced closed adoptions or adoptions with varying degrees of openness attend this meeting. We invite you to join this group of women, who are at different places on the same journey, to give and receive understanding and support. The group is facilitated by Lindsey and Nikki.

DNA Discovery Support Group (Virtual) Tuesday, Jan. 3, 8:00-10:00 pm ET

If you have either found family using commercial DNA testing or been found by family who used commercial DNA testing (examples of commercial DNA testing are Ancestry.com, Family Tree DNA, 23&Me, My Heritage, etc.) then this is the group for you. You do not need to have a formal adoption connection to be in this group, but you do need to have a DNA discovery for this group to be relevant to you. Finding family, or being found - whether you are looking or not - is a major life event. It can upend long-held beliefs about ourselves and challenge the very things that make us feel like, well..., ourselves. This group will focus on supporting each other during and after such DNA discoveries. These are not one time events; they are lifelong journeys. This peer support group is not meant to delve into the technical aspects of understanding your DNA results, but rather serve as additional support on your personal journey to integrate your DNA findings into your life. The focus of this group is on the emotional journey, and not the technical aspects of DNA results or the interpretation of results.

FAMILIES & YOUTH

Family Ties Monthly Gathering & Teen TEA (In-person)

Thursday, Jan. 12, 6:00-7:30 PM

Join us for dinner followed by time for parents/caregivers to discuss hot topics, parent education concerns, receive peer support and suggest resources, and more while children under 11 years of age are cared for by staff and trusted volunteers.

This program welcomes adoptive, kinship, and foster families with children of all ages the second Thursday of every month. We will start at 6:00 PM with a potluck dinner. Families are encouraged to bring something to share, but it is not required.

Teens ages 11+ will meet separately after dinner for Teen TEA, our monthly teen group that provides a safe place for youth to share their truth, advocate for and support one another, and learn more about themselves.

Register on our calendar: <http://bit.ly/CalendarANC>

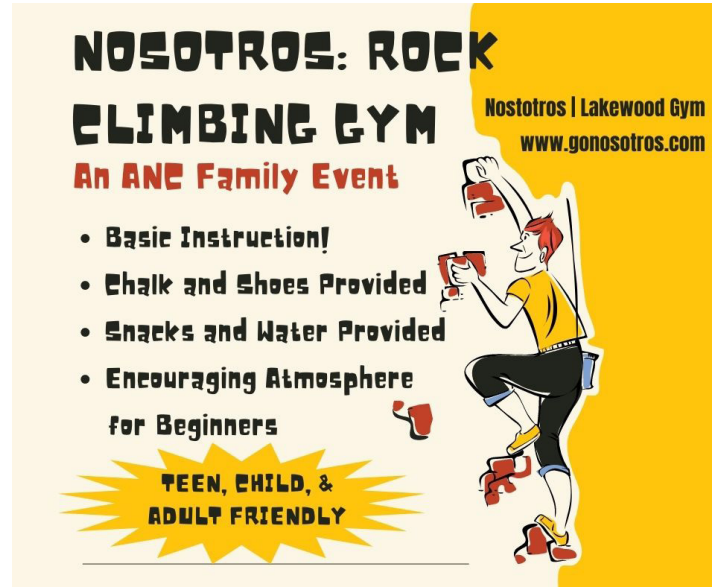
Family Social Outing - NOSOTROS: Rock Climbing Gym

Sunday, Jan. 17, 2:00 - 4:00 PM

Register by Jan. 23rd

For Details and/or to Register:

<http://bit.ly/CalendarANC>



NOSOTROS: ROCK CLIMBING GYM
An ANC Family Event

Nostotros | Lakewood Gym
www.gonosotros.com

- Basic Instruction!
- Chalk and Shoes Provided
- Snacks and Water Provided
- Encouraging Atmosphere for Beginners

TEEN, CHILD, & ADULT FRIENDLY

The poster features a cartoon illustration of a person in a yellow shirt and black pants climbing a red rock formation. A red cup is shown falling from the climber's hand. The background is yellow with a starburst effect around the text 'TEEN, CHILD, & ADULT FRIENDLY'.

FOR ALL

Monday Evening Speaker Series: Intergenerational Trauma in the BIPOC Community ~ Identity & Attachment Impact (Virtual)

Monday, Jan. 9, 7:00-9:00 PM ET
presented by Dee Dee Mascareñas

Join Dee Dee as she explores the impact of intergenerational trauma as a result of external wounding experiences such as racism as well as internal family history of trauma on the development of identity and attachment in the BIPOC community.

Tools and interventions to assist in reducing the negative impact of these challenges will also be discussed. An open Q&A session will follow the formal presentation.

Registration is required to receive the link for this virtual program. <https://bit.ly/CalendarANC>.

Adoption Network Cleveland
12200 Fairhill Road, Floor A3
Cleveland, Ohio 44120
216) 325-1000
www.adoptionnetwork.org

Monday Evening Speaker Series: Intersections of the Adoptee, Donor-Conceived, and DNA Discovery Communities (Virtual)

Monday, Jan. 23, 8:00-9:00 PM ET
presented by Marci Purcell and Cassandra Adams

It is no secret that social media comes with a myriad of positives and negatives. Foremost it creates opportunities to forge friendships and gather allies to a cause. Join us for an informal conversation with Marci Purcell and Cassandra Adams about the intersections of the adoptee, donor-conceived, and DNA discovery communities. We will discuss the similarities and differences in our experiences and communities, what brings us together and the tropes that continue to plague us as we dialogue, and finally how to best support one another as we move forward, both personally and legislatively.

Registration is required to receive the link for this virtual program. <https://bit.ly/CalendarANC>.