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Adoption Network Cleveland to Host 26th Annual Birthmother's Day Ceremony
Organization offers a community of support for birthmothers on Mother's Day weekend

Cleveland, OH (April 25, 2019) – As Mother's Day quickly approaches, we want to acknowledge the birthmothers who have placed or lost a child to adoption. The Birthmother's Day Ceremony provides the opportunity to honor and recognize all birthmothers. Adoption Network Cleveland will host the 26th Annual Birthmother's Day Ceremony on Saturday, May 11th from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at the Independence Civic Center.

In 1990, a group of Seattle birthmothers decided to break their silence and stop suffering in isolation. They organized a Birthmother's Day Ceremony and held it on the eve of Mother's Day. Their purpose was to recognize both the significance of being a birthmother and to congregate to affirm their motherhood. To this day, Birthmother's Day is recognized by adoption organizations around the country.

Although Adoption Network's ceremony was originally inspired by the format of the Seattle group, our ceremony has beautifully evolved into our own over the years in Cleveland. Since 1993, Adoption Network has held the event every year, making the ceremony the longest continuous annual observation of the Birthmother's Day Ceremony in the country.

"The ceremony touches each one of us in a very personal way. It also touches others who come to support or to learn more about the emotions involved in being birthmothers," says Jeanne Hood, birthmother. "Each one of us handles our pain differently and Adoption Network Cleveland's Birthmother's Day Ceremony is an important part of that healing process."

The program is free and open to the public; however, registration is required. To register, birthmothers and their supporters can contact Deborah Wentz at deborah.wentz@adoptionnetwork.org, (216) 482-2327 or visit our website. To learn more about our 26th Annual Birthmother's Day Ceremony or to register, please visit: https://www.adoptionnetwork.org/news-events/our-calendar.html/event/2019/05/11/birthmother-s-day-ceremony/228480

For media, we kindly request interviews to be arranged with birthmothers before or after event or by phone. Please contact Katelyn Gainer, communications manager at (216) 482-2323 or Katelyn.Gainer@AdoptionNetwork.org prior to the event to arrange interviews or receive photos.

About Adoption Network Cleveland

Adoption Network Cleveland is an innovative non-profit organization that fulfills otherwise unmet needs for information, advocacy, education and support for members of the adoption (adoptees, birthparents, and adoptive/kinship parents) and foster care community and related professionals. Adoption Network Cleveland is a member of Greater Cleveland Community Shares.

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