

Monthly Calendar

April 2021 Events and Programs

ADULT ADOPTEE & BIRTHPARENT

General Discussion Meetings

Support and discussion groups for adult adoptees, birthparents, siblings, adoptive parents, prospective parents, professionals, and anyone interested in exploring the lifelong journey of adoption. April meetings will be virtual. Individuals from any location are encouraged to join. All meeting times are shown in Eastern Time. Preregistration is required. Visit our website calendar and click on the date of your choice to register at <http://bit.ly/CalendarANC>.

For more information on General Discussion Meetings and a list of upcoming special topics, please visit our website at <http://bit.ly/GDMatANC>. Please note that our April 14 meeting will have a special topic: *Reflecting on our Life Choices: Heredity or Environment*.

Virtual General Discussion Meeting Dates

- April 1, 7-9 p.m. (ET) led by facilitators Linda & Elaine
- April 6, 8-10 p.m. (ET) DNA Discovery Support Group led by facilitators Becky & Oliver
- April 13, 7-8:30 p.m. (ET) led by facilitators Marni & Mindy
- April 14, 7-9 p.m. (ET) led by facilitators Kim & Denice, **Special Topic: Reflecting on our Life Choices: Heredity or Environment?**
- April 15, 7-9 p.m. (ET) led by facilitators Dottie & Estes
- April 22, 8-10 p.m. (ET) led by facilitators Barbara & Dan

FAMILIES & YOUTH

Family Ties Program

This program includes a monthly group where adoptive, kinship, and foster families meet, share experiences, and learn from each other and featured presenters. To find out more: <http://bit.ly/FamilyTiesatANC>.

PARENT GROUP (Virtual)

Thursday, April 8, 6:00-7:30 p.m. ET

Our discussion this month will include a conversation on how to find your parent squad. The people in your parent squad are the ones who you can call to pick up the kids when you're stuck at work, or share a pint of ice cream after a rough day. Join us on Zoom to learn, share, and give and receive support. Registration required: <https://bit.ly/CalendarANC>

YOUTH GROUP (Virtual):

Tuesday, April 13, 6:00 p.m. ET - Girl Code

Wednesday, April 28, 6:00 p.m. ET - Guy Code

Virtual opportunities for youth ages 11-18 to meet online with peers in a facilitated conversation will be provided for boys (Guy Code) and girls (Girl Code) separately. For more information and the link to access the meetings, contact Danielle Gibson at danielle.gibson@adoptionnetwork.org.

Donuts with Donikea and Danielle (Virtual) Every Tuesday Morning at 8:30 a.m. ET

Every Tuesday from 8:30-9:30 a.m. Donikea and Danielle will be providing a safe space for adoptive, kinship and foster parents to drop-in with questions and conversation. Register to get the link on our calendar: <https://bit.ly/CalendarANC>

Weaving Cultures Transracial Adoptive Family Group - Parent Group (Virtual)

Tuesday, April 20, 8:00-9:30 p.m. ET

Weaving Cultures is for families who have been formed through transracial adoption. Join other transracial adoptive parents for a virtual get-together. This will be an opportunity for parents to talk, share, and learn from each other. The meeting this month will be an open forum, bring any topics or questions you want to discuss or just come to listen and build community. This meeting will be virtual using ZOOM. Register through our calendar:

<https://bit.ly/CalendarANC>

Programs are provided free unless otherwise noted. All programs will continue to be offered virtually during April.



This is Us - A Facilitated Discussion (Virtual)

Monday, April 19, 8:00-9:00 p.m. ET

NBC's hit show "This is Us" has gained a following in the adoption community. Over the last several years, the show has highlighted many of the complex issues around adoption and race. Adoption Network Cleveland invites you to join us for a facilitated discussion. Everyone is invited to attend and share their perspective. The discussion will be facilitated by Barbara Robertson, LMSW and Ohio-born, New York adoptee, and Krysia Orłowski, writer, professor, and transracial adoptive parent.

To find out more and to register on our calendar:

<https://bit.ly/CalendarANC>



Adoption Network Cleveland is pleased to offer another session of our popular Monday Evening Speaker Series! Upcoming Sessions include:

Monday, April 12, 2021, 8-9 p.m. ET

The Trouble with Love - Adoptee Style with Ron Nydam

The wound of relinquishment may have a great deal of influence on the romantic attraction that adoptees sometimes experience. "Why do we marry the people we marry?" "How is it that romantic attraction leads us to one person and not to another?" Ron Nydam will dive into the topic and discuss whether the injury of relinquishment becomes the guiding point that informs adoptees concerning the way in which their love lives actually play out. This very unconscious process is key to a deeper understanding of why we love the way we love and shines a light on why many adoptees make unconscious choices "falling in love" that reflect an unfinished personal struggle with the impacts of relinquishment. It is precisely what we do not know about ourselves that gets us in the most trouble.

Updates to our Monday Evening Speaker Series schedule are ongoing. Check back for additions to April, May, and June. For more information on the series, to register for sessions, and to listen to recordings of past sessions: <http://bit.ly/ANCMondays21>

The Trauma of Relinquishment - Adoption, Addiction, and Beyond

An interview with Dr. Gabor Maté (Virtual)

Friday, April 16, 1-2:30 p.m. ET

We are pleased to be partnering with the OLLIE Foundation in the UK to present this special online event. Zara Phillips is an author, singer-songwriter, and adoption advocate. Zara will be discussing the trauma of relinquishment and the impact on addiction issues with Dr. Gabor Maté. A renowned speaker, and bestselling author, Dr. Gabor Maté is highly sought after for his expertise on a range of topics including addiction, stress, and childhood development. Rather than offering quick-fix solutions to these complex issues, Dr. Maté weaves together scientific research, case histories, and his own insights and experience to present a broad perspective that enlightens and empowers people to promote their own healing and that of those around them.

This presentation will be of interest to anyone with lived experience of and/or working in the fields of relinquishment, trauma, addiction, recovery, adoption, and child welfare. A small donation to The OLLIE Foundation is required to register, however, no one will be turned away due to the inability to donate. Tickets can be found on Eventbrite at: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-trauma-of-relinquishment-adoption-addiction-and-beyond-tickets-143997421163>.