

Monthly Calendar

June 2025 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. We believe adoption is a complex, lifelong, and intergenerational journey for all those whose lives are impacted by it. These meetings connect and empower individuals impacted by adoption, kinship, foster care, and DNA Discoveries and provide a source of healing, understanding, and learning.

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.

General Discussion Meeting Dates: (Virtual unless noted otherwise)

June 5, Thurs., 7-9 PM led by JJ & Rosemary

June 12, Thurs., 7-9 PM led by Kim & Denice

June 19, Thurs., 7-9 PM led by Dottie & Victoria

June 26, Thurs., 8-10 PM led by Barbara & Dan

IN-PERSON "The Adoption Journey: Impact on Individuals and Their Support Systems"

Monday, June 9, 6:30-8:30 PM ET

In-person General Discussion Meeting facilitated by Amy and Kim at our new office! ([2592 W. 14th St. Cleveland, OH 44113](https://www.anc.org/2592-w-14th-st-cleveland-oh-44113)). The adoption journey affects not only the individuals directly involved but also their families, friends, and broader support networks. We'll examine how those with close connections navigate their roles, offer support, and manage their own unique experiences and emotions throughout the process. This in-person discussion is open to all. Invite a support person to join you or come on your own. Please register individually.

Register at <http://bit.ly/CalendarANC>.

DNA Discovery Support Group (Virtual) Tuesday, June 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. Facilitated by Becky and Oliver.

Birth Mother Support Group (Virtual) Wednesday, June 4, 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. Facilitated by Lindsey and Nikki.

NEW Transnational Adoptee Support Group (Virtual)

Tuesday, June 10, 7:00-9:00 PM ET

The Transnational Adoptee Support Group Meetings will offer a safe space for transnational adoptees to explore the challenges and lifelong experiences shaped by adoption across borders. These group discussions aim to foster a sense of community, allowing us to share our stories and support one another in our unique experiences. Transnational adoptees face distinct challenges, including cultural and language loss, legal complexities related to citizenship and identity, and the unique challenges in birth family search and reunion transnationally. We ask that only transnational adoptees attend. Facilitated by Sandi and Svetlana.

Register at <http://bit.ly/CalendarANC>.

Adoption 101: Where Do I Begin?

Sat., June 7, 9 AM-12 PM ET, Virtual

Considering becoming a parent or expanding a family through adoption can be both exciting and overwhelming. There is so much information available about adoption that people often ask, "Where do I begin?" Adoption 101 is a workshop intended for people looking into adoption for the first time.

TopGolf Family Social

Sun., June 8, 1:00-3:00 PM, In-Person
5829 Rockside Woods Blvd. Independence

Join us for an afternoon of a high-tech golf game that everyone can enjoy. No experience necessary. Experience the thrill of hitting golf balls at giant targets, all tracked by Toptracer technology for real-time feedback and scoring. Clubs are provided and drinks are included.

Family Ties Monthly Gathering

Thurs., June 12, 6-7:30 PM ET, In-Person
Bedford Heights Daycare

Summer Location! Bedford Heights Daycare. Join us on the 2nd Thursday of each month for dinner followed by breakout sessions for parents, young children, and teens. Parents and caregivers will have an opportunity to discuss parenting topics in a supportive environment with others who understand.

NAMI Family Support Group

Mon., June 16, 6:30-8:00 PM ET, Virtual

In partnership with NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness), this Family Support Group is peer-led and intended for parents and caregivers of children and youth (18 and under) who are experiencing behavioral or mental health symptoms.

Transracial Adoptive Parent Support

Thurs., June 19, 12:00-1:00 PM ET, Virtual

Adoption Network Cleveland and Transracial Journeys hold a co-hosted monthly support groups for parents who have adopted children outside of their own race, aiming to provide an intentionally structured and supportive space where parents can hear from leaders with lived expertise and come together to share their experiences, challenges, and successes in raising transracially adopted persons.

Swings-N-Things Family Social

Sat., June 28, 1:00-3:00 PM, In-Person
8501 Stearns Rd. Olmsted Township, OH

Join us for a day of unlimited fun! Includes unlimited go-karts, miniature golf, bumper boats, outdoor laser tag, and kids korner.

Register for all programs at <http://bit.ly/CalendarANC>.

ALL

The Adoption Paradox - Putting Adoption in Perspective with Jean Widner (Virtual)

Monday, June 16, 8:00-9:00 PM ET

In this conversation, Jean shares her own story and how that lead her to write her upcoming book The Adoption Paradox. She interviewed nearly 100 people from all portions of the adoption triad along with experts, allies and also those impacted by or working in the foster care system.

Adoption Promises Broken: Legal and Policy Failures Impacting Abandoned Adoptees with Dawn J. Post, Esq. (Virtual)

Monday, June 23, 8:00-9:00 PM ET

This presentation explores the often-overlooked consequences of broken adoptions, domestic and intercountry, when adoptive families relinquish, abandon, or institutionalize children they once committed to parent by drawing from legal casework, policy work, systemic data, and lived experiences.

Monday Evening Speaker Series

A Conversation with Deborah Jiang-Stein, author of *Lucky Tomorrow* (In-Person)

Tuesday, June 24, 7:00-8:30 PM ET

Westlake Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Rd. Westlake, OH 44145

Join us IN-PERSON for a powerful conversation with *Lucky Tomorrow* author Deborah Jiang-Stein and moderator Betsie Norris of Adoption Network Cleveland. Explore themes of family separation, reunification, and mental health through unforgettable stories of resilience and hope.

Register for all programs at <http://bit.ly/CalendarANC>.

All programs are free of charge unless otherwise noted.