

Monthly Calendar

May 2020 Events and Programs

ADULT ADOPTEE AND BIRTHPARENT HUB

General Discussion Meetings

Support and discussion groups for adult adoptees, birthparents, siblings, adoptive parents, prospective parents, professionals and anyone interested in learning about the lifelong journey of adoption. May meetings will be virtual. Individuals from any location are encouraged to join. Please note that 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 www.adoptionnetwork.org. Meeting info at bit.ly/generalmtgs.

Virtual General Discussion Meeting Dates

May 7, 7-9 p.m. (ET) led by our Rocky River facilitators

May 12, 7-8:30 p.m. (ET) led by our Columbus facilitators

May 21, 7-9 p.m. (ET) led by our Cleveland Heights facilitators

May 28, 8-10 p.m. (ET) led by our Virtual Meeting facilitators

*Adoption Network Cleveland programs are provided free unless otherwise noted.

FAMILY & YOUTH HUB

Family Ties Parent & Youth Group

Thursday, May 14, 6:00 p.m. (Virtual)

A monthly group where families meet and share experiences and learn from each other and featured presenters. During social distancing, our Parent group will be offered virtually.

PARENT TOPIC: Why Taking Time to Care for Ourselves is Important To find out more info, contact Donikea Austin at donikea.austin@adoptionnetwork.org.

Certificate of attendance available.

YOUTH GROUP: Virtual opportunities for youth to meet online will be offered in May. To find out more, contact Danielle Gibson at danielle.gibson@adoptionnetwork.org

More info at bit.ly/FamilyTiesANC

Family Ties Parent Advisory Team

Tuesday, May 5, 6:15-7:15 p.m.

The PAT meets every month to discuss planning for future group meetings, special events and to develop opportunities for growth for families. If you are interested in becoming a member of PAT, contact Donikea Austin at donikea.austin@adoptionnetwork.org

Announcing Creating Futures: Home Edition

Our annual fundraising event is going virtual! Join us on May 29 from 7-9 p.m. for a virtual interactive fundraising event to support the programs and services of Adoption Network Cleveland. Find out more at: bit.ly/CreatingFutures2020

Foster, Adoptive and Kinship Parent Trainings

Ohio Child Welfare Training Program

All trainings are on hold during the Stay-at-Home order. Please stay tuned for future offerings, including online trainings.

Transracial Adoptive Family Group

Time and Location TBD

Weaving Cultures, a group for families formed through transracial adoption, offers a setting where children and adults can form relationships and spend time with others who share similar experiences. Virtual connections and learning opportunities may be available during social distancing.

More info at bit.ly/WeavingCulturesANC

Adoption 101: Where Do I Begin? Workshop

Saturday, May 30, 9:00-11:00 a.m. (Virtual)

Many couples and individuals hoping to become parents or to expand their families look to adoption.

This endeavor can be both exciting and overwhelming. This workshop will provide a realistic overview of the adoption process and key decisions, including types of adoption, choosing an adoption provider and financing. Adoption Network Cleveland is a neutral source of information, as we are not an adoption agency facilitating any certain type of adoption. *Small Fee

More info and to register: bit.ly/ANC101



FOR ALL



MONDAY EVENING SPEAKER SERIES

Adoption Network Cleveland

Adoption Network Cleveland is a leader in bringing the adoption community together to create a network of support and advocacy. In this critical and uncertain time for all of us, we are pleased to offer a Monday Evening Speaker Series full of topics that are of interest to a wide audience impacted by adoption, kinship, and foster care. The series will be offered on Monday evenings during the month of April to start. Please join us for this free virtual series.

Monday, May 4, 8-9 p.m. ET

Beyond ACEs: Understanding Trauma, the Brain, and Building Resilience with Dr. Jennifer King

Decades of research have established that traumatic experiences have the potential to impact our physical and mental well-being in incredibly detrimental ways. However, with an understanding of some basic principles of neurobiology and development, we can see how relationally healthy experiences have the potential to buffer us against these negative impacts. In this session, we will explore the connection between trauma, the brain, and relationships, and consider the 'why' behind commonly recommended strategies for regulation and self-soothing.

Monday, May 11, 8-9 p.m. ET

Exploring Racism and How to Prevent It with Moses Farrow

Racism is not new to those of us who have been transracially adopted. And it didn't just start with the outbreak of COVID-19. It's never an easy topic to discuss, but a necessary one to address at any time. With the outpouring of headlines of attacks against Asian Americans, Moses Farrow welcomes this opportunity to add the adoption perspective to this issue and offer his views on mental health, resilience, and empowerment for both victims and bystanders. Participants are invited to this discussion to explore the surge in racism and what we can do together to prevent it from reoccurring in future generations.

Monday, May 18, 8-9 p.m. ET

Welcome to the House of Mirrors: The Importance of Preparing for Reunion with Leslie Pate Mackinnon

One aspect of reunion that "almost" everyone shares, is the ability to see oneself, in the other. Adoptees have often felt something was missing, but meeting birthparents for the first time, frequently changes that perception. Today, with DNA and access to records, we locate kin in a few hours instead of a few years. Because folks are connecting more quickly, it is even more important to prepare for a variety of feelings, which you likely have never even considered as part of reunion. While reunion is not for the faint of heart, it always preferable than not knowing.

Monday, May 25, 8-9:30 p.m. ET

From a Place of Love - special screening of the documentary and Q&A with director David Bynum

With the age of 60 on the horizon filmmaker David Bynum set out on a journey of discovery to find his biological family. After 58 years of not knowing where his true roots were or any family history, the need to search became overpowering and prompted him to begin his journey. In "From A Place Of Love" you will accompany David on his quest to find the answers to the questions he had been carrying with him his whole life. The Film is told by the people who assisted him along the way. This session will not be recorded.

To Register for one or all of our Monday Evening Speaker Series offerings, or to watch recordings of previous presentations, visit our website. bit.ly/ANCMondays