



## Request for Workshop Proposals

### Adoption Network Cleveland's 2020 Conference: *Journeys of Discovery*

**Friday and Saturday, March 20 and 21, 2020**

#### **About the Conference**

To mark the 5th anniversary of Ohio's Opening Day – a day that 400,000 Ohio adoptees, by law, gained access to their original birth records – Adoption Network Cleveland is hosting a conference to celebrate. Together, adoptees; birthparents; adoptive, kinship and foster parents; foster alumni; individuals who are donor conceived or have found misattributed parentage through DNA testing; and professionals in the field; among others will explore unfolding life stories, engage in learning, and create community.

We are excited to announce keynote presenter **Sharon Kaplan Roszia**. Sharon is an internationally known educator, presenter, and author who has devoted fifty years of her professional career to the institution of foster care and adoption. She is the author of the new book *Seven Core Issues in Adoption and Permanency: A comprehensive guide to promoting understanding and healing in adoption, foster care, kinship families and third party reproduction*.

Conference content will include keynote presentations, workshops, entertainment, and opportunities for sharing and networking. Workshop sessions will be 1.5 hours long, with the possibility of combining two sessions for a three-hour offering. Workshops will be selected to reflect a range of compelling presentations on a variety of timely topics. CEUs will be offered for Social Workers and Counselors for offerings that qualify. There will be a special focus on **Ethical Issues** on Friday, and topics that relate to ethics and meet the requirements for professional ethics CEUs are of special interest.

**Suggested Workshop Topics** sought include, but are not limited to:

- Search and Reunion
- Adoptee Issues
- Birthparent Issues
- Parenting Challenges and Strategies
- Ethics in adoption, foster/kinship care and assisted reproduction
- DNA
- Genetic Identity – can include donor conception, misattributed parentage
- Trauma/Trauma Informed Care
- Creative expression – such as writing, theater, film
- Advocacy and Legislation

## Proposal Deadline: Friday, November 1, 2019

Please use the attached form to submit your workshop proposal. Note that, if accepted, your workshop description and presenter bio will be used in the conference materials and promotion as submitted, so please craft them accordingly. We reserve the right to edit for brevity and clarity if needed. Workshop proposal submissions will be accepted in paper mail and email format.

Notification of acceptance will take place prior to December 1, 2019. Conference registration opens early January 2020.

Please note: breakfast and lunch are provided for all presenters and participants both days. **Workshop presenters are expected to register for the conference and will be extended a special Adoption Network Cleveland presenter rate which will be a small discount off regular registration.**

## Contacts

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## About Adoption Network Cleveland

Adoption Network Cleveland: The Ohio Family Connection is an innovative non-profit organization that fulfills the otherwise unmet needs for members of the adoption triad (adoptees, birthparents and adoptive/kinship parents), youth in foster care, foster parents, siblings and related professionals. Thirty-one years ago, Adoption Network Cleveland began as a grassroots organization to respond to requests from individuals and agencies for information about adoption search, openness, referral and programming. Over the years our work has grown to include serving the needs of youth and teens in and aging out of foster care, those living in kinship families as well as professionals working with populations served by the organization.

Adoption Network Cleveland is the only organization of its kind in Northeast Ohio and is distinctive nationally for taking a comprehensive approach to the education, support and advocacy needs of the

entire adoption community. The organization is a state leader in promoting community awareness and social change by advocating for progressive policies in adoption and foster care practice, policy and law. Through 25 years of advocacy Adoption Network was a key leader in changing Ohio's access to records laws, providing more than 400,000 adoptees access to their original birth certificates in 2015.

Adoption Network Cleveland's mission is to connect and empower individuals, organizations and communities impacted by adoption and foster care, and we provide a source of healing for those in need. With the celebration of the 30th Anniversary in 2018, Adoption Network Cleveland reviewed the scope, name and brand of the organization. Out of this process *The Ohio Family Connection* was added to the name as a tagline representing the expanding populations served. Adoption Network Cleveland's Values include:

- **Inclusiveness:** We draw strength from that which unites by embracing all people, honoring diversity and accepting differences.
- **Collaboration:** We choose to be a catalyst for outstanding practices by fostering relationships internally and externally among individuals, organizations, and communities.
- **Courage:** We stand for our mission and an individual's right to self-determination even at the risk of compromising mainstream acceptance.
- **Trust:** We promote a sense of security and hope through honesty, authenticity, and openness.

For more information about our programs and services, please visit our website at [www.adoptionnetwork.org](http://www.adoptionnetwork.org).



## **Adoption Network Cleveland's 2020 Conference:**

### ***Journeys of Discovery***

**Friday and Saturday, March 20 and 21, 2020**

### **Workshop Proposal Submission Form**

Workshop Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Presenter(s) names, and credentials/affiliations, as they should appear in conference materials:

Intended audience (Please check all that apply):

Target Audience: Adult Adoptees

Target Audience: Birthparents

Target Audience: Individuals who were Donor Conceived or have misattributed parentage

Target Audience: Family members who are connected or separated by birth, adoption, foster care, and assisted reproduction

Target Audience: Those interested in the latest research, best practices, and advocacy in adoption, foster care and assisted reproduction

Target Audience: Professionals in adoption and child welfare related fields

Target Audience: Others in the helping professions: mental health clinicians, educators, health care professionals, social workers, public officials and legislators

Other:

Workshop Description (As it will be included in conference materials) – Up to 200 words:

Learning Objectives – what will participants learn, understand or be able to do as a result of attending? (Please list at least three specific objectives.)

Presentation Format: \_\_\_\_\_

Workshop time requested:    1.5 Hours                      3 Hours (double session)

Please list your AV needs:

Presenter Bio (submit one brief bio for each presenter as it will be included in program and attach resume for each) – Up to 200 words each:

Presenter Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer (if professional in field): \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Degree (Attach CV or resume.): \_\_\_\_\_

Presentation Experience on this topic:

Additional Presenter Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer (if professional in field): \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Degree (Attach CV or resume): \_\_\_\_\_

Presentation Experience on this topic:

I understand that all workshop presenters will register for one or both days of the conference at the Adoption Network Cleveland Member rate, and will be responsible for their own travel and lodging costs.

Presenter Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Presenter Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_