

# Monthly Calendar

## November 2022 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. 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 at <http://bit.ly/GDMatANC>.

#### General Discussion Meeting Dates (Virtual)

Nov. 3, 7-9 pm ET led by facilitators Linda & Jim

Nov. 8, 7-8:30 pm ET led by facilitators Marni & Mindy,  
**\*\*Special Topic: What Adoptees Want You to Know\*\***

Nov. 9, 7-9 pm ET led by facilitators Kim & Denice

Nov. 17, 7-9 pm ET led by facilitators Dottie & Estes

#### Special Topic for November Tuesday, Nov. 8, 7:00-8:30 pm ET

While most of our General Discussion Meetings have an open discussion format, the November 8 meeting will have a special topic, **What Adoptees Want You to Know**.

Adoptees reflect on what they wish their adoptive parents knew when they were growing up, and what they want their parents, families, and society to understand about adoption. Adoptees share their journeys, both positive and negative, to help this generation of adoptees, adoptive families and birth parents to have a different experience. Join us for this important conversation during National Adoption Awareness Month.

Space is limited to maintain the ability of those registered to participate in the discussion. Our topic meetings are very popular and frequently have a waiting list. Registration is required: <http://bit.ly/CalendarANC>.

#### Birth Mother Support Group (Virtual) Wednesday, Nov. 2, 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. We invite you to join this group of women, who are at different places on the same journey, to give and receive understanding and support. The group is facilitated by Lindsey and Nikki.

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

#### DNA Discovery Support Group (Virtual) Tuesday, Nov. 1, 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. This group will focus on supporting each other during and after such DNA discoveries. These are not one time events; they are lifelong journeys. This peer support group is not meant to delve into the technical aspects of understanding your DNA results, but rather serve as additional support on your personal journey to integrate your DNA findings into your life. The focus of this group is on the emotional journey, and not the technical aspects of DNA results or the interpretation of results.

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

## FAMILIES & YOUTH

### Family Ties Monthly Gathering & Teen TEA (In-person)

Wednesday, Nov. 16, 2022, 6:00-7:30 pm  
12200 Fairhill Road, FL A3, Cleveland

Adoptive, Kinship, and Foster families with children of all ages are invited to join us each month for food, fun, and community. We will start at 6 pm with a potluck dinner. Families are encouraged to bring something to share, but it is not required. The evening will include opportunities to connect with other parents and children, learn and grow together, experience fun activities, and leave with new resources. Teens ages 11+ will meet separately after dinner for Teen TEA, our monthly peer support group that provides a safe place for youth to share their truth, advocate for and support one another, and learn more about themselves.

Register on our calendar: <https://bit.ly/CalendarANC>.

### Family Social Outing - Cleveland Charge (In-person)

Friday, Nov. 4, 2022, 7:00-9:30 pm ET  
CSU Wolstein Center, 2000 Prospect Ave. E, Cleveland

Be our guest as the Cleveland Charge takes on MotorCity (Detroit) Cruise in the season opener! This is the Cleveland Cavalier's NBA-G League team's second season in our city. Let's support our home team, take a Friday night to enjoy family and friends, and cheer on the home team. Registration required to receive tickets courtesy of Adoption Network Cleveland.

This event is FREE, but requires registration:  
<https://bit.ly/CalendarANC>.

# National Adoption Awareness Month

with Adoption Network Cleveland



## SPECIAL NOVEMBER SPEAKERS

- free with RSVP -  
- virtual and in-person \* programs -



**Jenny STOTTS | NOV 10\***  
Ohio | Youth & Family Ombudsmen Office, Youth Ombudsman



**April DINWOODIE | NOV 14**  
Author, Filmmaker, Podcaster, Speaker/Trainer, Transracial Adoptee



**Angela TUCKER | NOV 21**  
Author, Filmmaker, Podcaster, Consultant Transracial Adoptee



**Film: A GIRL LIKE HER, NOV 7**  
Film by Ann Fessler about the hidden history of women who became pregnant in the 1950s and 60s and were banished, or sent to maternity or relatives' homes to give birth and surrender their children for adoption.

Nov 1 | Terminal Tower Lit for Adoptees, Birth and Adoptive Parents, foster and kinship families

FOR MORE INFO  
(216) 325-1000

RSVP NOW!  
[www.ADOPTIONNETWORK.ORG](http://www.ADOPTIONNETWORK.ORG)



**Special Screening & Discussion - Ann Fessler's *A Girl Like Her* (Virtual)**

**Monday, Nov. 7, 2022, 7:00-9:00 pm ET  
facilitated by Traci Onders, Program Manager:  
Search, Adult Adoptees, Birth Family & DNA Discoveries**

A Girl Like Her reveals the hidden history of over a million women who became pregnant in the United States in the 1950s and 60s when “nice girls” didn’t get pregnant. It was a time when women were routinely expelled from high schools and colleges and forced to leave jobs as teachers and nurses before their indiscretion was apparent to others. They were rendered voiceless and invisible—banished to distant relatives or maternity homes to give birth and surrender their children for adoption so they could start over with a clean slate. But did they?

Join us for a shared screening and facilitated discussion of this American documentary which combines footage from educational films and newsreels—that both reflected and shaped the public’s understanding of single pregnancy and adoption during that time—with the voices of these mothers as they speak today, about the long-term impact of surrender and silence on their lives.

The event is free to the public, but registration is required. Space is limited. <https://bit.ly/CalendarANC>.

**Adoption Network Cleveland Annual Meeting (In-person)**

**Thursday, Nov. 10, 2022, 6:00-8:00 pm ET  
with Keynote Speaker, Jenny Stotts, Ohio Youth Ombudsman**

Join us to celebrate our community impact and reconnecting, recognize our Triad Advocates of the Year, Volunteer of the Year and hear from Jenny Stotts on the high-stress and high stakes arena of children's services. Doors will be open for our Open House featuring our new office space at Fairhill Partners, 12200 Fairhill Road, Floor A3, Cleveland, OH and the Annual Meeting will begin at 6:00 pm.

Please register for the Open House, Annual Meeting or both on our website at: <https://bit.ly/CalendarANC>.

**Born in June, Raised in April: Adoption, Identity, Family 365 (Virtual)**

**Monday, Nov. 14, 2022, 8:00-9:00 pm ET  
presented by April Dinwoodie,  
[www.aprildinwoodie.com](http://www.aprildinwoodie.com)**

Every day is a good day to better understand the impact of adoption on all members of the extended family, most specifically the adopted person. In this special NAAM discussion, transracially adopted person and host of the popular podcast Born in June, Raised in April: What Adoption Can Teach the World, April Dinwoodie will deconstruct the calendar to unlock what’s possible in elevating how individuals and systems support individuals and families experiencing the many intersecting elements of adoption.

Registration is required to receive the link for this virtual program. <https://bit.ly/CalendarANC>.

**Lisa and Isell Film Screening and Discussion (Virtual)**

**Monday, Nov. 21, 2022, 7:00-9:00 pm ET  
with co-host Angela Tucker,  
[www.angelatucker.com](http://www.angelatucker.com)**

Join us for the unique opportunity to virtually screen and discuss Lisa & Isell: A Story about Adoption & the Ghost Kingdom with its documentarian! Film maker, transracial adoptee, author, podcast host, and consultant to stage and screen productions, Angela Tucker, will speak with event attendees to unpack this short documentary and related topics. For a full bio and current work, please see [www.angelatucker.com](http://www.angelatucker.com).

In this film, Angela documents the story of an 85-year-old man who has been searching for his daughter for 54 years. This short documentary centers the losses Isell experienced in searching for his biological daughter. The unforgettable ending stretches the notions of biological family, connection and belonging.

Registration is required to receive the link for this virtual program. <https://bit.ly/CalendarANC>.

**November 1, 2022**

**Terminal Tower will be lit blue & white in honor of the lifelong journey of Adoption for Adoptees, Birth and Adoptive Parents and Families, and Foster and Kinship Families.**