

Monthly Calendar

June 2023 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, and listed as Eastern Time (ET)

June 1, Thurs., 7-9 PM led by facilitators JJ & Estes

June 8, Thurs., 7-9 PM led by facilitators Kim & Denice

June 13, Tues., 7-9 PM led by facilitators Marni & Mindy

June 15, Thurs., 7-9 PM led by facilitators Dottie & Estes

June 22, Thurs., 8-10 PM led by facilitators Barbara & Dan **Special Topic: Nature vs. Nurture**

Special Topic for June: Nurture vs. Nature facilitated by Barbara & Dan Thursday, June 22, 8:00-10:00 PM ET

Theorists and researchers have long debated whether traits or abilities are inborn or forged after birth. How much of us is ingrained in our DNA? What is the impact of parenting and other factors? Are babies "blank slates"? Join us as we discuss our own journeys and how we feel genetics and/or environment impact who we are today.

Come to share, or listen, or both! All are welcome!

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

DNA Discovery Support Group (Virtual) Tuesday, June 6, 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. This group is facilitated by Barbara and Oliver.

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

Birth Mother Support Group (Virtual) Wednesday, June 7, 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 Rosemary and Nikki.

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

Transracial Adoptive Parents Virtual Book Club: *You Should Be Grateful* by Angela Tucker

**Wednesdays in June, 6/7, 6/14, 6/21, and 6/28
8:00-9:00 PM ET**

We are excited to partner again with Angela Tucker: author, film maker, and podcaster! In June, Angela Tucker with various collaborators is hosting a self-guided book club. Additionally, Adoption Network Cleveland will be hosting a virtual group coinciding with each of Angela's weekly reading and prompts. To participate, interested individuals need to do three things.

1. Get a copy of the book via your favorite book seller or library.
2. Sign-up for the self-guided book club to receive all the resources provided by Angela Tucker including a weekly reader's guide, Vlogs, a link to Angela's documentary (Closure), and more for a one-time registration fee of \$5. See our registration link for details.
3. Register for the Adoption Network Cleveland's weekly, facilitated, virtual book discussions using materials from the self-guided book club. Note: Interested transracial adoptive families need only register for ONE of the dates to receive the links for all dates. Register at <http://bit.ly/CalendarANC>.

Family Ties Monthly Gathering & Teen TEA (In-Person)

**Thursday, June 8,
6:00-7:30 PM
21881 Libby Rd, Bedford Heights, OH 44146
New Location for June & July**

In June and July, we are excited to be welcomed to meet at Bedford Heights Daycare with its outdoor meeting and play spaces.

Adoptive, Kinship, and Foster families with children of all ages are invited to join us for food, fun, and community. We will start at 6 pm with dinner. After dinner, teens aged 11+ will break off and meet for Teen TEA. This group will provide a safe place for youth to share their truth, advocate for and support one another, and learn more about themselves.

Parents and younger children will meet separately and have an opportunity to learn and grow together, with fun activities and new resources. Register at <http://bit.ly/CalendarANC>.

Moonrock Bowling & Pizza

**Saturday, June 10
12:30-3:00 PM
Fairview Lanes
21847 Lorain Rd.
Fairview Park, OH 44126**

Join us for Moonrock Bowling at Fairview Lanes, and maybe a dance party if your feet feel the music! Adoption Network Cleveland is over the MOON to offer this Family Social Event at no cost to registered families. Moonrock brings the fun of black lights, glow-in-the-dark excitement, music (song requests taken), and crazy lighting with BOWLING!

Please arrive by 12:30 PM. Event ends at 3:00 PM. Pizza, bowling, and rental shoes are provided. Register at <http://bit.ly/CalendarANC>.

For Prospective Parents

Adoption 101: Where Do I Begin (virtual)

**Saturday, June 10
9:00 AM-12:00 PM**

Are you hoping to become a parent or expand your family through adoption? We can help you navigate information which can seem exciting but overwhelming. This workshop helps answer the common and reasonable question, "Where do I begin?" Adoption 101 is a three-hour workshop intended for people looking into adoption for the first time, and provides a realistic overview of the adoption options and the process involved in each from both professionals and parents. Registration fee.

Adoption 201: Adopting Infants Domestically

**Wednesday, June 28
9:00 AM-12:00 PM**

This virtual workshop expands on our program, Adoption 101: Where Do I Begin Workshop. Adoption 201 is a 2-hour workshop dedicated to greater exploration and specific details supporting domestic infant adoption. Registration fee.

**Programs are FREE of charge unless
otherwise stated.**

Registration is required.

**TO REGISTER for any program listed,
please visit our our calendar:
<http://bit.ly/CalendarANC>.**

