Dear Friends,

It happened! In December 2013, which was in the first quarter of our 2014 fiscal year, the legislation we had been working for since founding the organization in 1988 – the right for Ohio’s adult adoptees to have access to their original birth certificates – was signed into law.

This major legislative success happened because of the dedication of countless individuals over the years – if you were with us along the way, Thank you! – this is your success, too.

In January 2014, documentary filmmaker Jean Strauss came to Cleveland from her home in New York to film the organization and tell the story of the passing of Ohio’s law through a short film. She wanted to concentrate on Betsie’s personal story and lifetime of professional advocacy for this cause. The film An Adoptee ROAred in Ohio: The Betsie Norris Story debuted at the 39th Annual Cleveland International Film Festival in March 2014.

In the summer of 2014, we were incredibly honored to receive the “Parent Group of the Year” award from the North American Council on Adoptable Children (NACAC) at their annual conference in Kansas City. This distinction was for our Post Adoption program, which supports adoptive families and teens, many of whom have adopted from, or were adopted from the foster care system.

These were some of our big stories of the year (and the decade) yet, every week we can tell the story of lives who have been touched by our work. Some highlights of our work in 2014: we completed 60 adoptee/birthfamily searches; assisted in over 200 individuals on the adoption process; and continued our partnership with the Junior League of Cleveland to offer Cooking with Cuyahoga’s Kids, a life-skills program for teens in foster care. We were also featured in the media 76 times during the year telling those stories. One recently reunited adoptee was touched so much, that he came to our Rocky River General Support and Discussion Meeting, donning a tattoo with our logo - we think this is our first!

So, whether you are finding ways to volunteer or donate, or are supporting us through membership, or are even promoting us with a tattoo, we appreciate you! We wouldn’t be where we are today without you. Thank you.

In the spirit of truth,

Betsie Norris
Executive Director
Adoption Network Cleveland

John M. Zaranec III
Board Chair
Adoption Network Cleveland
Adoption Network Cleveland
2014 Year in Review
(October 1, 2013 – September 30, 2014)

Highlights
• 2,760 contacts were supported through our Adoption Helpline, via phone and email.
• 210 individuals were assisted in the adoption process by Adoption Navigators.
• 208 individuals attended General Support and Discussion Meetings, with a total annual attendance of 559.
• 146 volunteers completed over 4,600 hours of service, valued at over $103,000.

Advocacy
• Completed our longest running legislative goal with the passage of SB 23, allowing 400,000 Ohio adult adoptees access to their original birth certificates.
• Received over 100 local, state and national features about Ohio adoption record laws, during the work on the bill and after the signing (from January 2013 to March 2014).
• Participated in the creation of a documentary film by Jean Strauss – An Adoptee ROARED in Ohio – on Executive Director Betsie Norris’ 24-year crusade to give all Ohio-born adoptees access to their original birth certificates.
• Featured documentary films – An Adoptee ROARED in Ohio and A Simple Piece of Paper – in the Cleveland International Film Festival.
• Created and distributed a pre-implementation plan and infographics to help Ohio adoptees and birthparents better understand the records release process – worked closely with Ohio Department of Job and Family Services and Ohio Department of Health.
• Supported the passage of HB 213 creating the opportunity for children in foster care to participate in normal childhood activities, and limiting the use of Planned Permanent Living Arrangements (long-term foster care).
• Influenced best practices to allow youth in foster care who are 16 years old and up into their Juvenile Court review hearings. Implemented by Judge Kristin W. Sweeney.

Programs
• Expanded our General Support and Discussion Meetings into the Dayton area.
• Supported 316 adoptive parents through Post Adoption services with monthly meetings, social support activities and workshops.
• Served 66 youth in foster care through our Permanency Champions Mentoring Program.
• Held 23 Get Real educational and supportive groups for teens in foster care, which provides a safe place for them to share their experiences and explore their feelings about foster care and adoption, with a total annual attendance of 71.
• Continued leading the Adoption Awareness Coalition – an alliance of agencies and organizations committed to promoting understanding and visibility of adoption in Northeast Ohio – expanding the Coalition membership to 19, an increase of 72% over 2013.
• Assisted in 60 adoptee/birthfamily searches to completion.
• Hosted the 22nd Annual Birthmother’s Day Ceremony for 78 participants including 25 birthmothers, friends, family and other supporters on the Saturday before Mother’s Day.
• Trained 113 adoption professionals and 216 foster and adoptive parents through Ohio Child Welfare Training Program sessions.
• Continued a counseling program with steady appointments in a dedicated office space.
• Offered Adoption 101: Where Do I Begin? to 84 participants in four sessions throughout the year.
• Supported 63 adoptive parents with educational advocacy.
• Partnered with the Junior League of Cleveland for the life skills program designed for youth in foster care – Cooking With Cuyahoga’s Kids – with 12 youth participants.
• Held the 2nd Annual Weaving Cultures Family Camp for transracial adoptive families, which drew 27 families (111 participants, including 51 adults and 60 children) from Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, Kentucky, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania.
• Hosted three adoption finalization celebrations for 8 families who had completed adoption proceedings.
• Continued the Transracial Adoptive Family Group, with a total annual attendance of 50 adults and 35 children participating in potlucks and fun activities.
• Welcomed 16 participants to Adoptee Journeys, with a total attendance of 37.
• Engaged 8 college students in our Scholars Program – an experiential learning program about adoption.
• Produced 20 Digital Me’s, a unique multi-media recruitment tool for teens in foster care waiting for adoptive families.
• Offered Adoption 201: Adopting Infants Domestically with a total attendance of 31.

Awareness – Local, Statewide, National
• Raised awareness of 7,015 individuals about our work through 71 presentations and resource fairs.
• Presented at the American Adoption Congress Conference in San Francisco.
• Featured in the media 76 times and mentioned an additional 70 times. Highlights include:
  • December 12, 2013 – The Plain Dealer: Bill Granting 400,000 Adoptees Access to Birth Records Clears General Assembly, Heads to Governor Kasich for Signing

Fund Development
• Raised funding to support a budget of $1,144,503 – including $80,508 from individuals, $393,432 through foundations, $33,939 through corporations and $68,384 from events.

Of Special Note
• Celebrated long-term employee Linda Bellini’s retirement.
• Co-Sponsored the 6th Annual Foster Care Alumni Thanksgiving event and the 5th Annual Adoption Advocacy Day.
• Worked to replace United Way funding after a shift in funding priorities.

Awards
• Received the Parent Group of the Year Award from the North American Council on Adoptable Children.
• Celebrated Executive Director Betsie Norris receiving an Executive Director of the Year for Community Service Pillar Award from Medical Mutual and Smart Business magazine.
2014 Donations

INDIVIDUALS
$1,000 and above
Carole Barzick
Lisa and Brendan Buescher
Thomas Cherna
Eric Clark
Tom and Tricia Dent
Lea Evens
Mark Geller
Ellie Hagan
Dottie Kmet
Luann and Ken Lashutka
Anita Miller
Bettsie Norris
Krysta Orlofski and Brian Harte
Elaine Schulte
Mara Shibley
Ellen Stephens
Murray and Susan Van Epp
May Westphal-Noder and Chris Wheelock
John Wiedmann
Nicole Wilson

$500 - $999
Marisa Becoat
Cathy Belk
Linda Bellett
Vincent and Lisa Berardinelli
Lois Cole
Dan Gasser
Ann Glenn
Ted Grabowski
James Graham and David Duske
Lauren and Willie Harbert
Peggy Kiyash
James Martin
Sam Miller
Brenda Norton
Stephen Petras
Shane Shands
Kathleen and Don Sokolik
Elizabeth Swenson
Maggie Williams
David Yates
Pamela Zimmerman

$250 - $499
Ish Adkins
Stephen Barton
Michael Becoat
Emily Drake
David Finch
Ronald Forrer
Denise Goodman
Richard Gilday
Ray Hamman
Richard Horvath
Dell Judd
Edward Kish
Lorna Linen
Martha Nelson
Stephanie Niehaus
William Nuggest
Robert Palicz
Richard Pratt
Linda Schellenger
Richard Schmittigen
Kelley Sweeney
John and Denise Vinton
Caroline Wrabel
John and Sara Zararac

$100 - $249
Mike Aboussif
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Kathy Adler
Rob Armstrong
George Baker
Monica Banks Hines
Michael Barzick
Jeff Barker
Tom Beres
Alex Beverly
Alice and Larry Blake
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Gray, Banta, Sporer
Lee Anne Chambers
Mario Ciano
Molly Coates
Tiac Clark
Elizabeth and Chris Conlon
Michael Conlon
Christopher Wenn Craig
Valerie Czerwien
Bonnie and Eugene DiDonato
Lorraine DiStefano
Bruce Dobbs
Kimberly Donato
Howard Dolmage
Marcia Egbert
Sandra Elliew
George England
Juliana Feester
Keith and Hope Fieck
Peter Fitch
Carol and Robert Flexer
Elizabeth Forests
Mary Garcia-Bengochea
June Gaus
Melanie GiaMaria
Kelli Glen
George Graham and Michael Fleischer
Mary Higgins
Tyronne and Blondell Hinton
Christopher Margaret Hopewell
Sara Hopwood
Molly Huang
Michael Hughes
Mark Kadlec
Karen Kassel
Kristen and Keith Kraus
Catherine and John Lewis
Gil and Carol Lowenthal
Jennifer Lukens
Michael Maher
James Manoharan
Cheryl Marrow-White and Bobbiette Marrow
Janice Marshall
April Martin
Loi McCarthy
Mark McKinstry
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Thomas Moore
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Edie and Bob Nelson
Art and Cheryl Neuenheisscher
Kevin Ortiz
Dominique Pendleton
Anna Proudlyt
Nancy Rapskis
Dawn Schweikert
Fareed Siddiq
Joan Soucie
Holly Spencer-Trueman and Joe Truemann
Lynda Thomas
Estes and Diane Turner
John and Kathy Underlawn
Clarice Vaspow
Vicki and John Warden
Jed Weissman
Rona Weiss
Magazone Wendel and Family
Eileen Zarekawich
Vic Torum

FAMILY FUNDS
Beverly Family Fund
Lisa and Brendan Buescher
Jennifer Burke
Katterheinich Family Fund
Murray and Susan Van Epp

Lashutka Family Fund
Luann and Ken Lashutka

Brad Norris Memorial Fund
Sally Corwin-Osgood
Elizabeth Forrest
Frank and Debbie Geraci
Ayco and Reese Jenkins
Edie and Bob Nelson
Bettsie Norris
Todd and Minda Norris

Van Epp Family Fund
Murray and Susan Van Epp

FOUNDATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS
Anonymous
Adoptees in Search
American Family Mutual Insurance Company
Benefit Community Impact Fund
The Bonomo Family Foundation
CareSource Foundation
Catholic Charities, Diocese of Toledo, Inc.
The Children’s Guild
Citizens Bank
Cleveland Foundation
Community Endeavors
Dominion Foundation
Eaton Charitable Fund
Episcopal Community Service
The Eva L. and Joseph R. Brunning Foundation
Mary Kay S. and Patrick Brauchler Foundation
First Unitarian Church of Cleveland
The George Gund Foundation
Hahnloser Parks, LLP
Jack and Jill of America
Junior League of Cleveland
Lublin Foundation
PNC Foundation
PPG Industries Foundation
Progressive Insurance Foundation
Red Seal Electric Co., Inc.
The Roy A. Hunt Foundation
St. Luke’s Foundation
St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church
Brecksville
The Stoller Foundation
The Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio
The Thomas H. White Foundation
Tremont Fund
Unite Black Fund of Greater Cleveland
Unified Way of Greater Cleveland
The Van Epp Fund
Martin D. and Mary J. Walker Charitable Foundation

CORPORATE PARTNERS
Cleveland Clinic
Cohen & Company
Forest City Charitable Foundation
Foundation, Inc.
Harman Hanna Smythe
Crane Real Estate
KeyBank Foundation
Sherwin Williams Foundation
Thompson Hine LLP

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Ish Adkins
Adventure Zone
AGC – The Advancement Group
AMA Museum
Amazone Family
Entertainment Center
Shirri Appelton
Anna Hair Salon & Spa
Ballet Met Columbus
Banyan Tree
Alison Bedford-Wilson
Marissa Beuchack
Linda Bellettini
 Blessed Trinity Church
Boston Mills/Brandywine Cemetery
Brecksville
Brussels
Capper
Cassidy Theatre
Charles Scott Salon and Day Spa
The City of Cleveland, Ohio
Cleveland Botanical Gardens
Cleveland Browns
Cleveland Community
Cleveland International Film Festival
Cleveland Magazine
Cleveland Metroparks
Cleveland Museum of Art
Cleveland Orchestra
The Cleveland Play House
Cleveland Public Theatre
Cleveland Zoological Society

IN_HONOR_OF
All Adoptees
Margaret Hopewell
The ANC Staff
Kimberly Donato
Linda Bellettini
Linda Bellettini Retirement
Jay Bobo
Alison Bedford-Wilson
Bethia and Clinton Bennett
Alec Birstein
Bethsy Brown
Darlene Brust
Kathleen Cooney
Stefanie Corlew
Beth Dalbottano
Susan Duffy
Deborah and Alan Erenich
Janis and Jim Galm
Kathy Guido
Beverly and Rob Haettel
Maureen and Blair Marks
April Martin
Mary Masterson
Robertya Myers
Pat Abbott
Bettsie Norris
Pamela and Art Buescher
Diane and James Pexa
Eric and Robin Polach
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James Pult
Nancy Rapskis
Marline Rindt
Karen Rosenberg
Michael Savage
Linda Schellenger
Deb Shurts
Frederick Snowdon
Joan Soucie
Judith Stroup
Estes and Diane Turner
Clarice Vaspow
Jeri Weiser
Rona Weiss
Magazone Wendel and Family
Josh and Courtney
Bryan and cider
Betsie Norris
Matthew Clark
Mary Higgins
Abigail Conlon
Elizabeth and Chris Conlon
John Cowles
Eliot and Mike Gosnell
Barbara Danforth and Olie Shelton
Wedding
Debra Adams-Simmons
Tom Brice
Jocelyn Booker
Betty Brown
Erlinda DeMarco
Tommy’s Restaurant
TOMS
Sharon Trabucca
Trader Joe’s
Trolleys Tours of Cleveland, Inc.
Vonda Ward
The Western Reserve
Historical Society
Richard and Donna Wilkison
Nicole Wilson
Margaret Zamiska
John and Sara Zararac

The list on these pages include only names and organizations. We have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the lists, we apologize for any misspellings or omissions.

IN MEMORY OF
Emestine Bellini
Linda Bellini
Alfreda Ann Forrer
Ronald Forrer
Sara Fritsch
Bonnie and Eugene Drak
Albert and Jonne Gilbert
Randy Geller
Mark Geller
Janet Hannikman
Ellen Hunt
Constance Cantenza
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Linda Bellini
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Carol and Terrance Hayward
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Linda Bellini
Cecilia Kelly
Steve Kelly
Laura
Judith Stroup
Jack and Doris Lee
Mary Garcia-Bengocheha
Harriet Ratner
Carol and Robert Flexer
Philip B. Shook
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Eric Sisson
Debra Adams-Simmons
Carol and Terrance Hayward
Julie Thomas
Linda Bellini
Chelse Vinton
John and Denise Vinton
Harriet Weisman
Jed Weisman
Ron Williams
Betsie Norris
Juanita Woody and Marie Zamora
Victor and Sherry Zamora

Report reflects donors October 1, 2013 to September 30, 2014

IN_HONOR_OF
All Adoptees
Margaret Hopewell
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Vonda Ward
The Western Reserve
Historical Society
Richard and Donna Wilkison
Nicole Wilson
Margaret Zamiska
John and Sara Zararac
Statement of Activities
OCTOBER 1, 2013 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2014

REVENUE AND SUPPORT

PROGRAM AND IN-KIND
FUNDRAISING EVENTS
MEMBERSHIP DUES
GRIANTS AND CONTRACTS

EXPENSES

PROGRAM SERVICES
DEVELOPMENT
GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE
INTEREST/INVESTMENT/OTHER

REVENUE AND SUPPORT

UNRESTRICTED
TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED
PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED
TOTAL

Grants and contracts
$353,112
$353,112

Membership dues
$14,050
$14,050

Contributions
$139,625
$369,610
$3,300
$12,535

Special events – Gross
$83,027
$83,027

In-kind revenue
$12,440
$23,443

Program revenue
$53,932
$53,932

Interest income
$185
$22,248

Dividend income
$16,072
$16,072

Realized gain on investments
$65,698
$65,698

Unrealized loss on investments
($15,607)
($15,607)

Other
$819
$819

Net assets released from restrictions
$450,175
($449,980)
($195)

$1,107,365
$31,484
$3,105
$1,141,954

EXPENSES

Post adoption services
$237,658
$237,658

Adopt Cuyahoga’s Kids
$366,219
$366,219

Triad Services
$181,153
$181,153

Advocacy
$66,511
$66,511

Total Program Services
$851,541
$851,541

General and administrative
$98,366
$98,366

Development
$146,093
$146,093

Total Supporting Services
$244,459
$244,459

$1,096,000
$1,096,000

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS

$11,365
$31,484
$3,105
$45,954

NET ASSETS – BEGINNING OF YEAR

$566,528
$577,625
$790,069
$1,934,222

NET ASSETS – END OF YEAR

$577,893
$609,109
$793,174
$1,980,176

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Veronica Davis
Christina DeAngelis
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Rebecca Drinnen
Maureen Duffy
Margaret Drinnen
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Hands On NEO
Barbara Harris
Margaret Hastings
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Cleveland, OH 44103
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ADOPTION NETWORK CLEVELAND 2014 ANNUAL REPORT