

# Monthly Calendar

## March 2021 Events and Programs

### ADULT ADOPTEE & BIRTHPARENT

#### General Discussion Meetings

Support and discussion groups for adult adoptees, birthparents, siblings, adoptive parents, prospective parents, professionals, and anyone interested in exploring the lifelong journey of adoption. March meetings will be virtual. Individuals from any location are encouraged to join. 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 <http://bit.ly/CalendarANC>.

For more information on General Discussion Meetings and a list of upcoming special topics, please visit our website at <http://bit.ly/GDMatANC>.

#### Virtual General Discussion Meeting Dates

March 2, 8-10 p.m. (ET) DNA Discovery Support Group led by our Miami Valley facilitators, Becky & Oliver  
March 4, 7-9 p.m. (ET) led by our Rocky River facilitators, Linda & Elaine. **Special Topic: The Emotional Roller Coaster of Adoption**  
March 9, 7-9 p.m. (ET) led by our Columbus facilitators, Marni & Mindy  
March 10, 7-9 p.m. (ET) led by our Summit Co. facilitators, Kim & Denice  
March 18, 7-9 p.m. (ET) led by our Heights facilitators, Dottie & Estes  
March 25, 8-10 p.m. (ET) led by our Virtual facilitators, Barbara & Dan

**Please Note that our March 4 meeting will have a special topic:** *The Emotional Roller Coaster of Adoption.*

### FAMILIES & YOUTH

#### Family Ties Program

This program includes a monthly group where adoptive, kinship, and foster families meet, share experiences, and learn from each other and featured presenters. To find out more: <http://bit.ly/FamilyTiesatANC>.

#### PARENT GROUP (Virtual)

**Thursday, March 11, 6:00-7:30 p.m. ET**

Our discussion this month will center around a short video sharing adult adoptee perspectives of their experiences and feelings around adoption, followed by a group discussion. Join us on Google Meet to learn, share, and give and receive support. Registration required: <https://bit.ly/CalendarANC>

#### YOUTH GROUP (Virtual):

Wednesday, March 10, 6:00 p.m. ET - Girl Code  
Wednesday, March 24, 6:00 p.m. ET - Guy Code  
Virtual opportunities for youth ages 11-18 to meet online with peers in a facilitated conversation will be provided for boys (Guy Code) and girls (Girl Code) separately. For more information and the link to access the meetings, contact Danielle Gibson at [danielle.gibson@adoptionnetwork.org](mailto:danielle.gibson@adoptionnetwork.org).

#### Donuts with Donikea and Danielle (Virtual) Every Tuesday Morning at 8:30 a.m. ET

Every Tuesday from 8:30-9:30 a.m. Donikea and Danielle will be providing a safe space for adoptive, kinship and foster parents to drop-in with questions and conversation. Register to get the link on our calendar: <https://bit.ly/CalendarANC>

#### Weaving Cultures Transracial Adoptive Family Group - Parent Group (Virtual)

**Tuesday, March 16, 8:00-9:30 p.m. ET**

Weaving Cultures is for families who have been formed through transracial adoption. Join other transracial adoptive parents for a virtual get-together. This will be an opportunity for parents to talk, share, and learn from each other. The meeting this month will be an open forum, bring any topics or questions you want to discuss or just come to listen and build community. This meeting will be virtual using ZOOM. Register through our calendar:

<https://bit.ly/CalendarANC>

Programs are provided free unless otherwise noted. All programs will continue to be offered virtually during March.

## Adoption 201: Adopting Infants Domestically Workshop

Tuesday, March 9, 6-8 p.m. ET

This workshop is for prospective adoptive parents. Expanding on the Adoption 101: Where Do I Begin? this 2-hour workshop explores more details for those looking to consider a domestic infant adoption, including details of the home study, developing your adoption profile, and a discussion on openness in adoption.

This session will be offered virtually. While some details are specific to Ohio, the workshop will be beneficial for anyone seeking to adopt in the US. Registration is required.

Member cost: \$15/person and \$25/couple  
Non-member cost: \$20/person and \$35/couple  
A \$5 surcharge for same-day registration.

Register: <http://bit.ly/201ANC321>



Join us in March as our Family Ties Program encourages adoptive, foster, and kinship families to spend spring **Blooming Together**. Learn how planting seeds, providing water and sunlight and sharing positive reinforcement nurtures plants to grow! Register to receive a **Blooming Together** kit with seeds, soil, pots, paint and brushes to decorate along with instructions. Families will be encouraged to share a picture on social media throughout spring on "flower Fridays" to see how our plants are growing strong!

Register by March 19 to receive a **Blooming Together** Kit. Delivery of kits will take place during the week of March 22.

Register to receive a kit: <http://bit.ly/ANC-blooming2gether>

FAMILY  
RESILIENCE  
FUND

EMERGENCY  
BASIC NEEDS  
ASSISTANCE

THE OHIO FAMILY CONNECTION  
Advocate • Educate • Support

## New Fund Helps Families Bridge Gaps

Adoption Network Cleveland is partnering with the Governor's Office of Faith-based and Community Initiatives to help adoptive, foster, and kinship families, as well as parents who were in foster care themselves, bridge short-term financial gaps and avoid a crisis. This new funding, named The Family Resilience Fund, is provided through Federal TANF funding and does have specific eligibility requirements. Eligible families can receive emergency rent/mortgage assistance, utility assistance, and food assistance, among other supports to help parents avoid crisis and maintain permanency for the minor children in their care.

For more information, download the Family Resilience Fund flyer, or contact Julius Jackson, Training & Volunteer Coordinator, at (216) 482-2324 or [julius.jackson@adoptionnetwork.org](mailto:julius.jackson@adoptionnetwork.org).



## This is Us - A Facilitated Discussion (Virtual)

**Monday, March 15, 8:00-9:00 p.m. ET**

NBC's hit show "This is Us" has gained a following in the adoption community. Over the last several years, the show has highlighted many of the complex issues around adoption and race. Adoption Network Cleveland invites you to join us for a facilitated discussion. Everyone is invited to attend and share their perspective. The discussion will be facilitated by Barbara Robertson, LMSW and Ohio-born, New York adoptee, and Krysia Orłowski, writer, professor, and transracial adoptive parent.

**To find out more and to register on our calendar:**  
<https://bit.ly/CalendarANC>



Adoption Network Cleveland is pleased to offer another session of our popular Monday Evening Speaker Series! Join other individuals connected to adoption and child welfare for a range of engaging presentations on topics that are of interest to our community. Upcoming Sessions include:

**Monday, March 8, 2021 (8-9 pm ET) - Kevin Gladish**

### **Healing through Storytelling: A Late Discovery Adoptee's Narrative**

Kevin will share his personal story as a late discovery adoptee, and how he used creative outlets to promote his own healing. Shortly after Kevin discovered his adoption by asking for his newly-released Ohio birth certificate in 2015, he began writing a blog called *A Story With No Beginning* which documented his discovery, his search for birth family, and his struggle with his new identity as it all happened. The blog was recently adapted into a solo performance piece, *A Secret in Plain Sight*.

**Monday, March 22, 2021 (8-9 pm ET) - Eve Wiley, LPC**

### **A Conversation with Eve Wiley - Fertility Fraud, The Fertility Industry, and Genetic Identity**

Modern-day Erin Brockovich, Eve Wiley, shares her personal story and her journey of purpose lobbying for fertility fraud bills across the U.S. Her presentation will discuss how the current legal landscape of the fertility industry marginalizes genetic identity. She will also discuss the progress that has already been made advocating for genetic identity, and how those without genetic identity and protections against fraud still remain marginalized.

**For more information on the series and to register for sessions:** <http://bit.ly/ANCMondays21>