



# MICHIGAN ADOPTION RESOURCE EXCHANGE

A spotlight on children  
waiting for permanent  
& loving families

**Fall 2013**



**W**ELCOME TO THE Fall 2013 Recruitment Periodical, published by the Michigan Adoption Resource Exchange. Over the next several pages, you will be introduced to some of the youth in Michigan who are waiting for their opportunity to have a loving, supportive and permanent family of their own through adoption.

The youth in the Fall periodical are representative of hundreds of other children in the Michigan foster care system who are waiting to become part of a loving family. To view these children and to learn more information about adoption, please visit our website at [www.mare.org](http://www.mare.org).

On the MARE website, you will find photos, narratives and video clips of waiting children, as well as a wealth of information about adoption, including links to adoption-related resources.

If you have been thinking about adoption, we invite you to consider bringing an older child or sibling group into your life. If you have questions about adoption or are ready to begin the adoption process, simply call one of the agencies listed in the back of this periodical. MARE is available to answer your adoption-related questions and we will do our best to get you headed in the right direction.



THE 2013 MICHIGAN HEART  
GALLERY EXHIBIT IS ON TOUR!

VISIT [WWW.MIHEART.ORG](http://WWW.MIHEART.ORG) FOR DATES  
& LOCATIONS OR TO SCHEDULE THE  
DISPLAY FOR YOUR OWN EVENT.

REGISTRATION FOR THE 2014 HEART  
GALLERY IS UNDER WAY, VISIT  
[WWW.MARE.ORG](http://WWW.MARE.ORG) FOR MORE DETAILS.



## Who are the children who wait for adoption?

Adopting a “waiting child” from foster care is often referred to as special needs adoption. This term often makes people think of children with severe mental or physical impairments. In reality, special needs adoption means a child or children who may be difficult to place for adoption for a variety of reasons, including:

- Children school aged and above.
- Children with emotional, mental, learning or physical impairments.
- Children of minority heritage.
- Children who are part of a sibling group that must be placed together.

Many waiting children have had traumatic past experiences that may include physical, sexual or emotional abuse and/or severe neglect. Others may have been born drug or alcohol exposed.

Around 93% of children in Michigan's foster care system are adopted by the child's current foster family or a relative (someone with whom the child has an established relationship with). The remaining children available for adoption, like those in this periodical & the MARE website, have no identified family to adopt them. Recruitment of a suitable adoptive family is, therefore, necessary. Over 98% of the children available for adoption without an identified family are over the age of 5. Over 75% of those children are between the ages of 11 and 18.

## Who can adopt a waiting child?

Many people may be surprised to learn that they do not have to be married in order to adopt a child from the foster care system. Potential adoptive parents do not have to own their own home or have a lot of money. They must have enough space in their home and adequate income to support a child. It is important to know that many children waiting for adoption are eligible to receive support subsidies to help adoptive families meet their needs.

## How much does it cost to adopt a child from foster care?

The only cost you should incur for adopting a child from the Michigan foster care system is court filing fees. Some agencies may charge a fee for the Family Assessment (also known as a Home Study). Families

must be approved through the Adoptive Family Assessment process before a child can be placed in their home for adoption. An Adoptive Family Assessment must be completed by a licensed adoption agency (which can be found in the back of this periodical & on the MARE website) and can take an average of six months to a year to complete. The Adoptive Family Assessment will include, but is not limited to, the following components:

- Personal history
- Health statements
- Criminal background check
- Income statement
- Personal references

Once the Adoptive Family Assessment is complete, you may start submitting inquiries to MARE about children you may be interested in adopting. When you inquire about children through the MARE website, your information will be sent, by MARE, to the child's adoption worker for consideration. Your worker will also be notified that you have inquired about a specific child or children.

For more information about adoption and to learn about Michigan's waiting children, please visit our website at [www.mare.org](http://www.mare.org)



Photos by  
Jillyn Segroves



**S**ATURNINO, WHO GOES by Nino is an adorable and cute boy. He loves to chat with adults and is quite endearing. Nino's favorite foods are pepperoni pizza, mac & cheese, spaghetti and enchiladas. He really liked playing baseball in the past and hopes to have a family who will give him the opportunity to do so again. In addition, Nino also likes to play soccer. He is very aware of his appearance and always tries look his best and be sharply dressed. Nino would like to have a bike and go roller blading as long as he has a helmet and elbow pads to ensure his safety.

Nino is very nervous about meeting his forever family. He noted that he will do his best to be very good for them, but he can still have moments he needs to improve upon.

Nino would like to have a forever family that will play baseball with him and throw him a birthday party. He added that no matter what family adopts him he will be happy and thank them. Nino would benefit from guidance and understanding as he works with assistance to address his emotional needs. He would also do well as the only or youngest child in the home. The family should have experience or knowledge of parenting children who have overcome difficult pasts and will work hard to help Nino address his needs. Nino thrives on positive attention, supervision, praise and affection. The adoptive family should offer Nino clear boundaries and rules and help him better understand the personal boundaries of others. Nino needs a family to be an active advocate for his educational needs to ensure he has all the necessary tools to succeed. Additionally, the family must be willing to continue and seek out any additional support services that would be beneficial to his needs now and in the future.







Photos by  
Aly Darin



**M**ARIELLE WOULD LIKE families to know, "I sing, I'm silly and I like smiling!" She is a very lovable and adoring young girl. Marielle loves attending school and enjoys playing sports. Her favorite school subject is reading and her favorite sport to play is basketball. Marielle enjoys playing any type of game, and notes that she really likes Monopoly. She loves animals, her favorites being dogs and cats. Marielle states that her favorite food is a Burger King Whopper. She adds, "If I could visit any place on Earth I would like to go to Nicki Minaj's house, because she is awesome!" Marielle also reports that she would like to meet Justin Bieber. She is very proud of herself and her singing voice.

Marielle would like a family who is capable of loving her as their own. She needs an adoptive family who understands the emotions that stem from her past. An ideal family would continue her therapy and help her with homework one on one. They would care for her and provide her with a consistent and loving home. The family must seek out any support services that would be beneficial to her needs. The family must be strong advocates for her in the home, at school and in the community. Most importantly, Marielle needs a home that will be caring, nurturing and patient. It would be beneficial to Marielle if the family was able to lay out clear expectations in the home, provide her with structured activities and give her unconditional love.





**D**ESTINY IS A young teen who is quite the entertainer. She is funny and likes to dance and sing. Destiny is very outgoing and gets along well with her peers. Her current foster parent reports, "Destiny is humorous, easy-going and fun to have in our home." Destiny says, "I'm most proud of my accomplishments in volleyball and basketball!" She also likes to hang out with her friends and go rollerblading and ice skating. If Destiny could travel anywhere, she would like to visit London and France because she thinks it would be fun there.

Destiny would like to have a forever family that likes to go out and do things together, like bowling. She added, "I would also like to have my own room." Destiny's twin sister recently changed her goal and Destiny decided to continue her wish to be adopted. She is in need of an adoptive family who is willing to maintain contact not only with her twin, but with her other siblings as well. The family must be willing to provide her with a dedicated and stable home environment. The family needs to reassure Destiny that she is loved and an important part of the family. It would be beneficial to Destiny if an adoptive family had experience or knowledge of parenting children who have overcome difficult pasts and previous disappointments. It is very important to Destiny that she is able to maintain close contact with her older siblings and relatives.

*Photos by  
Robin Colwell*







**D**YLAN IS A young man who enjoys hanging out with his neighbors and working on old cars. He is social, polite and an articulate teen. Dylan has an artistic flair and enjoys drawing. Like most boys his age, he is very social and interested in girls. Dylan likes playing video games, especially the Nintendo Wii. He has strong leadership skills and gets along well with his peers and others. As noted above, Dylan likes cars and hopes to be involved in a vocational program next year in an auto shop.

Dylan is in need of a loving and committed family who will be there for him no matter what. He would benefit from a strong and positive male role model in his life. The family will need to provide him with structure and discipline in order to address how he manages his emotions. Dylan can feel a great deal of uncertainty regarding his adoption plan and needs a dedicated family who will not give up on him. He does very well with other children and is a generally social child. Dylan is working on being a better role model for younger children and enjoys being active, going to fairs, participating in hobbies and activities. Dylan notes that it is important to him that he is able to maintain contact with his siblings who are in other placements as they are valuable relationships to him.





*Photo by  
Wendy Marshick*

**T**IFFANY WOULD LIKE families to know, "I am kind, polite and I love to do arts and crafts." She is a very personable and sunny girl. Tiffany has a great memory and is very interactive around others. She loves music and has noted that she loves Justin Bieber. Tiffany enjoys shopping and getting her hair done. Her favorite foods are hot dogs and pepperoni pizza. Tiffany likes math and when she gets home she enjoys watching TV and movies, like the Twilight series. Tiffany would like to travel to Arizona, because she has some relatives that live there. When she grows up she would like to be a teacher or a veterinarian. Tiffany's favorite animals are dogs and sometimes cats. She mentions, "If I had three wishes, I would wish to go to college & get a job, be able to get a house and get married and have kids." Tiffany also notes that she enjoys going to church and is currently attending a non-denominational parish.

Tiffany is working on building coping skills to deal with her feelings about being in foster care. She would benefit from encouragement in seeking out positive things in her life and focusing on her goals for the future. At school, Tiffany does better in a smaller and more focused environment, in which she can receive plenty of individualized attention.

Tiffany says, "I would like to have a forever family that likes to go shopping, go out to eat, travel and watch basketball games." She would do well in an adoptive home with a strong female role model; whether it is a one or two-parent home doesn't matter. Tiffany would also do well as the only child in the home, however if there were to be other children it would be best if they were older. Tiffany does well with pets and would benefit from having one. It will be important that the family is able to dedicate a fair amount of time with Tiffany, as she thrives with a lot of one-on-one attention and supervision. The adoptive family must be able to advocate for her needs at school and in the community. They must also be willing to continue and seek out any additional support services that would help address Tiffany's needs and reach her fullest potential.



Photos by  
Renee Aleisa



**A**ARON IS A positive teen whose favorite thing is the Detroit Tigers. If he could go anywhere in the world, it would be to a Detroit Tigers game, because he wants to catch a foul ball. Aaron loves to play baseball, soccer and foosball. His favorite food is pizza and his favorite colors are blue and pink. Aaron stated that his favorite subject in school is math because he gets to learn new numbers, as well as learn how to figure out problems. When Aaron grows up, he would like to work on transmissions for Ford. He enjoys fishing, riding his bike and walking dogs. Aaron is most proud of himself for helping a lady pick up her dropped bags at the grocery store.

Aaron does best with a high amount of structure and supervision to help him manage his daily routine. At times, he can be excitable and not think about the consequences of his actions. In the past, Aaron has had difficulty managing his emotions, but recently has displayed the ability to maintain appropriate behaviors when he is upset. He responds well to redirection and benefits from extra attention. At school, Aaron is doing well with additional assistance in a smaller class setting. His emotions can get the best of him at times, but overall his teacher reports that Aaron is one of the top couple kids in class.

Aaron is a pleasant teen who is eager to be acknowledged and loved by a family. He would benefit from an adoptive family that is patient, understanding and supportive. The family must never give up on him and work to help him reach his fullest potential. Aaron would benefit from a family who has experience parenting children with emotional, developmental and educational needs. Aaron has expressed that he would like to be the only child in the home. The family must be able to continue and seek out any additional support services that can help Aaron understand and adjust to a new adoptive home. Aaron would do best in a family with a strong support network, where he can receive high levels of supervision, consistency and structure.



**G**EORGE WOULD LIKE families to know, "I've had a hard past but I will do better in a calmer place with more freedom." George is a charming young man who enjoys wrestling and other sports. He enjoys cooking and baking. When he grows up, he would like to become a pastry chef. George would like to let families know that he is smart and he is very proud of being selected to go to Washington, D.C. because of his grades. George has received many other honors for his academics and citizenship at school. He wishes that he and his brothers can be adopted together and has a great deal of care and concern for them. If George could go anywhere, he reports, "I would like to go to the Bahamas, because I researched it and it looks nice." He is very interested in playing chess and hopes to attend Harvard when he goes to college.

**D**EVIN HAS A great sense of humor and could be described as a "jokester." He likes to entertain others and be

the center of attention. Devin has a tendency to be very silly when talking with others. He enjoys joking around with his siblings. Devin notes that he loves eating candy and snacks.

**C**AMERON WANTS FAMILIES to know, "I am athletic!" Cameron is a shy, sensitive and loving young teen. He wants families to know that he loves sports and hopes he can continue to play them when he is adopted. Cameron especially enjoys wrestling, like his brother George. At school, he is well liked by his teachers and is able to maintain good relationships with his peers. Cameron is a very caring young man who enjoys spending time at school, playing sports, going to church events and spending time with his family. If he could visit anywhere on Earth, he would like to go to Florida because, "I would like to go to Disney World and the beach." Like his brother Devin, Cameron would like to join the Air Force when he grows up.



*Photos by  
Photo Boutique*





**N**OLAN WOULD LIKE families to know, "I'm smart!" He is a very intelligent and articulate little boy. He is very knowledgeable about dinosaurs and his favorite is the Velociraptor. Nolan loves to play with his friends and he likes to ride bikes, play outside or play soccer and basketball with them. He is a good reader and his favorite subject in school is science. Nolan's favorite food is pizza and he loves playing video games and with Legos. His favorite holidays are Halloween and Christmas, because he enjoys trick or treating and getting lots of presents. Nolan enjoys sports and is a Red Wings fan. If he could go anywhere on Earth he reports, "I would like to go back in time to see the dinosaurs, because I like dinosaurs." Nolan adds, "I would like to be a paleontologist or a ninja so I can fight the bad guys."

Nolan is working very hard to address his ability to vent his frustrations through positive outlets. He is learning how to appropriately express his emotions and improve his decision-making skills. Nolan does best when he can receive plenty of individualized attention, direction and redirection. He is learning how to establish and develop positive peer interactions at school and in the community. Nolan is very intelligent but benefits from consistent reminders to stay on point.

Nolan says, "I would like to have a forever family that will go get Coldstone ice cream together and have a puppy." The ideal family for Nolan would have knowledge or experience in parenting children who have been diagnosed with developmental needs. The family must have a lot of patience and time to commit to Nolan. The family should be very structured and provide Nolan with a consistent and steady daily routine. Nolan will need a family that will understand and be accepting of his past and help him achieve his fullest potential. Nolan does best when he is provided a lot of individualized attention and needs a strong adoptive family to advocate for his needs in the community and at school. The family must be willing to seek out any support services that would be beneficial to Nolan's well-being. Nolan would do best as the youngest or only child in the home as he requires a lot of individualized attention. It is important to Nolan that he is able to remain in contact with his siblings and various relatives as these are significant bonds to him.



*Photos by  
Jillyn Seagroves*



**C**RISTIAN WOULD LIKE others to know that he is nice and he misses his brother. He also recently reconnected with his sister and feels it is very important to maintain contact with both his siblings. Cristian is a young man who is kind and a good listener. He is friendly, sweet and very social when he is comfortable in his surroundings. Cristian enjoys reading, especially mysteries, and playing video games. His favorite subject in school is math and he loves listening to music and singing.

Cristian is working on understanding and controlling his emotions on a consistent basis. He is very sweet generally, but can have difficulty if he feels overwhelmed with a situation. Cristian is also making progress in his ability to have positive interactions and relationships with others. He would benefit from guidance and additional assistance in the classroom to help him manage his daily stresses and reach his fullest potential.

Cristian would like to be adopted and is very interested in the idea of meeting his forever family. He would benefit from a one or two parent family where he could be the youngest child in the home. Cristian would do well with an adoptive family that is able to encourage and participate with him in his current therapeutic programs. The family will need to be active advocates for Cristian to ensure that all of his emotional, developmental and educational needs are being met. As noted above, Cristian has two sibling relationships that mean a lot to him, so it will be important for a family to help him keep these bonds active.

*\*Make sure to check out the MARE YouTube Channel to see videos of several of the children featured in the Fall 2013 Periodical.\**





Photo by  
Heather Halligan

**A**SHLEY WOULD LIKE to let families know, "I am smart!" She is a young teen who can be kind, giving and helpful. Ashley is very bright and likes to do arts and crafts. During the summer, Ashley enjoys being outside swimming. Her favorite subject in school is science and she likes going to her local Boys & Girls Club after school. Ashley says, "Some of my favorite holidays are my birthday, Christmas, Halloween, Thanksgiving and Easter." She adds, "I like those holidays because you can dress up, decorate the house and spend time with family and friends." Ashley's favorite foods are bananas and macaroni. If she could go anywhere on Earth she reports, "I would like to go to Disney World because it looks fun." When Ashley grows up she notes that she would like to be a teacher.

Ashley is learning how to manage her emotions on a more consistent basis. She likes things to be done her way and can become frustrated when things do not go according to her plan. Ashley would benefit from guidance and support on establishing social skills and positive peer relationships. She can have difficulty understanding and respecting the boundaries of others. Ashley would also do well with assistance in creating a consistent daily routine.

Ashley says, "I would like my forever family to have fun, go different places and go swimming together." She is in need of an adoptive family who will be fully committed to helping her achieve her goals. The family must provide Ashley with a patient, loving and supportive home environment. An adoptive family should have experience or knowledge parenting a child with emotional and developmental needs. The family should also be willing to seek out and continue any support services that help address Ashley's needs. The family should assist her in establishing a consistent daily routine and be willing to advocate for her educational needs so she can reach her fullest potential.

## Adoption Agencies in Michigan

The following is a list of adoption agencies whose primary focus is facilitating the adoption of children from the foster care system. Many of these agencies may also provide foster care services. This agency list is organized by regions of the state. Please contact an agency in your area if you are interested in beginning the adoption process.

### Upper Peninsula

Anishnabek Community & Family Services, Sault Ste. Marie, 906.632.5250, [www.saulttribe.com](http://www.saulttribe.com)  
Catholic Social Services of the U.P., Escanaba, 906.786.7212, [www.cssup.org](http://www.cssup.org)  
Catholic Social Services of the U.P., Iron Mountain, 906.774.3323, [www.cssup.org](http://www.cssup.org)  
Catholic Social Services of the U.P., Marquette, 906.227.9119, [www.cssup.org](http://www.cssup.org)  
Child & Family Services of the U.P., Marquette, 906.228.4050, [www.cfsup.org](http://www.cfsup.org)  
Good Will Farm, Inc., Houghton, 906.487.9832, [www.upkids.com](http://www.upkids.com)  
Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin & Upper MI, Marquette, 877.994.8344, [www.lsswis.org](http://www.lsswis.org)  
Michigan Indian Child Welfare Agency (MICWA), Baraga, 906.353.6178, [www.itcmi.org](http://www.itcmi.org)  
Michigan Indian Child Welfare Agency (MICWA), Wilson, 906.466.2782, [www.itcmi.org](http://www.itcmi.org)  
Teaching Family Homes of Upper Michigan, Marquette, 906.249.5437, [www.teachingfamilyhomes.org](http://www.teachingfamilyhomes.org)  
Upper Peninsula Family Solutions, Marquette, 906.273.1095, [www.upfs.org](http://www.upfs.org)

### Northern & Central Lower Michigan

Adoption Option Inc., Midland, 989.839.0534, [www.adoptionoptioninc.org](http://www.adoptionoptioninc.org)  
Bethany Christian Services, Fremont, 231.924.3390, [www.bethany.org/fremont](http://www.bethany.org/fremont)  
Bethany Christian Services, Traverse City, 231.995.0870, [www.bethany.org/traversecity](http://www.bethany.org/traversecity)  
Catholic Family Services of the Diocese of Saginaw, Bay City, 989.892.2504, [www.cfssite.org](http://www.cfssite.org)  
Child & Family Services of Northeast MI, Alpena, 989.356.4567, [www.cfsnemi.org](http://www.cfsnemi.org)  
Child & Family Services of Northwest MI, Traverse City, 231.946.8975, [www.cfsnwmi.org](http://www.cfsnwmi.org)  
Eagle Village, Hersey, 231.832.2234, [www.eaglevillage.org](http://www.eaglevillage.org)  
Heaven Sent Adoption, Charlevoix, 231.237.9880, [www.heavensentadopt.com](http://www.heavensentadopt.com)  
Lutheran Adoption Service, Bay City, 989.686.3170, [www.lasadoption.org](http://www.lasadoption.org)  
Lutheran Adoption Service, Clare, 989.386.2101, [www.lasadoption.org](http://www.lasadoption.org)  
New Light Child & Family Consultants, Millington, 989.871.6695

### Tri-County Area (Wayne, Oakland & Macomb Counties)

Adoption Options Worldwide, West Bloomfield, 248.855.2813, [www.adoptionoptionsworldwide.com](http://www.adoptionoptionsworldwide.com)  
Bethany Christian Services, Madison Heights, 248.414.4080, [www.bethany.org/madisonheights](http://www.bethany.org/madisonheights)  
Catholic Social Services of Wayne County, Detroit, 313.883.2100, [www.csswayne.org](http://www.csswayne.org)  
Child Safe Michigan, Southfield, 248.353.0921, [www.childsafemichigan.org/](http://www.childsafemichigan.org/)  
The Children's Center of Wayne County, Detroit, 313.831.5535, [www.thechildrenscenter.com](http://www.thechildrenscenter.com)  
Ennis Center for Children, Detroit, 313.342.2699, [www.enniscenter.org](http://www.enniscenter.org)  
Ennis Center for Children, Pontiac, 248.334.2715, [www.enniscenter.org](http://www.enniscenter.org)  
Family Adoption Consultants, Utica, 586.726.2988, [www.facadopt.org](http://www.facadopt.org)  
Forever Families, Novi, 248.344.9606, [www.noviforeverfamilies.net](http://www.noviforeverfamilies.net)  
Homes for Black Children, Detroit, 313.961.4777, [www.homes4blackchildren.org](http://www.homes4blackchildren.org)  
Judson Center, Redford, 313.794.5653, [www.judsoncenter.org](http://www.judsoncenter.org)  
Lutheran Adoption Service, Troy, 248.423.2770, [www.lasadoption.org](http://www.lasadoption.org)  
Methodist Children's Home, Redford, 313.531.4060, [www.mchsmi.org](http://www.mchsmi.org)  
Oakland Family Services, Pontiac, 248.858.7766, [www.oaklandfamilyservices.org](http://www.oaklandfamilyservices.org)  
Orchards Children's Services, Southfield, 248.258.0440, [www.orchards.org](http://www.orchards.org)  
Spaulding for Children, Southfield, 248.443.7080, [www.spaulding.org](http://www.spaulding.org)  
Spectrum Human Services, Southfield, 248.552.1135, [www.spectrumhuman.org](http://www.spectrumhuman.org)  
St. Francis Family Center/CSS of Oakland County, Southfield, 248.552.0750, [www.cssoc.org](http://www.cssoc.org)  
Vista Maria, Dearborn Heights, 313.271.3050, [www.vistamaria.org](http://www.vistamaria.org)  
Wolverine Human Services, Taylor, 888.625.8669, [www.wolverinehs.org](http://www.wolverinehs.org)



## Southern Central Michigan

Adoption Specialists, Inc., Lapeer, 810.660.7590, [www.adoption-specialists.org](http://www.adoption-specialists.org)  
 Alternatives for Children & families, Burton, 810.250.3800, [www.acfinc.org](http://www.acfinc.org)  
 Bethany Christian Services, East Lansing, 517.336.0191, [www.bethany.org/eastlansing](http://www.bethany.org/eastlansing)  
 Catholic Charities of Lenawee County, Adrian, 517.263.2191, [www.ccjlhc.org](http://www.ccjlhc.org)  
 Catholic Charities of Shiawassee & Genesee, Flint, 810.232.9950, [www.catholiccharitiesflint.org](http://www.catholiccharitiesflint.org)  
 Catholic Social Services of Washtenaw, Ann Arbor, 734.971.9781, [www.csswashtenaw.org](http://www.csswashtenaw.org)  
 Child & Family Services—Capital Area, Lansing, 517.882.4000, [www.childandfamily.org](http://www.childandfamily.org)  
 Ennis Center for Children, Flint, 810.233.4031, [www.enniscenter.org](http://www.enniscenter.org)  
 Ennis Center for Children, Port Huron, 810.990.1424, [www.enniscenter.org](http://www.enniscenter.org)  
 Family Counseling & Children Services of Lenawee, Adrian, 517.265.5352, [www.fccservices.org](http://www.fccservices.org)  
 Family Service & Children's Aid, Jackson, 517.787.7920, [www.strong-families.org](http://www.strong-families.org)  
 Fostering Futures, Ypsilanti, 734.481.8999, [www.fostering-futures.com](http://www.fostering-futures.com)  
 Hands Across the Water, Ann Arbor, 734.477.0135, [www.hatw.org](http://www.hatw.org)  
 Livingston County Catholic Charities, Howell, 517.545.5944, [www.livingstoncatholiccharities.org](http://www.livingstoncatholiccharities.org)  
 Lutheran Adoption Service, Ann Arbor, 734.971.1944, [www.lasadoption.org](http://www.lasadoption.org)  
 Lutheran Adoption Service, Jackson, 517.789.6444, [www.lasadoption.org](http://www.lasadoption.org)  
 Lutheran Adoption Service, Lansing, 517.886.1380, [www.lasadoption.org](http://www.lasadoption.org)  
 Michigan Indian Child Welfare Agency, Lansing, 517.393.3256, [www.itcmi.org](http://www.itcmi.org)  
 St. Vincent Catholic Charities, Lansing, 517.323.4734, [www.stvcc.org](http://www.stvcc.org)

## Southwest Michigan

Bethany Christian Services, Grand Rapids, 616.224.7550, [www.bethany.org/grandrapids](http://www.bethany.org/grandrapids)  
 Bethany Christian Services, Holland, 616.396.0623, [www.bethany.org/holland](http://www.bethany.org/holland)  
 Bethany Christian Services, Kalamazoo, 269.372.8800, [www.bethany.org/kalamazoo](http://www.bethany.org/kalamazoo)  
 Bethany Christian Services, Muskegon, 231.733.1618, [www.bethany.org/muskegon](http://www.bethany.org/muskegon)  
 Catholic Charities—West MI, Grand Rapids, 616.456.1443, [www.ccwestmi.org](http://www.ccwestmi.org)  
 Catholic Charities—West MI, Muskegon, 231.726.4735, [www.ccwestmi.org](http://www.ccwestmi.org)  
 D.A. Blodgett Services, Grand Rapids, 616.451.2021, [www.dablodgett.org](http://www.dablodgett.org)  
 Family Adoption Consultants, Kalamazoo, 269.343.3316, [www.facadopt.org](http://www.facadopt.org)  
 Family & Children's Services, Inc., Kalamazoo, 269.344.0202, [www.fcsources.org](http://www.fcsources.org)  
 Family & Children's Services, Inc., Battle Creek, 269.965.3247, [www.fcsources.org](http://www.fcsources.org)  
 Lutheran Adoption Service, Grand Rapids, 616.356.1934, [www.lasadoption.org](http://www.lasadoption.org)  
 Lutheran Adoption Service, Kalamazoo, 269.345.5776, [www.lasadoption.org](http://www.lasadoption.org)  
 Michigan Indian Child Welfare Agency, Grand Rapids, 616.454.3142, [www.itcmi.org](http://www.itcmi.org)  
 Pathways, Holland, 616.396.2301, [www.pathwaysmi.org](http://www.pathwaysmi.org)  
 Youth Guidance Foster Care & Adoption Center, Battle Creek, 269.969.9438, [www.citylinc.org](http://www.citylinc.org)

**Please visit [www.mare.org](http://www.mare.org) for a complete listing of agencies who license families for foster care, in addition to adoption homestudies, including your local County Department of Human Services office.**



The Michigan Adoption Resource Exchange is proud to offer the Adoption Navigator Program. Adoption Navigators are experienced adoptive parents who offer guidance and personal knowledge to potential adoptive families. The Adoption Navigators have many years of parenting experience, have adopted a number of children, and have knowledge of foster care, infant & older, and domestic & international adoption procedures.

Families who contact MARE for initial adoption information will be given the option to work with a Navigator to help guide them through the process. Having an Adoption Navigator is a free & voluntary service.

# Michigan Adoption Resource Exchange

P.O. Box 980789

Ypsilanti, MI 48197



The Michigan Adoption Resource Exchange is a program of Judson Center and is funded by the Michigan Department of Human Services.

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