

DECEMBER 2013

thenationalcenterforadoption.org

# The National Center for

*Promoting adoption as a positive parenting option*

# Adoption



## New Law Impacting Sibling Placements in Foster Care

One of the goals of juvenile law in Iowa is to keep siblings together whenever possible. On July 1<sup>st</sup>, a new law (Senate File 362) went into effect. It requires DHS to notify adoptive parents when biologically-related siblings and half-siblings of their adopted child enter foster care. Additionally, those parents are now defined as relatives and eligible to qualify as a “relative placement” for their child’s biologically-related siblings and half-siblings. With this new law, Iowa becomes the fifth state in the nation to allow (adoptive) parents of biologically-related siblings to serve as a relative placement.

If you would like to read the full text of Senate File 362, please view it at:  
<http://coolice.legis.iowa.gov/linc/85/external/govbills/sf362.pdf>

(Right) CEO Diana Baltimore stops for a quick photo after presenting her research at the International Conference on Adoption Research in Bilboa, Spain.



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 @natcentadoption

## Donations

Thank you to the following families for their gifts in memory of Chuck Doran (Diana Baltimore’s birth father):

- Dr. John and Jane Cook
- George and Laura Klesel
- Jerry and Melanie Nystrom
- Mike and Christie Overton
- Dr. Scott and Gail Thiel

Donations can be made online at [thenationalcenterforadoption.org](http://thenationalcenterforadoption.org), or by mailing them to:  
 P.O. Box 367  
 Boone, IA 50036

## Dave Thomas Foundation and Harris Interactive Present the Results of 2013 Adoption Survey

The Dave Thomas Foundation and Harris Interactive partnered to survey more than 1,400 American adults via their online survey. The 2013 National Foster Care Adoption Attitudes Survey asked adults about their opinions of foster care adoptions as opposed to private domestic infant adoptions. It was discovered that Americans have a more positive perspective towards foster care adoption than in past years. Despite the more positive perspective towards foster care adoption it is still not viewed as a positive experience. According to the Dave Thomas Foundation, “Americans – even those who are considering foster care adoption – still have a negative impression of the process, the costs, and potential behavioral and medical issues with children in foster care.”



Currently, there are more than 100,000 children who are living in the foster care system that are eligible to be adopted, more than 26,000 of those children will age out of a system without having a family to support and love them. The research on perceptions of adoption is critical in determining what needs to change in order for these children to have safe, loving people that they can permanently call their family.

### The National Center for Adoption in the News



Learn about the adoption triad by reading one family’s story of adoption and tips for others interested in adopting a child!

<http://newsrepublican.com/news/adoption-boone-part-1-making-family.html>

Read about Diana Baltimore’s experiences of being adopted, an adoptive parent, an adoption researcher, and the executive director for The National Center for Adoption.

<http://newsrepublican.com/news/adoption-boone-part-2-grateful-selfless-choice.html>

Read about a young woman who made an adoption plan for her child’s best interests and how her decision contributed to making a family.

<http://newsrepublican.com/news/adoption-boone-part-3-helping-make-family.html>



# Thank You!

The National Center for Adoption would like to thank everyone who participated in the Gingerbread Run for Adoption. It was the first annual event and it was a great success thanks to everyone who volunteered and participated. All of the support is greatly appreciated!



A special thank you to our guest of honor, Shelley Russell (pictured to the left with her family at the run)! Also, thank you to these sponsors: Variety-The Children's Charity, Iowa KidsNet, AMP-Achieving Maximum Potential, Youth and Shelter Services, Inc., and The National Center for Adoption. Over \$3700 was raised, which will be used to promote adoption.

