The Adoption Exchange creates a world where **no child has to wait in foster care.** Through intensive, child-focused recruitment and evidence-informed family support services, we find caring adults who can change a child from a statistic to a success story.

### The Issue

- **427,910** children are in foster care in the United States
- **111,820** children are in foster care waiting for adoption
- **20,789** children leave foster care without a formal connection

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Foster Care</th>
<th>Waiting for Adoption</th>
<th>Leaving Without Connection</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>5,644</td>
<td>926</td>
<td>496*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nevada</td>
<td>4,485</td>
<td>1,998</td>
<td>259*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utah</td>
<td>2,704</td>
<td>594</td>
<td>272*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*AFCARS - 2015

Those **children who leave foster care** without a connection are likely to face significant issues before they are 24:

- **60%** will be chronically unemployed
- **60%** of men will be convicted of a crime
- **50%** will struggle with substance abuse
- **75%** of women will require government assistance
- **33%** of men will require government assistance

**Major study by Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago and Partners for Our Children at the University of Washington - 2012**

### The Adoption Exchange Solution

- **8,401** children connected
- **68,250** inquiring families served
- **$5,000** per child for intensive recruitment services

**Study by Hanson - 2006**

Those **children who are adopted** do significantly better:

- **110%** more likely to attend college
- **25%** fewer visits to hospital/ER
- **19%** fewer teen pregnancies
- **54%** less likely to get arrested
- **47%** less likely to experience homelessness

**The Adoption Exchange is an equal opportunity organization serving ALL families, ALL children, and ALL employment candidates. We do not discriminate on the basis of income, race, creed, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, physical ability, veteran status, military obligations, or marital status.**

www.adoptex.org
• Provides intensive, child-focused recruitment for the longest-waiting children. Using evidenced-informed models, we have recruiters with small caseloads who work aggressively to find and build connections for specific children.

• Mentors our oldest and most at-risk kids. Our CHOICE mentor program allows kids most at risk of aging out of foster care to develop lasting relationships with adults who will be there for a lifetime.

• Offers specialized matching events and services that allow children and families to connect through casual activities and games.

• Funds scholarships for after-school activities like dance classes, sports, and music lessons so that all of our kids have the opportunity to connect with other kids, adults, and potential adoptive families.

• Is a nonprofit 501(c)3 charity that works on behalf of children in foster care.

• Partners with federal, state, and local governments to create and implement programs that find homes for kids.

• Utilizes online, social media, television, and print strategies to recruit families; including a traveling Heart Gallery that showcases our waiting children by professional photographers and Wednesday’s Child programs on local television.

• Trains families and professionals about general adoption, adoption from foster care, and working with children suffering from abuse and neglect.

• Supports families, guiding them through the adoption-from-foster-care process, facilitating connections with kids, and offering an array of post-adoption services.

• Trains and provides technical assistance for child welfare systems in all 50 states on how best to recruit, train, and develop foster and adoptive families.

How

• Is a nonprofit 501(c)3 charity that works on behalf of children in foster care.

• Partners with federal, state, and local governments to create and implement programs that find homes for kids.

• Has offices in Colorado, Nevada, and Utah working on behalf of kids in those states, as well as in Missouri, Oklahoma, South Dakota, and Wyoming; and provides training and support to child welfare systems in all 50 states.

The Adoption Exchange

They say that the odds and statistics are stacked against me. Well, they may be but I am not a statistic, and I am not an odd. I am an 18 year old girl that wants to be loved by a family. I have lived in the foster care system for 13 years. I have been told many times within those 13 years that being older makes me more unable to be adopted, but I never lose hope.”

ESTELLA
4,745 DAYS IN FOSTER CARE