



Dave Thomas Foundation *for Adoption*®

Finding Forever Families for Children in Foster Care



“BEFORE I WAS ADOPTED”
A RADIO PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

DAVE THOMAS FOUNDATION FOR ADOPTION

The Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption is a national nonprofit public charity dedicated to finding permanent homes for the more than 125,000 children waiting to be adopted from foster care in the United States. Created by Wendy's® founder Dave Thomas, who was adopted, the Foundation implements evidence-based, results-driven national service programs, foster care adoption awareness campaigns and innovative grantmaking.

To learn more, visit davethomasfoundation.org.



There are more than
437,000
CHILDREN
*in the foster
care system in the
United States.*

Learn more about the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption

ABOUT



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Dear Public Service Director,

Right now, more than 437,000 children are in foster care in the United States, 125,000 of whom have been permanently removed from their family of origin because of abuse and neglect. Sadly, the number of children waiting to be adopted from foster care is on the rise — [a 23 percent increase](#) since 2012.

Our nation's child welfare system is being stretched far beyond its capacity as families are devastated by the opioid crisis and other issues. Unresolved through policy and evidence-based, innovative practices, this problem has far-reaching impacts. Last year, nearly 20,000 teens turned 18 or 21 and aged out of care without a permanent home. With nowhere to turn for support, many are at a higher risk of negative outcomes, such as homelessness, unemployment and early parenting, which can happen to a child who can't go home and simply say, "I need some help."

Created in 1992 by Wendy's® founder Dave Thomas, who was adopted, the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption is the only public nonprofit charity in the United States focused exclusively on foster care adoption.

Through our signature program, [Wendy's Wonderful Kids®](#), the Foundation provides funding to adoption agencies to hire recruiters who implement an evidence-based, child-focused recruitment model. The model is proven to be up to three times more effective at serving children who have been in foster care the longest, including teenagers, children with special needs and siblings.

With support from the Foundation's generous donors, the Foundation has helped find forever families for more than 9,000 children across the United States. But there is more work to be done to serve children still waiting to be adopted who need our help the most.

On behalf of the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption, thank you for supporting this public service campaign and for sharing our message.

All good wishes,



Rita L. Soronen
President & CEO
Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption

Before I Was Adopted

Please inform your audience about the importance of foster care adoption by airing the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption's new PSA campaign, "**Before I Was Adopted**" (:60, :30, :30 or :15).

The PSAs encourage listeners to visit davethomasfoundation.org to learn more.

We hope you will air this campaign, **which has an end date of January 31, 2021**, as soon and as often as possible. Together, we will achieve vision that every child has a permanent home and a loving family.

If you have any questions, please contact the Foundation's distribution representative:

Shaliza Thomas
Connect360 Multimedia
212-624-9187
sthomas@c360m.com



"Before I Was Adopted — Teen Voices" (:60)

GIRL 1 V/O: Before I was adopted, I felt like nobody wanted me. I felt like my life was already over.

BOY 1 V/O: At a certain age they don't want you. You're troubled and stuff. Even if I wanted to be adopted who would adopt a 17-year-old?

GIRL 2 V/O: Inside I knew, like I'm not a troubled kid. I know what I'm in for, why I'm here.

BOY 2 V/O: My biggest fear was that I would age out and not know how to be sufficient on my own.

GIRL 3 V/O: I had nightmares every single day in my birth mom's house. It was just really scary for me living there.

BOY 3 V/O: I was scared. I was lost. And I felt hopeless.

GIRL 4 V/O: I felt like, don't I deserve to feel happy and loved?

BOY 4 V/O: I just wish I had gotten adopted sooner.

NARRATOR V/O: Unfortunately the number of children waiting to be adopted from foster care is on the rise. The Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption is the only public nonprofit charity in the US focused exclusively on foster care adoption. You can help. Go to DaveThomasFoundation.org to learn more.

"Before I Was Adopted — Opioid Crisis Forcing Children into Foster Care" (:30)

NARRATOR V/O: When a parent struggles with addiction or dies from a drug overdose, what happens to their children? Far too many end up in foster care, unable to ever return to their birth homes because it's simply not safe. The Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption is fighting the clock so that teens don't age out of foster care, leaving them at a higher risk of addiction and other negative outcomes that can happen to a child without the love and stability of a permanent family. Learn more at davethomasfoundation.org.

"Before I Was Adopted — Teen Voices" (:30)

GIRL 1 V/O: Before I was adopted, I felt like, felt like my life was already over.

BOY 1 V/O: My biggest fear was that I would age out and not know how to be sufficient on my own.

GIRL 1 V/O: At a certain age like, they don't want you, you're troubled and stuff.

NARRATOR V/O: The clock is ticking for the more than 125,000 kids waiting to be adopted from foster care. Help the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption prevent them from aging out without a permanent family. Learn more at DaveThomasFoundation.org.

"Before I Was Adopted — Teen Voices" (:15)

NARRATOR V/O: Right now, more than 125,000 children are waiting to be adopted from foster care. The Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption works around the clock to find them the permanent, loving homes they deserve. You can help. Learn more at DaveThomasFoundation.org.

AVAILABLE FOR DIGITAL DOWNLOAD

These PSAs are available for digital download below:

<http://www.c360m.com/PSAConnect/dt/>

This PSA campaign has an End Date of January 31, 2021.

"Before I Was Adopted — Teen Voices" (:60, :30, :15)

"Before I Was Adopted — Opioid Crisis Forcing Children into Foster Care" (:30)

Connect360 has developed an easier way for stations to report PSA airings via a new website. This replaces our PSA reply forms and sending responses by fax or e-mail.

Please visit the following website to provide PSA usage information for this campaign: <http://psa.c360m.com/?p=K139713>

Please let us know your preferences on receiving PSAs by contacting Shaliza Thomas via e-mail at sthomas@c360m.com or by phone at (212) 624-9187.

501(c)(3) Certificate:

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
DISTRICT DIRECTOR
P. O. BOX 2508
CINCINNATI, OH 45201

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date: APR 22 1997

Employer Identification Number:
31-1356151
EIN:
17053089881007
Contact Person:
D. A. DOWNING
Contact Telephone Number:
(513) 241-5199
Our Letter Dated:
December, 1992
Addendum Applies:
No

DAVE THOMAS FOUNDATION FOR ADOPTION
C/O ROH MUSICK
PO BOX 256
DUBLIN, OH 43017-0256

Dear Applicant:

This modifies our letter of the above date in which we stated that you would be treated as an organization that is not a private foundation until the expiration of your advance ruling period.

Your exempt status under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code as an organization described in section 501(c)(3) is still in effect. Based on the information you submitted, we have determined that you are not a private foundation within the meaning of section 509(a) of the Code because you are an organization of the type described in section 509(a)(2).

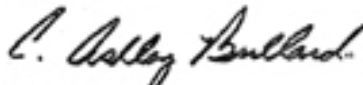
Grantors and contributors may rely on this determination unless the Internal Revenue Service publishes notice to the contrary. However, if you lose your section 509(a)(2) status, a grantor or contributor may not rely on this determination if he or she was in part responsible for, or was aware of, the act or failure to act, or the substantial or material change on the part of the organization that resulted in your loss of such status, or if he or she acquired knowledge that the Internal Revenue Service had given notice that you would no longer be classified as a section 509(a)(2) organization.

If we have indicated in the heading of this letter that an addendum applies, the addendum enclosed is an integral part of this letter.

Because this letter could help resolve any questions about your private foundation status, please keep it in your permanent records.

If you have any questions, please contact the person whose name and telephone number are shown above.

Sincerely yours,



District Director



Dave Thomas
Foundation
for Adoption[®]

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davethomasfoundation.org