

# NOW & FOREVER SOCIETY

A CHILD • A FAMILY • YOUR LEGACY

**Trannelle, Ronzell & Ronnell**

Adopted in 2018



FOSTER & ADOPTIVE CARE COALITION  
FOR EVERY CHILD... A PLACE TO CALL HOME

# For Every Child . . . A Place to Call Home

**T**he Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition (Coalition) exists to ensure every child has a place to call home. To achieve that goal, we focus on two things: finding homes for our community's hardest-to-place kids (older youth, sibling groups, and kids with special needs), and supporting foster and adoptive families so our kids can heal.

**Founded in 1989 in response to the crack cocaine epidemic, the Coalition has since emerged as a national leader in foster care reform, especially for our innovative response to the opioid epidemic.** The crisis is real and immediate; we see more children in care today than we have in decades. But while children entering foster care during the crack cocaine epidemic often spent their entire childhoods in the system, our programs today find families for children in record time.

**The Coalition offers the way forward for an overwhelmed child welfare system.** We find new ways to build resilience in our families and create stability in our children's chaotic lives. We model transparency and accountability, setting the standard for data-driven solutions to complex problems. We inspire other agencies to reach higher in service to children in foster care; our

innovative programs are currently being replicated at more than 20 other agencies around the country as they seek to reproduce our unmatched outcomes.

**This groundbreaking work is only possible with the resources to innovate.** Thanks to a challenge grant from an Anonymous Donor, your gift will be matched, leveraging your impact for our children and families. Although we cannot predict what the next crisis will be, we can be ready. By joining the Now & Forever Society, you commit your legacy to every child's dream of a loving family, now and forever.

**We invite you to join the Now & Forever Society, an esteemed group of forward-thinking individuals who recognize that there will always be children who need a place to call home. Your legacy becomes a living testament, a promise that every child will grow up with a family.**

**Our innovative programs are currently being replicated at more than 20 other agencies around the country.**

**A Child - A Family - Your Legacy**

## Courtney, Jessica & Michelle

Found their forever family in 2018

“ What could be a more precious, lasting gift than one that gives a forever family to a child who doesn't have one? While our estate is not vast, we can change the world for a few of these children by joining the Now & Forever Society. ”

*- Shelley Thomas-Benke*



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# Kids Who Need Help, Get Help

**48%** increase in number of children in Missouri foster care in last decade

## 30 Days to Family®



Kids are placed with relatives within 30 days of entering foster care



Saves Missouri taxpayers \$1.3 million in case management costs each year



Nationally, between 15–25% of all adoptions fail, sending children back into foster care

## Crisis Intervention

100

children remain in their adoptive families each year with the help of crisis intervention



Saves Missouri taxpayers more than \$8 million per year in psychiatric and residential costs

**60%** of foster parents quit after the first year nationally

## Training

98%

of foster parents we serve continue fostering after the first year



3,000 hours of cutting-edge training provided to parents



Older youth, sibling groups, and kids with special needs languish in foster care (national average is 2 years)

## Extreme Recruitment®



Finds adoptive families for most vulnerable youth in foster care in only 12–20 weeks



Saves Missouri taxpayers \$10 million each year in future homelessness, healthcare, and incarceration costs

**Dae'yona**  
Adopted in 2018

“ We support the Coalition because they are a leader in groundbreaking child welfare practice. Their passion and innovation are manifest in all they do. You can rest assured that your investment will create long-term impact. ”

*- Barbara & Rob Long*



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## Dae'yona's Story

### Adopted in 2018

Late one winter night in 2008, 7-year-old Dae'yona and 8-year-old Darian came into foster care because their mom was addicted to heroin and struggled with mental illness. They were immediately split up and placed with strangers.

Their caseworker was brand new. She tried to contact relatives but found fewer than 10. With no known father, she felt she'd reached a dead end.

Out of options, the caseworker turned to Extreme Recruitment®, a daring new program to find forever families for the toughest-to-place children in foster care. She reached out to the Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition and met Edna, who was pioneering the groundbreaking Extreme Recruitment® model.

In short order, Edna doubled the number of potential relatives to take in the siblings. Then she doubled it again! Soon, she had created a burgeoning family tree and found a cousin who would consider adoption. Things were looking up for the children and Dae'yona and Darian began to see a way out of foster care.

Soon after, the children's mother died of an overdose. Even though their life with her was far from perfect, the news devastated the children. Adoption became more important than ever.

Edna had identified a long list of relatives willing to be involved in the children's lives. But a few weeks later at Dae'yona's next court appearance, tragedy struck. Each of the children's foster parents refused visits with the prospective



Dae'yona (far left) with her adoptive family

adoptive relatives. They convinced the judge that the kids were better off aging out of foster care rather than finding a forever home.

The die was cast, and Edna was not allowed to present evidence that healthy, alternative options were possible. Not only was Edna off the case, she was not even allowed to say goodbye to the children.

After 10 years with no news, Edna received a call from a colleague with the terrible news that Darian was in prison. Edna's stomach turned. She asked about Dae'yona.

As is the case with too many children relegated to foster care, Dae'yona and her brother were eventually kicked out

**In short order, Edna doubled the number of potential relatives to take in the siblings. Then she doubled it again.**

of their foster homes and began the heartbreaking shuffle from foster home to foster home, from school to school.

Dae'Yona had grown desperate. She was 17 years old and still trying to find someone to adopt her.

Edna was quickly reinvented onto the case. She met Dae'Yona at a restaurant, seeing Dae'Yona sitting at a table by herself. Edna told Dae'Yona how troubled she remained about not being able to say goodbye years before. She told Dae'Yona that she never stopped thinking about her and her brother. The situation was dire. More than half of Dae'Yona's life had been spent in foster care. Nearing 18 years old and struggling in school, Dae'Yona was considered "unadoptable" by many agencies.

It took Edna two weeks to find an aunt, Stephanie, who was willing to consider adopting Dae'Yona. Under the caring guidance of her aunt and the behind-the-scenes workings of the Coalition's Educational Advocacy team, Dae'Yona attended summer school. She became a straight-A student and a cheerleader. Her coworkers at her part-time job loved her.

The Coalition helped the new family adjust and thrive. We facilitated difficult conversations about living with past trauma, setting boundaries and expectations. We brought cutting-edge, trauma-informed parenting techniques into

their home, and helped them apply these techniques in real-life situations.

Though Dae'Yona regained her life and future, she ached for her brother, whom she hadn't seen since his arrest years prior. Darian represented something essential: the last person alive to know Dae'Yona since birth. After all, sibling relationships are the longest-lasting a child will ever have.

Due to the sensitivity of the situation, a reunion took Edna weeks of delicate negotiations. Finally the day arrived and Aunt Stephanie took Dae'Yona to the prison. Dae'Yona worried that if only she had helped Darian believe they would one day find a forever family, that maybe he wouldn't be in prison. She wished she could have helped him keep his hope, helped him hang on a little longer.

Today, Dae'Yona talks about her adoption day the way most people recall their wedding, or the birth of a child. She always knew she was worthy of a family. She never gave up hope.



**In 2011, before this work was supported in our community, Edna was removed from seven cases by foster parents, judges, and caseworkers who didn't see the value in what she did. Since then, Edna has created 46 adoptions for our community's most vulnerable children, including sibling groups, older youth, and kids with special needs. In 2016, Edna was named "Outstanding Adoption Specialist of the Year" by the nationally-renowned Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption. She has not been removed from a case in years.**

# Peyton & Breydan

Adopted in 2018

“ We believe in the work of the Coalition and that every child needs a family. The legacy we want to leave as members of the Now & Forever Society is improving the lives of children in foster care and ensuring that they have forever families. ”

*- David & Danielle Singer*



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## How to Leave Your Legacy

How Can I Help?	What Financial Vehicle Should I Use?	Advantages to Me?
<p><b>Use This Simple Strategy</b></p>	<p><b>Make a Donation Today from Your</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Donor Advised Fund</li> <li>• Appreciated Securities (stocks, bonds, mutual funds)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eliminates capital gains tax</li> <li>• Receive an income tax deduction for the full fair market value of your gift</li> <li>• Option to create a legacy gift online with your Donor Advised Fund by designating the Coalition</li> </ul>
<p><b>Fill Out a Form</b></p>	<p><b>List the Coalition as a Beneficiary of Your</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Retirement plan/401k</li> <li>• Life Insurance</li> <li>• IRA</li> <li>• Pension</li> <li>• Bank Account (POD)</li> <li>• Home or other property</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allows you to select a percentage of your assets' final value, or identify a specific amount</li> <li>• Allows you to support your loved ones while leaving your legacy</li> </ul>
<p><b>Get Help from an Attorney</b></p>	<p><b>Name the Coalition in Your</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will</li> <li>• Trusts (CRT, CLT, ILT)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doesn't affect your current budget</li> <li>• Relieves tax burden on your heirs</li> <li>• Can avoid probate costs</li> </ul>

Please consult with your financial and/or tax advisor to determine what method of charitable giving is best for you.

# Myke'z & Jameer

Adopted in 2018

“ From the first time we volunteered at an event, it was immediately clear that Coalition employees are not only strong advocates for kids, but they are all genuinely optimistic and passionate about what they do. We decided to join the Now & Forever Society by leaving a gift to the Coalition that is a percentage of our total trust so we can provide for both the people we love and this important mission even after we're gone. ”

*- John & Kathy Zeigler*

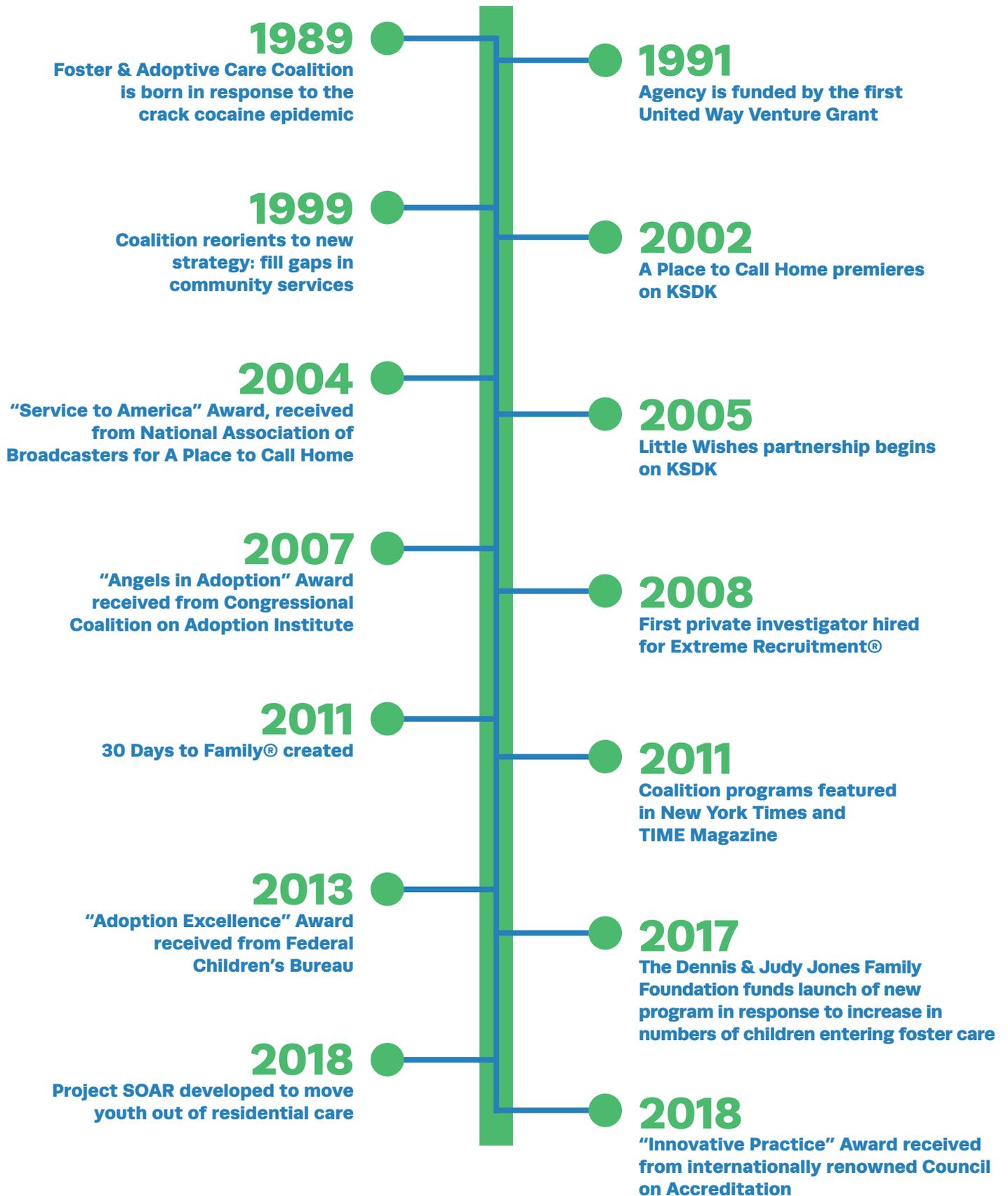


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# 30 Years of Innovation



# Emma, Grace & Maggie

Adopted in 2018



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[www.foster-adopt.org](http://www.foster-adopt.org) | 1750 S Brentwood Boulevard, Suite 210, St. Louis, MO 63144 | 314.367.8373



Photographs Courtesy of Shana Watkins Photography | [www.shanawatkins.com](http://www.shanawatkins.com)

# Confidential Statement of Intent

I/we have made a provision for the Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition in my/our estate plan as a way of ensuring every child has a place to call home.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name (Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name (Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address

## Description of the Gift:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appreciated securities               | <input type="checkbox"/> Donor advised fund   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bequest in will or trust             | <input type="checkbox"/> IRA  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beneficiary of life insurance policy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe on opposite side)                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beneficiary of retirement plan       | <input type="checkbox"/> This gift is subject to conditions (describe on opposite side) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Charitable trust agreement           |   |

**The approximate anticipated value of this gift is \$**\_\_\_\_\_

- Attached is a copy of the portion of the will, trust, or document pertinent to this gift (optional)

## Publication and Communication

The Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition will periodically publish a list of Now & Forever members unless you request to remain anonymous. Publishing your intention sets an example and inspires others to make similar gifts. All details about type or amount of each member's intention will remain confidential.

- Please list my/our name(s) as \_\_\_\_\_
- Please do not publish my/our name(s) in connection with the Now & Forever Society
- Please send me only communications specifically for the Now & Forever Society (i.e., no general newsletters)
- Please send me only the Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition's annual report each year

**This statement of intent does not constitute a legally binding pledge or agreement for me or for my estate. It documents only my intent, and may be amended at any time.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## Please Return Form to:

Kyle Williams, Director of Development  
Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition  
1750 S Brentwood Blvd., Suite 210  
St. Louis, MO 63144

Phone: 314.367.8373  
Fax: 314.241.0715  
Email: [kylewilliams@foster-adopt.org](mailto:kylewilliams@foster-adopt.org)

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# Wills & Living Trusts

Include our sample language in your will or living trust. You can specify an amount or a percentage of any remaining balance of your estate. This type of gift is flexible, simple, and you can revise it at any time.

## Sample Bequest Language

### Percentage of Estate for Unrestricted Purposes

I give, devise, and bequeath to the Foster Care Coalition of Greater St. Louis (or its successors or assigns), a not-for-profit organization located in St. Louis, Missouri, \_\_\_\_\_ percent (%) of the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate as an unrestricted gift to be used at the discretion of the Board of Trustees of the Foster Care Coalition of Greater St. Louis for the general purposes of the Foster Care Coalition of Greater St. Louis, located in St. Louis, Missouri, or its successors or assigns.

### Specific Amount for Unrestricted Purposes

I give, devise, and bequeath to the Foster Care Coalition of Greater St. Louis (or its successors or assigns), a not-for-profit organization located in St. Louis, Missouri, the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ in cash or in-kind (or \_\_\_\_\_ shares of \_\_\_\_\_ stock) to be used at the discretion of the Board of Trustees of the Foster Care Coalition of Greater St. Louis for the general purposes of the Foster Care Coalition of Greater St. Louis and its related entities.

### Specific Amount for Specific Purposes

I give, devise, and bequeath to the Foster Care Coalition of Greater St. Louis (or its successors or assigns), a not-for-profit organization located in St. Louis, Missouri, the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ in cash or in-kind (or \_\_\_\_\_ shares of \_\_\_\_\_ stock) to be used for \_\_\_\_\_ at the Foster Care Coalition of Greater St. Louis. If changed circumstances should at some future time make it impractical to continue using the income from the Fund for the purpose designated, then the Foster Care Coalition of Greater St. Louis Board Trustees may redesignate the purpose to adhere as closely as possible to my original intent.