



Stories worth SHARING

2016 ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2015– June 30, 2016



Dave Thomas
Foundation
for Adoption®



Dear Friends,

Thank you for your continued support of the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption and the critical work of finding loving, permanent homes for children and youth in foster care.

IT WAS A NOTEWORTHY YEAR, AND WE HAVE HAD SOME GREAT SUCCESSES THAT WE ARE HONORED TO SHARE WITH YOU.

Since the beginning of the Wendy's Wonderful Kids program in 2004, we have been relentless in working to find homes for children who have been in foster care the longest. This year we reached a remarkable milestone, more than 5,500 adoptions for children who had been waiting for forever families. We expanded to 215 recruiters throughout the U.S., including Washington, D.C. and six provinces in Canada. We continued to work hand-in-hand with The Wendy's Company as we upheld the values of our shared founder, Dave Thomas. We came together for three days of inspirational training during our annual Summit and we welcomed new members to our Board of Trustees.

The staff of the Foundation is growing in size and scope. We have lofty goals, including keeping any child from aging out of foster care. It is a mission that is not only painted on the walls of the Foundation offices, but a metronome that beats constantly in our minds as we do our daily work.

It is because of your continued support, that this work is possible. We are happy to connect with you year-round, but especially now as we share the many stories of success that you've helped create during our 2015-2016 fiscal year. Thank you.

All good wishes,

RITA L. SORONEN
President & CEO



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What we do

The mission of the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption is to **dramatically increase the number of adoptions from foster care**. Today, there are more than 100,000 children in foster care in the United States, simply waiting and hoping for a forever family.

SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

Wendy's Wonderful Kids

The dollars that you generously donate are helping to fund Foundation programs, including Wendy's Wonderful Kids (WWK). This program provides grants to private and public adoption agencies. The agencies then hire specially-trained adoption recruiters, whose sole mission is to find permanent, adoptive homes for the children who have been in foster care the longest.

Wendy's Wonderful Kids recruiters focus on children and youth most at risk of turning 18 or 21 and leaving foster care without an adoptive family – older children, sibling groups, children with physical or mental challenges and children who may have given up hope for a family.

Adoption Friendly Workplace

The Foundation's signature programs include Adoption Friendly Workplace, a campaign that encourages and supports employers who offer adoption and foster care benefits. It is accompanied by an annual ranking of the companies in the United States with the best adoption benefits.

National Adoption Day

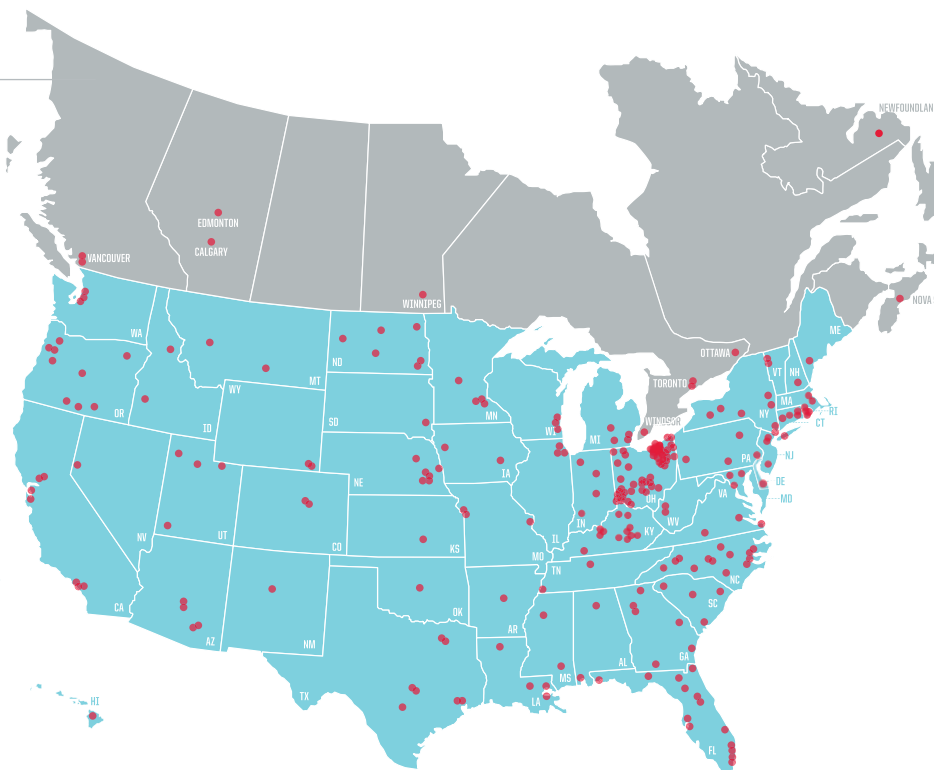
The Foundation is also a founding partner of National Adoption Day, a grassroots effort held on or near the Saturday before Thanksgiving to raise awareness of and celebrate adoptions – in courtrooms, community centers and gatherings all across America. In November 2015, 4,000 children had finalized adoptions on National Adoption Day.

THE DAVE THOMAS FOUNDATION FOR ADOPTION SUPPORTS 215 WENDY'S WONDERFUL KIDS RECRUITERS THROUGHOUT THE U.S. AND CANADA.

More than
5,500
CHILDREN
ADOPTED*

More than
4,102
CHILDREN
BEING
SERVED*

* Through the WWK program, since 2004, as of June 30, 2016.



Children served by WWK are up to
3X MORE LIKELY
to get adopted

STORY –of– INTENTION

Tyler is a 17-year-old boy living in California, thinking about where he will go to college and how he'll spend his last summer after high school.

But when Tyler was nine years old, he was searching for a permanent, loving home. That's when he met Wendy's Wonderful Kids adoption recruiter Sandy Sertyn. He had been in foster care for three years and was ready to find a home that he didn't have to leave. Tyler was so ready in fact, that the second time he met Marc and Robb, he just knew they were meant to be his parents. With bright eyes and a sense of pride, Tyler now says he simply asked Marc and Robb, "So when're you going to adopt me?"

Tyler's voice is sure and confident, confidence that he says started the day he was adopted. The day he says he finally "felt wanted." Eight years later, he's had opportunities to travel the world and learn new skills like playing the piano, experiences that he wouldn't have had without his parents.

With bright eyes and a sense of pride, Tyler now says he simply asked Marc and Robb, "So when're you going to adopt me?"

How we make it happen

We owe so much to our supportive donors. You truly make forever families possible for children in foster care. Your support will continue to make a lasting impact as we work toward our goal: **a forever family for every child.**

The Dave Thomas Lifetime of Giving Society

The cumulative giving of the following individuals and organizations has reached or exceeded \$1 million to the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption.

Aramark Uniform Services / Crest Uniform	Donna J. Gustafson Trust	Tar Heel Capital
Briad Wenco, LLC	First Sun Management Corp.	The Dave/Wendy's 3-Tour Challenge
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The Coca-Cola Company	James & Eileen Manning Charitable Trust	Wendelta, Inc.
DavCo Restaurants, Inc.	Wendy's Advertising Fund, Inc. (NY DMA Co-Op)	WendPartners
I. Lorraine Thomas and the Thomas Family	Quality Supply Chain Co-Op, Inc.	Wendy's of Montana, Inc./ Wendy's of Montana Foundation
	Stanton & Associates, Inc.	

Forever Home Society

The following individuals have made their intentions known to include the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption in their estate plans.

Donna J. Gustafson Trust
James & Eileen Manning Charitable Trust
Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Rath
Mrs. I. Lorraine Thomas

Endowment

The following individuals and organizations have made generous donations to the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption Endowment Fund. These gifts are helping to ensure the sustainability of our mission into the future and will be felt for generations.

Donna J. Gustafson Trust
Denny and Pam Lynch Family Fund
James & Eileen Manning Charitable Trust
The Russell Fund for Adoption
I. Lorraine Thomas Fund

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The Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption recognizes and celebrates individuals and organizations who so generously supported our vision between July 1, 2015–June 30, 2016:

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Wenzak, Inc.



STORY –of– DEDICATION

Longevity is something many workplaces don't experience, but our Wendy's Wonderful Kids recruiters are often the exception.

Diana Tolstedt, a WWK recruiter, works for St. John's Lutheran Ministries in Billings, Montana. For more than a decade, she has used the Foundation's child-focused recruitment model to find homes for the children who have been in foster care the longest.

"The Wendy's Wonderful Kids program has shaped the work that I do," Tolstedt said. "I am so fortunate to know the children on my caseload as individuals so that I can strategically and intentionally find them committed families who will forever meet their needs. When we use this model, it works. Children find loving, adoptive homes; children who may otherwise linger in foster care and in many cases 'age out.' Each child I work with leaves an imprint on my heart and I am compelled to do what is best for them. I truly believe in the mission of the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption. No child is unadoptable."

"**Each child I work with leaves an imprint on my heart.**"

DIANA TOLSTEDT,
WWK RECRUITER

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STORY –of– RESILIENCE

Oftentimes it takes years to find the right family for a child served by the Wendy's Wonderful Kids program.

The adoption recruiters who are hired with Foundation grant dollars take on smaller caseloads, because the children they serve need more attention, more research done to find the right family and more devotion to be sure they don't fall through the cracks and age out of foster care.

Amanda Sevison is a recruiter who doesn't give up. Kane came into her life in 2012. She fought for resources to help him flourish. She worked with him in his group home placement, where he received intensive individual attention and help to overcome the traumas he experienced. During his time in care, Amanda noticed a special bond between Kane and a staff member. Over time, she helped to nurture that relationship towards adoption. Kane has been living with the family since June 2015 and in 2016 he was legally adopted at the age of 18.



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STORY –of– IMPACT

For the second year in a row, the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption is being featured on Wendy's beverage cups.

It's a remarkable effort by The Wendy's Company to feature the Foundation on prime product real estate. There were three phases: awareness, social media sharing and adoption stories. During the social media phase, each time #Share4Adoption was used, Wendy's pledged \$5 to the Foundation for a total donation of \$500,000 thanks to customers sharing their heart on social media. The project is ongoing, so be sure to check them out next time you are at Wendy's.



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STORY *—of—* DETERMINATION Sometimes it feels like finding the right adoptive home is a race against the clock.

That's the case for **Krista Watson, a Wendy's Wonderful Kids Recruiter in Richmond, VA**. Krista began working with Richard and Jeffery in January of 2014. Richard turned 17 within days of Krista's first visit with the boys, and Jeffery was then 14 years old.

After being abused by their biological family, the boys entered foster care. Krista knew she didn't have a lot of time, but also knew she needed the boys to trust her. She went the distance to build a rapport, including taking them to a Navy SEAL boot-camp day, out for birthdays, bowling and making a special trip for Jeffrey to visit a Dodge dealership. (He **loves** cars and was in heaven.)

After seven months, Krista found a newly approved father she thought might be a great match for the boys. She was right. In October 2014, the boys moved in with their adoptive father. The boys' adoption was finalized on August 8, 2015 and their WWK case was closed, but Krista remains a part of their lives today.



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STORY –of– COMMITMENT

It's a simple act every four weeks, but monthly giving is the heartbeat of the Foundation.

For the past seven years, Carol and Stephen Roy of Lewiston, Maine have made a monthly gift to the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption. The connection for Stephen runs deeper than a giving heart – adoption is part of his identity.

He grew up knowing that he and his siblings were adopted, and his mother and father were quite proud of how they came to become parents. In fact, his mom was a part of a group for adoptive mothers called, "The Lucky Ones." They'd meet monthly to share stories and advice.

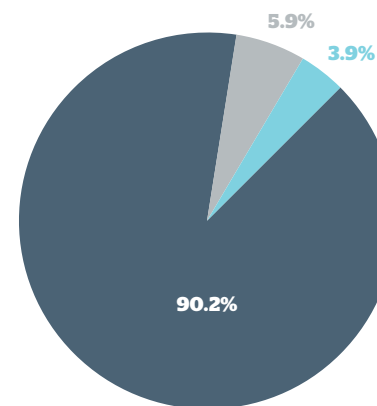
Now, as adults, the Roys are dedicated to helping the causes that are meaningful to them. We couldn't be more grateful to their commitment to our mission.



Statements of Activities and Changes in Net Assets for 12 Months Ended:

	30 June, 2016			30 June, 2015		
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total
Revenues						
Contributions	\$15,738,632	\$471,196	\$16,209,828	\$15,882,215	\$587,259	\$16,469,474
State government contracts	3,733,267	-	3,733,267	3,499,457	-	3,499,457
In-kind contributions	31,953	-	31,953	33,173	-	33,173
Investment loss, net	(138,425)	-	(138,425)	(371,587)	-	(371,587)
Interest income	15,574	-	15,574	13,992	-	13,992
Net assets released from restrictions	2,272,806	(2,272,806)	-	3,796,499	(3,796,499)	3,796,499
TOTAL REVENUES	\$21,653,807	(1,801,610)	\$19,852,197	\$22,853,749	(3,209,240)	\$19,644,509
Expenses						
Grants and allocations	\$14,921,586	-	\$14,921,586	\$17,107,900	-	\$17,107,900
Other program expenses	2,470,458	-	2,470,458	2,657,691	-	2,657,691
Total program expenses	17,392,044	-	17,392,044	19,765,591	-	19,765,591
Fundraising	1,138,953	-	1,138,953	1,353,560	-	1,353,560
General and administrative	750,698	-	750,698	671,685	-	671,685
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$19,281,695	-	\$19,281,695	\$21,790,836	-	\$21,790,836
Change in net assets	2,372,112	(1,801,610)	570,502	1,062,913	(3,209,240)	(2,146,327)
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$14,434,656	\$2,069,275	\$16,503,931	\$13,371,743	\$5,278,515	\$18,650,258
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$16,806,768	\$267,665	\$17,074,433	\$14,434,656	\$2,069,275	\$16,503,931

Fiscal Year 2016



- PROGRAM SERVICES
- MANAGEMENT & GENERAL
- FUNDRAISING

2016 Program Services is broken down among the following programs:

- Wendy's Wonderful Kids: \$13,908,555
- Wednesday's Child: \$1,833,388
- Program Grants and Awareness Programs: \$995,246
- Child-Focused Recruitment Model Training: \$250,274
- Post-Adoption: \$181,876
- Adoption-Friendly Workplace: \$129,979
- National Adoption Day/National Adoption Month: \$75,412

Statements of Financial Position:

	30 June, 2016		30 June, 2015	
Assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$13,203,425		\$11,821,033	
Receivables:				
Contributions, net	361,978		1,077,588	
Grants	146,309		216,238	
Government contracts	396,794		542,460	
Prepays and other assets	203,833		92,092	
Cash surrender value of life insurance, net	252,573		296,101	
Investments	10,138,205		10,293,192	
Property and equipment, net	72,969		39,283	
TOTAL ASSETS	\$24,776,086		\$24,377,987	
Liabilities				
Accounts payable	\$224,728		\$322,353	
Grants payable	7,358,350		7,447,568	
Accrued liabilities	118,575		104,135	
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$7,701,653		\$7,874,056	
Net Assets				
Unrestricted	\$16,806,768		\$14,434,656	
Temporarily restricted	267,665		2,069,275	
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$17,074,433		\$16,503,931	
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$24,776,086		\$24,377,987	

Financial and other information about the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption's (DTFA) purpose, programs and activities can be obtained by contacting DTFA at 716 Mt. Airyshire Blvd., Suite 100, Columbus, OH 43235 or 1-800-ASK-DTFA, or for residents of the following states, as stated below. Florida: DTFA's registration number in Florida is CH3956. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the division of consumer services by calling toll-free, within the state, 1-800-help-fla or via the internet at www.800Helpfla.Com. Maryland: For the cost of postage and copying, from the Secretary of State. Michigan: DTFA's registration number in Michigan is MICS 11789. Mississippi: The official registration and financial information of DTFA may be obtained from the Mississippi Secretary of State's office by calling 1-888-236-6167. New Jersey: Information filed with the attorney general concerning this charitable solicitation and the percentage of contributions received by the charity during the last reporting period that were dedicated to the charitable purpose may be obtained from the attorney general of the state of new jersey by calling (973) 504-6215 and is available on the internet at www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/ocp.htm#charity. New York: Upon request, from the Attorney General Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271. North Carolina: Financial information about this organization and a copy of its license are available from the State Solicitation Licensing Branch at 1-888-830-4989 (within North Carolina) or (919) 807-2214 (outside of North Carolina). Pennsylvania: The official registration and financial information of DTFA may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Virginia: From the State Office of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Affairs, P.O. Box 1163, Richmond, VA 23218. Washington: From the Secretary of State at 1-800-332-4483. West Virginia: West Virginia residents may obtain a summary of the registration and financial documents from the Secretary of State, State Capitol, Charleston, WV 25305.

Contributions are deductible for federal income tax purposes in accordance with applicable law. Registration in a state does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation of the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption by the state.



HELP FIND
FOREVER.

Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption is a national nonprofit public charity dedicated exclusively to finding permanent homes for the more than 130,000 children waiting in North America's foster care systems. 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.

Because we depend on friends like you to help us fulfill our mission, please visit davethomasfoundation.org or call 1-800-ASK-DTFA to find out how you can help.

Follow us:





WE BELIEVE

Every child deserves a safe, loving and permanent family.

No child should linger in foster care or leave the system at age 18 without a permanent family of their own.

Every child is adoptable.

Our mission

To dramatically increase the number of adoptions from foster care

Our vision

Every child will have a permanent home and loving family



Dave Thomas
Foundation
for Adoption®

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