



Dave Thomas
Foundation
for Adoption®

Forever Families for Children in Foster Care

More than 140,000 children are waiting to be adopted from foster care in the United States and Canada. Every year, more than 20,000 of these young people turn 18 or 21 and age out of the system without a permanent family. With no one to turn to for support, they are much more likely to experience homelessness, unemployment and other negative outcomes.

Who We Are

Created in 1992 by Wendy's founder Dave Thomas, who was adopted, the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption is a nonprofit public charity dedicated to finding permanent families for children in foster care who are too often overlooked.

Our Vision

Every child will have a permanent home and a loving family.



SIGNATURE PROGRAMS: HOW WE HELP



Dave Thomas
Foundation
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Wendy's
Wonderful Kids®



Dave Thomas
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Adoption-Friendly
Workplace™

Through this program, the Foundation provides funding and establishes innovative co-investment partnerships with states to support the hiring of recruiters who serve the longest-waiting children in foster care. A rigorous, five-year national evaluation revealed that children referred to the program are up to 3x more likely to be adopted. In 2017, the Foundation launched an aggressive, multi-year plan to expand the reach of Wendy's Wonderful Kids (WWK) in all 50 states and Washington, D.C.

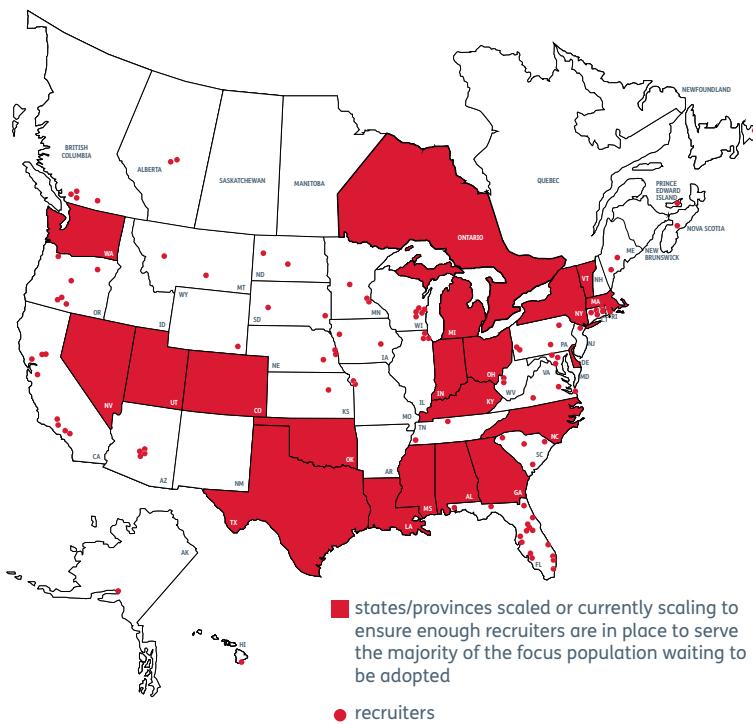
To date, in the United States and Canada:

550+

WWK RECRUITERS

14,000+

ADOPTIONS



We are proud of this impact, but there is more work to be done.

Dave Thomas led an initiative advocating for better adoption benefits in the workplace, because to him, it was just "the right thing to do." Through our Adoption-Friendly Workplace program, we recognize organizations that offer best-in-class adoption and foster care benefits, offer a toolkit to help employers develop their policies and share stories of impact.



During this annual event, courts and organizations in more than 400 communities across the United States have opened their doors on or around the Saturday before Thanksgiving to finalize and celebrate adoptions from foster care. National Adoption Day has recognized more than 80,000 children moving from foster care to a forever family.



Awareness and Research

Free resources, public service announcements, social media and events are building awareness and financial support for the Foundation's mission. Since 2002, we have also commissioned studies to measure how the public views adoption. This research informs our efforts to raise awareness and promote evidence-based practices for achieving permanency for children waiting in foster care.

YOU CAN HELP

We are grateful for our special community of supporters whose continued generosity helps the Foundation advance its mission. Together, we will make a lifetime of impact for children in foster care who need our help the most.