



# IOWANS FOR ADOPTION

## Quarterly Connection 2018 Accomplishments

*Our Mission: To promote adoption through education, research, and collaboration.*

### Second Annual Iowans for Adoption Gala

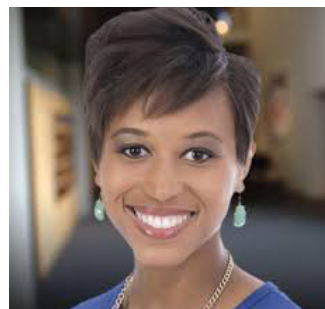


This past fall, we held our second annual Iowans for Adoption Gala at Glen Oaks Golf & Country Club. The photo above is our 2018 IFA team. Pictured left to right back row: Michelle Vogel, Bill Pearce, Sean Presnall, Melonie Wallace and Rusty Johnson. Front row: Natalie Liedman, Diana Lang and Meghan Hoyt. Not pictured: Erin Kiernan, Ryan Genest and Christopher Pose.

### 2018 Gala Keynote Speakers



IFA presented Jerry Foxhoven and Jodi Long as our 2018 keynote speakers at this year's Gala. Foxhoven, Director of the Iowa Department of Human Services, and Long, WHO-TV Channel 13 News Anchor, discussed their ties to adoption and to educate Iowans about adoption. Foxhoven, who is a well-known leader in child protection and family law, introduced Long. Long was adopted from Chicago, Illinois, as a newborn from one of the nation's largest housing projects, the Robert Taylor Homes. Her biological mother gave birth to her at the age of 19. Dick and Jayne Whitworth welcomed her in their hearts and home. Thank you, Jerry and Jodi for sharing your stories with us!



### CONTACT US

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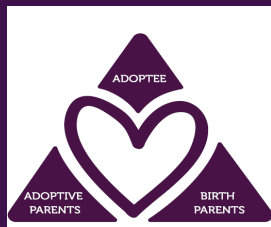
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### Gingerbread Run/Walk

We had our annual 5k Gingerbread Run/Walk event in Ames on October 7th and in Ankeny on November 3rd. Both events had a great turnout, despite the rainy weather. Thank you to everyone for coming out to support adoption. Stay tuned for more details on the event later this spring!





*Our Vision: To serve as a networking and advocacy forum for those who value and support adoption and to support all members of the adoption triad. Promote adoption as a preventative measure for improving children's and families' overall well-being.*

## WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We are forming steering committees to help with the following:

- Marketing/public relations for all of our events and social media management
- Fund-raising for sponsors for events
- Adoption conference
- Third Annual Gala
- Gingerbread Walk/Run in Ames & Ankeny
- Website updates
- Speakers for our adoption events
- Collaborating with others for grant-writing, grant-funding, publicity and educational efforts

Please contact us at [info@iowansforadoption.org](mailto:info@iowansforadoption.org) if you can assist with any of these! All help will be appreciated! To donate to our organization, click [here](#). Thank you!



## Adoption 101

Bill Pearce presented the "Iowa Adoption 101" training twice during 2018. Attendees learned about the basic legal processes of infant adoption, legal terminology, and other aspects of adoption. We are truly honored to have Bill on our board due to his background and expertise! He has done amazing work for adoption in Iowa. To schedule a training, please email us at [info@iowansforadoption.org](mailto:info@iowansforadoption.org).

## Iowans for Adoption 2018 Grant Recipients



The Seier Family (middle photo) and the Temple Family (side photos) received a grant from Iowans for Adoption in order to offset the costs of adoption and various other costs for raising their new families.

## Rusty Johnson: Thank You!



We want to say thank you to our board member, PR coordinator and professional musician, Rusty Johnson. Rusty and his committee organized our Gala, ran the silent auction, gathered many items from numerous donors, performed at the Gala, managed communications with the media and was emcee of the Gala. Thank you, Rusty!

## THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS & SPONSORS!

Gingerbread Run Sponsors: The Mike and Anne Marchetti Family in Memory of Don Doran, Adoption Associates of Iowa, Iowans for Adoption, AMP-Achieving Maximum Potential, YSS, Dreams Unlimited Mobile Sound Services, Businessolver, Princess & Pirates Face Painting, ISU Adoption Club, Grayson's Gifts, Susan Bokhoven and Family and The National Center for Adoption. Gala Silent Auction Donors: Transform Gymnastics Academy, Beloved Skin, Stephanie's Cakes, Blank Park Zoo, Scott & Susan Kirstein, Dr. Scott Thiel, Paul Denbow, Nikki Brain, FosterFocus, Clow Valve Co., Georges Niang, Shottenkirk Ford-Indianola and Oskaloosa/Whet Your Pallet. Gala Table Sponsors: Michael Pearce, Businessolver, Kreg Tool/Kreg Cares, Koch Office Group, Jayne Whitworth Family, Lillis, O'Malley, Olson, Manning, Pose & Templeman Law Firm, Grayson's Gifts, Adoption Associates of Iowa, Sigler and Culp, Doran & Genest Law Firm.





# Iowans for Adoption Showcase

*Highlighting the people, volunteers and supporters  
who make us Iowans FOR adoption.*

## 2018 IFA Business Award Recipients



Our 2018 Business Award Recipients, Diversified Management Services and New York Life, received our award by giving adoptive families paid leave and equal parental leave. We will continue to award Iowa businesses who provide significant adoption benefits to families.

## THANK YOU!

We are extremely grateful for everyone who has continuously helped up promote adoption. We had countless volunteers, news stories, participants and donors, which all added to our success. Additionally, there were many individuals and businesses that made all of our events possible through their generous contributions. Thank you to everyone who helped Iowans for Adoption get to where we are today. We couldn't have done it without your support. On behalf of Iowans For Adoption, we wish you and your family and friends a Happy New Year! We can't wait to see what 2019 has in store for us!

