

The Carroll Family

We wanted to convey to you a story of sadness with a touching outcome that was made possible by the compassion and generosity of two of the fund's loyal supporters.

This wonderful young family on Cape Cod, who previously adopted two brothers, were presented with the opportunity to adopt their younger sister who was newly born. They jumped at the chance and opened up their home to take her in. They felt strongly that the siblings should be united and grow up together in the same home with loving parents.

Soon after, tragedy struck, and the father of the family had a massive heart

attack and died. The children understandably are struggling emotionally and behaviorally with the loss of their father. The boys were especially close as their father was the only stable male influence they have known.

When we were made aware of this tragedy, we scheduled a

visit to meet the mother and her children to see how we could help. In a combined effort, Joe Ananiasi and Tom Ruane, two of the fund's key supporters immediately came forward to offer their assistance.

Joe Anastasi came with us to visit the family to understand what their needs might be. With input from the mother, we determined that a program of counseling and therapy would be beneficial to the children.

We then expedited a grant from Stone Adoption to address this need. The fund extends a big thank you to Joe and Tom for helping to make this possible.



The Colon Family

This morning I had the pleasure of meeting with Antonio and Marissa Colon and their soon to be adopted son, Romeo. Antonio is a corrections officer and Marissa is a hairdresser. They live in a modest house in a quiet neighborhood that Marissa grew up in and is perfect for children.

Romeo is just three and has cerebral palsy. He is a happy child, obviously

well-loved, is alert and beginning to talk. Romeo is Marissa's nephew (her sister's son) and has been living in their home for the past two and one half years. Their devotion to his well being and progress is clear.

Romeo wears braces on his lower legs, with which he is able to walk with the aid of a walker. He has an electric wheelchair which will be



A Message From *Ed Stone, Chairman*



Welcome to the ninth edition of the Stone Family Adoption Assistance Fund annual newsletter. As in prior years we have many new stories to tell you about how your generosity has helped to change the lives of deserving adoptive children and families. This year we have some very compelling stories included in the newsletter that only became possible through the collective efforts of you, our donors. My hope is that you will continue to feel rewarded in changing the lives of these adoptive families.

In Andrew's memory, The Stone Family Adoption Assistance Fund will provide grants to 12 families this year. In addition to awarding grants to pay for adoption fees and home studies, we helped families with various needs such as special education and learning tools, therapy and counseling programs, economic hardship with special needs children and a wheelchair lift. We continue to be a sponsor of four Wonderfund Adoption Parties where children in the foster care system can be introduced to parents looking to adopt. We have seen much success from these events and have awarded grants to families that have adopted children they were introduced to at these events.



Based on our close working relationship with Adoption Journeys, we were able to help support the development and production of a video on Siblings and Adoption that is now used in the Massachusetts adoption community. We would like to give a special thank you to Deb Estelle and Nancy Solow of Adoption Journeys whose tireless efforts have lead us to many of the adoptive families we have helped this year.

Over the past three years the success of our Annual Appeal has encouraged us to continue it. This is our only fundraising event and we fund all our assistance to adoptive families through this effort. Please read the cover letter and the newsletter section for the details on how you can continue to support us. We can't make these wonderful stories happen without you and we hope that you will join us in our mission to help the large number of families in the adoptive community that need our assistance.

As you know, except for minor administrative expenses like postage and required report filings, 100% of your donation goes directly to families. We have been able to do this because of the volunteer efforts of family and friends. Our Board of Trustees has been very generous with their time and has enjoyed going into homes and visiting our recipient families. All of our Trustees agree that the experience of meeting our grantees in the home and seeing firsthand where our assistance is going is a truly rewarding experience. I would like to extend an invitation to any of our supporters that would like would to get involved or volunteer in any way with helping these children. We are dedicated to helping as many as we can in the coming year.



Thank you for all that you've done to support The Stone Family Adoption Assistance Fund. With your generosity and in Andrew's memory, we will continue our mission to bring more children into loving homes. We hope you will join us with this year's appeal.

Ed Stone

For the Stone Adoption Fund



2018 STONE ADOPTION ANNUAL APPEAL

The Stone Family Adoption Assistance Fund, now in its 10th year, has grown from a memorial concept to an organization that assisted 12 families this past year. It is our mission to provide financial assistance to families wishing to adopt and to families that have incurred economic hardship through the adoption of special needs or foster care children.

We truly appreciate what you, our loyal and dedicated donors, have done so far. It is the collective effort of generous people like you that has enabled us to help the deserving families you read about in this newsletter. We understand that there are many charities to donate to and we are especially grateful that you feel strongly enough about our mission to choose to support us. It is our pledge to you, that except for minor administrative expenses, 100% of your donation goes directly to families. Our fund is an all volunteer effort of family and friends.

We would like to ask you to join us as we continue to reach out to the families in need. As the awareness and reputation of our fund grows in the adoptive community, there are more and more families that come to us for assistance. Your support will allow us to carry forward as we help to build adoptive families.

Please make your donation payable to: **Stone Family Adoption Assistance Fund**
c/o Stone & Company
57 Bedford Street, Suite 225
Lexington, MA 02420

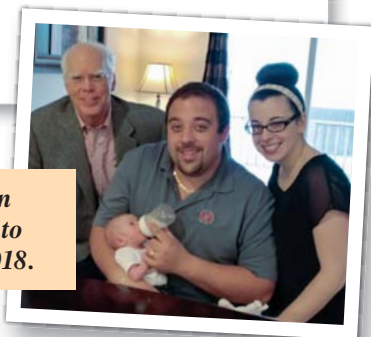
The Gozzo Family

Mary and I had a visit with a wonderful young family in Tewksbury last week. Melissa and Anthony have known each other since kindergarten and have been happily married for the last three years. Over that time they have tried, against all odds, to conceive a child. They explored all possible options with no success.

They then turned to adoption and with many challenges and much patience, they were finally rewarded with the match of a beautiful baby girl, Noelle, through Adoptions With Love. They experienced false starts and great personal expense but persevered to achieve their goal of building a family.

Anthony and Melissa are a loving couple that are clearly dedicated to each other. They have exhausted their savings to pay the expenses of the adoption process. We recommend that Stone Adoption provide them with a grant to help with the overall cost of their adoption.

Don Main, Trustee



The Trustees of Stone Adoption unanimously approved a grant to the Gozzo family in January 2018.

The Kelley Family

Sally and I visited Janet and David Kelley and their beautiful baby daughter, Glory Rose. The Kelley's are a very nice couple of modest means that live in Dorchester. They have exhausted all their savings to adopt and are extremely grateful to now have Glory Rose as part of their family.

As Sally says, as only a 12 year old can, "they are so nice and have worked so hard to have a family; they deserve such a cute baby daughter."

We recommend that the Fund help the Kelley's with their adoption expenses.

Peter and Sally Hunter



Hi Ed,

I wanted to express my appreciation for the support you have shown to Adoption Journeys and the families we serve. I especially wanted to thank you for your recent assistance for the development and production of the video on Siblings and Adoption. As you know, these relationships run the gamut from wonderfully close to being fraught with challenges. We are so happy to be able to make and share this video thanks to your support.

Deb Estelle

Program Director
Adoption Journeys

Ed and Elaine,

Jessie and I want to thank you from the bottom of our hearts! We are so humbled by your generosity and kindness. We thank the Stone Foundation for all that you do help families realize their dreams and ease the financial challenges we face. It was a pleasure to meet you and Elaine in our home.

Deb and Jesse Collins



Dear Ed,

I'm pleased to report that we finalized the adoption of our youngest one, Camilo Bueno, last Friday in Columbia. Your foundation graciously helped us with the home study to make this possible.

Here is a picture of the happy new full family. As always, let us know if there is anything we can do to help your foundation. We would love other families to experience the joy of adoption like we have.

Ericka



Dear Ed,

Thank you for being an amazing support to our kids on the adoption track. You and your team are very special and make moments that change our kid's lives!

Jennifer Kitchenham

Executive Director
Wonderfund



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The Colon Family – *continued from page 1*

necessary for him to start school next year. It is the wheelchair which necessitated their need for help from the Fund. With local code requirements not allowing for a ramp, the only solution to gain access to the house is a wheelchair lift. This is a necessity for them, and help from other sources was not available.

This is a special young family and I urge the Fund to help with this essential item.

Kieran Meagher, Trustee

Stone Adoption approved a grant for the construction of the lift which is now in progress. Romeo will now be able to access the house with his wheelchair.

Our Mission

The Stone Family Adoption Assistance Fund is dedicated to the building of families through adoption funding. We accomplish this goal by raising funds to provide financial assistance to deserving parents that wish to adopt, or have incurred economic hardship through adoption, and do not have sufficient funds to fulfill their dreams. The Fund was founded in 2007 to commemorate the life and spirit of Andrew Christopher Stone. Before his untimely death, Andrew and his family has discussed ways to help others through a charitable endeavor. As an adopted child, Andrew was particularly interested in helping to make more adoptions possible so that other children could share in the joy and love of being in a family like he experienced. Andrew's family has dedicated themselves to fulfilling his vision by establishing a fund to assist families in the adoption process.



The Fund is a non-profit 501(c)(3) public charity. Federal Tax Identification #20-8386546



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