

"Building families through adoption funding"

December 2019 Newsletter

www.stoneadoption.org

Volume 10

Stone Family Fund Marks Their 100th Grant!

This was a landmark year for the fund as we awarded our 100th grant. Since our inception over ten years ago, we have progressed from a concept started in memory of Andrew Stone to an established resource that the Massachusetts adoption community has come to rely on.

We feel an immense sense of gratitude that we have been able to help one hundred families

with their adoption needs. We have done this through assisting families with the high cost of adoption fees and by providing financial assistance to families that have incurred any type of economic hardship through the adoption of special needs children.

For our 100th grant we decided to revisit four of the funds most worthy families that we have

remained in contact with over the years. They all have wonderful and growing families that have ongoing medical, educational, therapeutic and basic financial needs. We have included notes and pictures from these families that may remind you of their compelling adoption stories that you, our loyal donor's have supported in the recent past.

The Roy Family

John and I recently visited the Roy's at their home. After several years of trying unsuccessfully to have a baby, including various infertility treatments, they decided adoption was their best route. Working with Adoptions With Love, they were soon notified that a birth mother selected them to adopt her soon to be

born twins. As with many adoptions they had little time to get ready. They quickly boarded a plane to Atlanta where they spent the next three weeks visiting the birth mother and waiting for the babies to be released from the hospital. The twins Sadie and Harrison were born six weeks premature but otherwise adorable and healthy.

The expenses of adoption, including the travel and extra charges for adopting twins have strained the Roy's resources. They have been working hard to pay off school loans in addition to funding an adoption. Like for any young couple, the cost of adoption can be overwhelming.

We were impressed by the Roy's and believe they are caring parents who will provide a loving home for Sadie and Harrison. We feel their situation meets the core of our mission and recommend that we assist them with their adoption expenses.

Sharon and John Beals, Trustees



The Trustees of Stone Adoption unanimously approved a grant to the Roy family in February 2019.

A Message From Ed Stone, Chairman

Welcome to the tenth 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 was a landmark year for us as we awarded our 100th grant. We look back on our 10-year history with gratitude to our donors who have made it possible to help over 100 families with their adoption needs. 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 10 families this year. In addition to awarding grants to pay for adoption fees and home studies, we helped families with various needs such as speech and occupational therapy, autism therapy, special education and learning tools, PTSD



counseling programs and economic hardship with special needs children. We continue to be a sponsor of four Wonderfund Adoption Events 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.

Over the past four 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

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

Adoption Journeys

Dear Ed,

I am writing today because I am working with a family with an adopted young man, Jose, who I believe would benefit enormously from a grant to support therapy sessions. Jose joined his single mother at the age of five from a history of severe physical abuse.

Of course, he also suffered from neglect, but the severe physical abuse and witnessing of physical abuse seems to have the most entrenched effect on his functioning and ability to be in a family.

Jose has a pattern of physically attacking his mother. She has engaged with many forms of professional support, including in-home therapy, family therapy, Intensive Care Coordination, neurofeedback and OT.

We would like to send Jose to the Cutchins Program which is a residential program that goes beyond a behavioral approach to address trauma, nervous-system state and family dynamics.

I am hopeful that this Neurosequential Model of Therapeutics (NMT) can help Jose find ways to relate to his mother so they will be able to be safe at home. Any help from Stone Adoption would be greatly appreciated.

Nancy Solow Regional Manager – Adoption Journeys The Stone Adoption Fund awarded a grant in February 2019 to help Jose receive this therapy.

The Peach Family





Hello Ed!

I hope that both you and Elaine are doing great! Heather and I just wanted to reach out and let you know that we were thinking of you guys and are still so extremely grateful for your help and for inviting us into your home and getting to meet you!

Vivian is doing great! She is such a good baby! We are so lucky! I attached some photos of her so you can see how beautiful she is and how much she has grown since you met her. She is very independent, happy and melts our hearts everyday.

We have really enjoyed sharing our adoption story with others and love to hear other peoples stories. We feel like we have an instant bond with people who have adopted. There is a whole world of adoptive families that we are now a part of and get to meet nice people, like you folks.

I know that we mentioned it before, but if there is ever an opportunity to help out as volunteers or something to help support your assistance fund please let us know.

Take care

The Peaches

The Beaulieu Triplets

We are so blessed to be selected for the Stone Foundation 100th grant.

Our triplets, James, Isaac and Christopher have been doing well and growing so fast. They are heading into 1st grade in September. All three boys have been diagnosed with developmental delays and communication disorders.

Despite their many obstacles, they are always happy, loving and full of energy. This grant will help us provide access to the speech and language services our triplets need to ensure their success.

We thank you so much



The Bradford Family





We remain thankful for your previous support of the adoption of our son Elijah. We are appreciative that you have partnered with us in adopting our third baby in September. He is a baby boy of African American descent from Arkansas. As you remember, Elijah, as well as our second son, are also of African American descent. We have been blessed by birth mothers who have taken good care of themselves and who have chosen us to raise their boys in a way that will honor them and their heritage.

We are extremely thankful for all that you've done in helping us build our family through adoption.



Jessica Miranda

I was so excited for the kids when I read your email. Thanks to the Stone Adoption Foundation we have been blessed far beyond what we would ever think, not just with funding, but with the love of your family.

My children now have new beds linens, and clothes for the coming school year. Every time we climb into our new beds, we will pray for you, Elaine and your extended family that has helped us.

Thank you so much and God bless you.



The Carroll Family



That's wonderful. What a milestone and I'm touched that you are including my family to be part of this. Since my husband is gone, I need to continue to work full time to be able to keep my home and feed my family so this assistance is very much appreciated.

Joey, my eldest, has been diagnosed with autism, ADHD and is dyslexic. Vinnie, my middle guy, has been diagnosed with ADHD and is showing signs PTSD due to my husband passing away. Emily, my two-year-old, is doing well and I just finalized her adoption.

Your generous grant will help us in all these areas. Thank you for thinking of our family.

Shop on Amazon Smile and Amazon Will Donate to Stone Adoption!

A simple and automatic way to support Stone Adoption. Every time you shop, AMAZON will donate a portion of your purchase price directly to the Stone Adoption Fund.

Visit – smile.amazon.com

Sign in using your existing AMAZON password. Start shopping! No extra cost to you, and AMAZON will donate 0.5 percent of your purchase price to the Fund.

www.stoneadoption.org — 5



STONE FAMILY ADOPTION ASSISTANCE FUND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

John and Sharon Beals Peter G. Brown John R. Elicone Peter A. Hunter Donald C. Main Kieran B. Meagher Nancy Regan Matthew P. Stone Philip C. Stone Elaine and Edmund Stone



