



Babysit for Adoption

Babysit for Adoption is a great way for teens to make a difference in the lives of children around the world. The proceeds from this program benefit the Gift of Adoption Fund. We believe a child without a family is one of life's great tragedies because a child without a permanent home suffers. Orphanages and foster homes do not offer permanent solutions for the millions of children who need a family. All children deserve the dignity and love that comes from being a part of a family.

Gift of Adoption is committed to creating those families.

When you Babysit for Adoption your generosity will give qualified parents the funds they need to complete the adoption process, bring a child out of harms way and into a loving family. Our program is tried and true -- ensuring your donation will swiftly go to a qualified family who needs it, regardless of race, religion or marital status.

Amanda

Amanda is a beautiful three-year-old Estonian orphan with Down's Syndrome. Unfortunately, many children in international orphanages who have Down's Syndrome are transferred to mental institutions at the age of four. The odds of them being adopted



after that are extremely low. Knowing this, Thomas and Kris decided to act.

In 2007, Tom and Kris welcomed Kara into their family when they adopted her from the Ukraine.

Kara and their youngest daughter, Meghan, also have Down's Syndrome. Knowing there are so many more children like Kara who are in need of the love and security of a family, Tom and Kris soon began a second adoption journey. Financing a second adoption so closely on the heels of the first proved to

be difficult. Because time was of the essence, they turned to Gift of Adoption for assistance. A grant from Gift of Adoption provided the last bit of funding needed to give Amanda a forever family and allow her to be all she is meant to be.

Claire

Claire is a six-year-old girl who was abandoned at birth in the Philippines. After living the first two years of her life in a hospital, she was transferred to an orphanage where she has lived for the last four years. A grant from Gift of Adoption provided the last bit of funding needed to bring Claire home to her family where she can thrive and be all that she was meant to be.

When Todd and Cynthia of North Carolina first saw Claire's photo over a year ago, they knew she would become their daughter. Prior to traveling to the Philippines to bring Claire home, they shared, "She has stolen our hearts and is a part of our family already. We just need help on the final leg of our journey to bring her home." Claire is pictured here with her older brother Caleb.



Babysit for Adoption - *Implementing the Program*

1. Identify a lead to coordinate the project with your group.
2. Recruit babysitters. The more babysitters who sign-up to help, the more money can be raised and lower fundraising goal for each participant. Leaders should seek out groups they are already involved with or a part of such as friends, clubs, school groups, youth groups or sports teams. New efforts sometimes will attract a variety of participants. Be sure to get all of the contact information of each participant on then Babysitting Summary sheet so that you can follow-up with each person after they have agreed to help.

Example Goal setting

Goal = \$3500
Recruit 50 babysitters
Earning \$70 each

Goal = \$1000
Recruit 30 babysitters
Earning \$35 each

Goal = \$5000
Recruit 145 babysitters
Earning \$35 each

3. Determine project timeframe. November is National Adoption Month this may be a good time to implement the program. Set a date/weekend/or timeframe for the babysitting activities. The greatest impact is made when a group can commit to a single week, including two weekends. This offers the most flexibility for the families and babysitters. However, other options may include identifying a one weekend or possibly offering the entire month.
4. Communicate the program parameters to the group of babysitters and provide each participant with the necessary materials.
5. Advertise your project to the school newspaper and local press.
6. Collect money from participants. Our grant amounts are \$1000, \$2500, \$5000 and \$7500. Set a realistic goal for your group and celebrate the success. Any amount of money raised will help bring a child home to their forever family. If your group meets one of our grant goals, we will send the leader the profile of the child and family they've helped. Share this story with all of the people who helped make it happen.
7. Evaluation. The comments of the leader and the babysitting volunteer helps improve and shape the program for in the future. An evaluation form is included in the leader packet. We encourage a full assessment and open feedback. Please include an adult sponsor in this discussion, as some matters may be sensitive.
8. Send the donations, babysitting summary and evaluation comments to: **Babysit for Adoption Program**
Gift of Adoption Fund
PO Box 567
Techny, IL 60082

Runaway Rabbit Creations is a corporate sponsor of the Babysit for Adoption Program and will send one pair of classic bunny slippers to every participant earning \$100 through the program. See www.runawayrabbit.com. Hop to it!





Babysit for Adoption - *Leader Program Planning Sheet*

Leader:

Phone Number:

Email:

Financial Goal:

of babysitters needed:

Estimated average earning per participant:

Recruitment Plan

| Action Item | Target Date |
|-------------|-------------|
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |

Planning meeting

Date:

Time:

Place:

Program advertisement:

Flyers

School Newspaper

Church Bulletin

Local publications

Follow-up method & date:

Evaluation of participants:

Please list anyone who may be interested in further involvement:



Babysit for Adoption - *Family Information Sheet*

Your babysitter has agreed to donate his/her earnings from babysitting tonight to the Gift of Adoption Fund through the Babysit for Adoption Program.

Gift of Adoption is a national charitable organization that inspires adoption by providing grants to qualified parents – giving children who need families a permanent home and a chance to thrive. We rely on the generous support of people who want their donations to help transform the life of a child. Founded in 1996, Gift of Adoption awards grants without regard to race, religion, age or marital status to provide the last funds needed to complete the adoption process. Visit www.giftofadoption.org to learn more about the Gift of Adoption Fund.



Jeremiah is a one-year-old boy who was abandoned at the hospital shortly after his birth. He suffered from exposure to a variety of substances during pregnancy. Upon hearing about Jeremiah, Dorothy and Robert decided to act. They knew if Jeremiah was not adopted quickly, he would likely end up in long term foster care due to his birth circumstances.

A grant from Gift of Adoption allowed Dorothy and Robert to adopt Jeremiah and keep him from ever becoming a part of these statistics. Remarkably, Jeremiah is not the first at-risk child Dorothy and Robert adopted. Dorothy told us, “We love adoption and we really believe that our kids are special — way beyond their special needs!”

If you have any questions, comments or would like to find out more information about the Gift of Adoption Fund, please visit our website at www.giftofadoption.org or contact Tina Rounds at the national office via email trounds@giftofadoption.org or phone 708-280-5035.

Family donation slip

Name:

Phone:

Total donation:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Thank you for participating in this program. Your gift will help unite children with their adoptive families. To learn more about the Gift of Adoption Fund visit our website at www.giftofadoption.org. Please make checks payable to Gift of Adoption Fund. A letter will be sent to you acknowledging the receipt of this donation.



Babysit for Adoption - *Program Evaluation*

The leader has the option of sending these questions to individual participants and compiling the data to send to Gift of Adoption Fund or hosting a meeting to gather input (which can also serve as a thank you to participants). If the leader chooses to host a gathering or meeting, be sure to there is an adult/program sponsor available to assist if sensitive issues arise.

1. What were your overall thoughts about the program?
2. How did you hear about the program?
3. Why did you decide to participate?
4. What information did you provide the babysitting family? What was their reaction to the information/program?
5. What might you do differently next year?
6. Would you like to do this again next year?

Please send the evaluation results to the Gift of Adoption Fund. This information will be used to help improve the program for future participants. We hope it helped you enjoy a lively discussion with your group!