John, a retired pilot, knew he had more love to give. Fifteen years into retirement, he took the steps to finish his family through a sixth and final adoption—a son named Justin. Their story shows that love has no age—and family is more than bloodlines.

John is a veteran in the adoption process. In fact, he has adopted five times over the years. As his older sons began to leave the nest, John waited just over two years before bringing home the final addition to his family to their rural Oregon home. Sara, his AAN Family Support Specialist, helped pull together the interstate adoption. John says that she was invaluable to the process and went above and beyond the call of duty. Justin became available for adoption when he was 11 years old. He battles ADHD and self-esteem issues after being in foster care for three years. John and his family knew almost immediately that Justin would be a great fit for his family. Justin is excited about spending time with his brothers. Since his brothers have all left the nest, Justin gets to spend time with them when they are all together as a family, plus he has the opportunity to visit with each of them in their own homes.

John and Justin share a passion for camping and the outdoors—however, Justin has a wide range of interests, such as video games and building things. John feels his confidence level has grown, and Justin has learned that being assertive and asking for the things you need is not a bad thing. He describes Justin as "outgoing, talkative, attached, focused on life, in tune to emotions, and creative." John believes that these traits have grown and blossomed in Justin's life thanks to the time and attention he has to devote to him. When Justin came to live with him in May of 2018, John knew that his family was now complete. Just six months later, the adoption was final. Justin, now 15, is happy to know he has his own family and that it is his forever.

John and Justin’s story is proof that adoption is for teens as well as for young children. Great families come in all different shapes, sizes, colors and ages.
**Program Outcomes**

- **569** Families Served
- **57** Children Placed with Permanent Loving Families
- **214** New Children Served
- **71** Home Studies Completed
- **2587** Staff Referrals for Children

### Demographics of the Children Placed

**Age**
- 0 to 6: 25%
- 7 to 10: 28%
- 11 to 14: 40%
- 15+: 7%

**Gender**
- Male: 54%
- Female: 47%

**Race**
- African American: 35%
- Caucasian: 11%
- Hispanic: 54%

### Special Challenges of the Children Placed

- **Physical/Sexual Abuse**: 72%
- **Neglect**: 84%
- **Mental Health Issues**: 82%
- **Siblings**: 68%
Financial Results

2019 Expenses: $770,869

- Program: $666,442 (86%)
- Management: $38,133 (5%)
- Fundraising: $66,294 (9%)

2019 Revenue: $786,207

- Annual Giving/Grants: $176,585 (22%)
- Fundraising: $132,706 (17%)
- Child-focused Recruitment Grants: $375,000 (48%)
- State Contracts: $101,916 (13%)

2019 Net Ending Assets: $196,526

About AAN

Adopt America Network believes every child deserves to grow up in a family. We connect children who wait in foster care with permanent families, providing support before, during and after the family is united. Adopt America Network was founded in 1983 by Richard K. Ransom, also the founder of Hickory Farms. Mr. Ransom dedicated his life to ensuring children were in safe, loving homes. AAN is a national charity and licensed agency in the State of Ohio, providing adoption services to children and families throughout the country, without charging fees to families. Through our national network of public and private agencies, AAN collaborates with both lay and faith-based organizations to offer adoption and kinship services to people interested in providing a permanent family for children in U.S. foster care.

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