

# **Adopt America Network Success Story**

When Francene married Harold Liggens, she became the stepmother to his two sons. She loved her new family and really wanted a daughter. They decided that adopting a child from foster care was how they wanted to grow their family. Because they did not want to be a foster family, their agency referred them to Adopt America Network. With the help of their AAN social worker, the Liggens completed the required trainings and their home study assessment. They were very eager to be matched with a child which made the waiting very frustrating for them. The AAN team worked

diligently reviewing the many children waiting in foster care who needed a family like the Liggens to adopt them.

Ray'quel came into foster care at 2 ½ years old and became available for adoption at the age of four. She had already experienced a lot of trauma and had some significant

special needs. Prior to being matched with the Liggens family, she had several foster placements and a disrupted adoption. All of this led to Ray'quel having a lot of behavioral issues, but the Liggens were not bothered by this at all.

Francene and Harold fell in love with Ray'quel immediately. With the guidance of Ray'quel's worker and their AAN social worker, the Liggens were officially matched with this special little girl. Francene screamed with excitement when she heard the news.

Ray'quel came to live with the Liggens in May 2017. She was then six years old. Francene and Harold were thrilled to have her join their family. In the first few months, the family had some challenges with their new daughter. She had difficulty following directions and would often be disruptive. Ray'quel would act out towards both Francene and Harold to the point that they felt that at times she was totally out of control. The Liggens' workers supported them during this time and offered guidance and support as they adjusted to their new lives together as a family. The Liggens feel that the

turning point for them was when they talked with their pastor about their struggles and his response was just to love her and not try to control her. Following his advice, the family began to see changes for the better.

Once Ray'quel started to settle in and get comfortable, she began referring

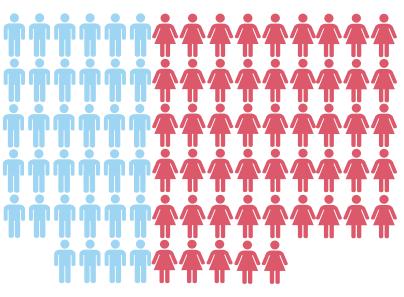
to them as mommy and daddy. She is now a very happy and cheerful little girl that likes to play outside. She also likes to play with her Barbies and with her stuffed animals. She enjoys her parents' attention and having her own bedroom. Ray'quel is very connected to the Liggens and was excited to be adopted. The Liggens had a lot of support from their Adopt America Network social worker and they shared that they appreciated everything that she did for them. Francene and Harold now feel their family is complete, and they are happy they are Ray'quel's parents.



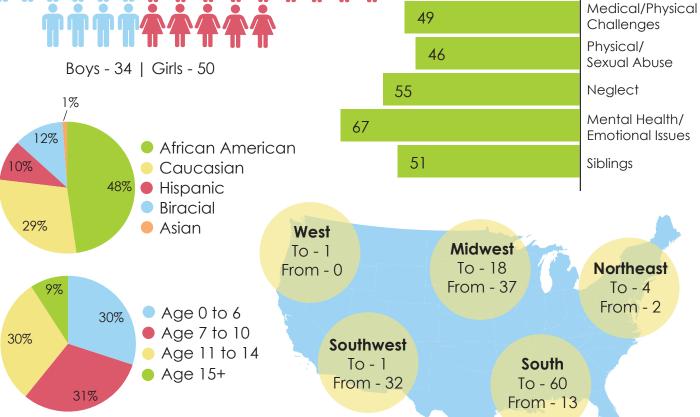
# Families A Children 394

1897
Staff Referrals
for Children

67
Home Studies and Updates



Children Placed with Permanent Loving Families



# **Adopt America Network's Mission**

Adopt America Network is a private 501 (c) (3) adoption exchange. Our mission is to improve the lives of children in United States foster care by placing them with permanent, loving families. Adopt America Network uses a national network of public agencies, private agencies, and volunteers. We focus on helping place children with special needs—those who have been abused or neglected, have medical, physical, and/or emotional challenges, are of minority heritage, have siblings, or are school age or older.

Adopt America Network provides the following services: recruitment of adoptive families, pre-service training, home study assessment, matching services, child and family mentoring, counseling, and post-placement supervision and support.

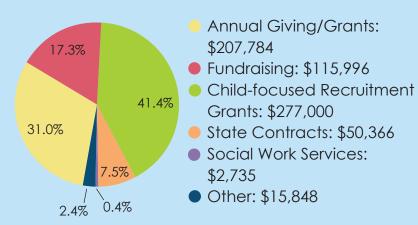
# 2017 Expenses: \$422.04

Total Expenses: \$622,064



# 2017 Revenue

Total Revenue: \$669,729



Net Ending Assets for 2017: \$71,546

### **Board Members**

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