

2022

Adoptee
Mentoring
SOCIETY

Virtual mentorship for adoptees, by adoptees

IMPACT
REPORT

OUR STORY SO FAR



I have been informally mentoring adoptees since 2013. These relationships began organically after meeting adoptees at an adoption event. I routinely heard adoptees exclaim; "I've never been able to speak with anyone about the complexities of my adoption!" Thus began our mentor-mentee relationship.

Over the past nine years, the number of mentees I've had the pleasure to be in relationship with has ballooned. My personal tracking system (sticky notes and pages of legal notepads) became insufficient. I leveled up by creating an excel spreadsheet and was astonished to find that I'd amassed 148 mentees between the ages of 12 and 78! Upon this realization, trusted colleagues suggested that I think about ways to scale up this side venture and become a certified 501c3.

After deciding upon the business name, filing paperwork with the IRS, setting up our bank account, recruiting a board of directors, in May, a virtual kickoff event officially cemented our position in the world. The enthusiasm for the creation of the Adoptee Mentoring Society was palpable - one adoptive mother was so moved by the mission that she offered to design and create our logo. A web designer, also an adoptive mother who saw how this organization could meet a need, offered to build our website!

Now that we've laid a base foundation, we will now focus on building the engine of the organization; the Mentor Training Curriculum. I have begun collaborating with adoption professionals and mental health professionals to build this 3-day intensive that will first be offered in the spring to a cohort of approved applicants. These individuals will be held to a high standard which will position the Adoptee Mentoring Society as leaders and a backbone for the tricky world of adoption. By the end of next year, we will have 10 trained, paid mentors!

Thank you for joining this quest to ensure that all 7 million estimated adoptees feel agency over their adoption story and experience a genuine sense of belonging.

Angela Tucker

OUR MISSION

The Adoptee Mentoring Society exists to validate, affirm and center adoptees through compassionate virtual mentorship from those with lived adoptee experience.

242

**ADOPTTEES
MENTORED**

- Mentees ranged from ages 11-73.
- We mentored adoptees from 13 countries and 41 states.
- 5 affinity groups met regularly (i.e. transracially adopted tween boys, Ethiopian teenage girls etc.)

47

**SLACK
#LOUNGERS**

- Adults who have participated in our programming are invited to create community with others via the private Slack channel. Discussions range from feelings about birthdays to offering resources and opportunities.

415

**HOURS
VOLUNTEERED**

- 9 Individuals offered their skills to support the organization through a variety of tasks and projects, including; data management, online store fulfillment, e-newsletter, social media posts and Slack community management.

\$37,488

FUNDS RAISED

- An anonymous \$10,000 gift helped us reach our goal!
- 67 individuals contributed to our kick-off fundraising campaign.



“I was wearing my Adoptee Mentoring Society sweatshirt out and about and it felt SO empowering! I was so ready for someone to ask me about it! It gave me confidence and made me feel like I belonged to something important and special.”

OUR STRATEGY

PROJECT	DETAILS
INDIVIDUAL MENTORSHIP	Adoptees engage in personalized, online sessions that welcome experience-focused conversations on adoption through 1:1 mentorship.
GROUP MENTORSHIP	Designed to stimulate connection and build community, The Adoptee Lounge is a virtually structured support group for adoptees that is segmented into four different sessions by age.
MENTOR TRAINING	By Fall 2023, 10 adoptees will be trained as mentors. All vetted mentors will receive extensive training and support including adoption education, active-listening coaching, and ongoing supervision by a licensed psychologist.



"Talking with fellow adoptees is therapeutic. Just seeing everyone's head nod when I always thought I was alone and wrong about my feelings about adoption, has been so validating."

THANK YOU!

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WE THANK YOU
FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT IN
OUR PROGRAMS