AdoptUSKids continues to produce this Minority Specializing Agency and Resource Directory to assist States, Territories and Tribal child welfare agencies to expand their resources to improve safety, permanency and well-being outcomes for children and youth. Additionally, the directory is a valuable resource for families who are searching for an agency that can assist them to foster or adopt.

The directory was initially a product of the National Workgroup on Working Effectively with African American Foster, Adoptive, and Kinship Families made up of organizations and communities focused on improving outcomes for minority children and youth in foster care. The workgroup was convened September 22–23, 2010, by AdoptUSKids on behalf of the Children’s Bureau in Washington D.C. Forty-eight participants from private, local, community, state, and national organizations, along with public, county, state, and federal agencies attended this two-day workgroup. Experts from the field of child welfare, adoption, foster, and kinship care were among the participants.

Each five years, State agencies are required to submit to their regional (Administration for Children – ACF) office a comprehensive Child and Family Services Plan (CFSP) which outlines initiatives and activities it will carry out in administering programs and services to promote the safety, permanency, and well-being of children, youth and families. In the CFSP, the State must describe its plan for the diligent recruitment of potential foster, adoptive and kinship families that reflect the ethnic and racial diversity of children in the State for whom foster and adoptive homes are needed. The list of minority specializing agencies is a tool for agencies to make connections with the communities that reflect the race and ethnicity of the children who are in foster care.

AdoptUSKids is thankful to workgroup member Toni Oliver, MSW, for initially compiling this valuable information about each of these minority specializing agencies and to Stephanie Johnson Pettaway, MSW, for her continuing work to keep it current.
Black Family and Child Services (BFCS) was established in 1984. BFCS is a multi-service agency that provides foster care and adoption services to Arizona children involved in the Child Welfare system. BFCS foster parents have successfully provided care for abused and neglected children and assisted birth parents to be reunited with their children.

The BFCS provides a broad range of behavioral health services and substance abuse. BFCS has successfully placed hundreds in foster care and adoption over the last 30 years. The BFCS mission is dedicated to improving the quality of life of children and families. Thorough comprehensive, community-based family and child-centered programs, BFCS services helps to keep families together and empowers each member of the family to develop and maintain the necessary skills to meet the challenges of daily living.

BFCS contracts with the State and has the ability to do purchase of services. BFCS does home studies for foster care and adoption. BFCS offers orientation sessions, PRIDE training, as well as ongoing foster parent training. BFCS provides both in-home services, support and respite services. They serve families of all races and ethnicities. BFCS provides services to children of all races and ethnicities, all ages from infancy to age 21 and with or without disabilities.

Latino Family Institute is a fully licensed nonprofit adoption, foster care, and family support agency in Southern California. Their focus is to develop and support Latino families. To that end, they offer a full range of services designed to prevent families from becoming involved with the child welfare system. The agency helps to reunify families already separated, and when that cannot be achieved, they help to create new families through adoption.

Latino Family Institute is dedicated to improving social welfare conditions leading to increased family functioning. The agency enriches society’s foundation by advocating for and implementing culturally effective interventions that elevate the collective well-being of our families.
The Latino Family Institute seeks to advance social welfare conditions facing Spanish dominant families. The agency's vision is for every child to have love and permanency in their family of origin. They aspire to preserve the integrity of Latin American cultures among adoptive families and to promote kinship adoptions as a preferred alternative to family disintegration. They envision a social environment that is sensitive to the complex needs of children in foster care, and one that is active in reducing the vulnerabilities of such delicate families.

The agency’s programs consist of adoption, foster care, kinship care, training, and family support.

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

**Latin American Youth Center (LAYC)**

1419 Columbia Road, NW
Washington DC 20009

202-319-2225 (General)
202-643-2753 (Child Placing)
202-462-5696 (Fax)

fosterDC@layc-dc.org

The mission of the Latin American Youth Center (LAYC) is to empower a diverse population of youth to achieve a successful transition to adulthood through multi-cultural, comprehensive, and innovative programs that address youths' social, academic, and career needs.

For 45 years, LAYC has been committed to transforming the lives of low-income young people and their families. LAYC offers multi-service, comprehensive, and bilingual enrichment, prevention, and intervention programs and opportunities in education, workforce readiness, housing, community building, mental health services, arts, and healthy recreation to over 4,000 individuals each year.

LAYC has specialized expertise in serving underserved youth, low-income teen parents, homeless youth, youth in foster care and juvenile justice systems, and youth facing mental health, substance abuse, or complex family barriers.

While LAYC initially worked with Latino youth of diverse backgrounds, today all youth—Latino, African American, African—are supported by LAYC at sites in the District of Columbia and Maryland's Prince George's and Montgomery Counties.

LAYC is a licensed child placing agency in the District of Columbia that does foster care and adoption placements of children from the foster care system. They also do foster and adoption home studies for persons wishing to adopt and/or foster children from foster care. Their families receive MAPP training.

LAYC provides ongoing training for foster and adoptive parents as well as therapeutic services for foster and adoptive children. They provide in-home services, respite care and post adoption services.

LAYC serves children and youth from 0–21 years of age. Additionally they provide mental health services, case management, crisis intervention, psycho-education, psychiatric services and advocacy.
The Cradle

Ardythe and Gale Sayers Center for African American Adoption

2049 Ridge Ave.
Evanston, IL 60201
847-475-5800
marneson@cradle.org
www.cradle.org/ardythe-gale-sayers-center-african-american-adoption

The Cradle was incorporated in 1923. Its mission is to benefit children by providing education, guidance, and lifelong support and to create, sustain, and preserve nurturing families. Historically, their focus was on adoptions, but today they are much more than that. The Cradle provides support and decision-making counseling to pregnant and parenting women, only a small number of whom choose adoption.

They also have a very robust pre- and post-adoption online education program at www.adoptionlearningpartners.org. Now at 23 courses and growing, the service is accessed worldwide by adoptive families. The Cradle also conducts online webinars and live post-adoption workshops for the community.

Additionally, they have trauma-informed adoption competent therapists on staff whose services are available to anyone in the community. The Cradle is most proud of their commitment to finding homes for any child entrusted to their care regardless of any special needs, and of their commitment to recruit families of color for their African American infants. The Cradle’s Ardythe and Gale Sayers Center for African American Adoption, named after NFL Hall of Famer and Cradle adoptive dad Gale Sayers and his wife Ardythe is dedicated to finding homes for African American babies.

The Cradle is licensed to provide services in Illinois and Indiana.

Homes for Black Children

511 E. Larned St.
Detroit, MI  48226
313-961-4777
www.homes4blackchildren.org
Linda Lipscomb,
Director of Placement Services
llipscomb@homes4blackchildren.org

Homes for Black Children was founded more than 40 years ago to face the challenge of establishing new practices in adoption that would result in a substantial increase in the number of adoptive families for black children. In 1969, its first year of operation, Homes for Black Children placed more black children in adoptive homes than the 13 existing metropolitan Detroit adoption and child welfare agencies combined. Between 1969 and 1984, the agency’s success in the adoptive placement of black children inspired and influenced the development of African American specialty adoption agencies and programs nationwide. In 1972, the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services granted the National Black Child Development Institute funds to carry the message of hope and possibilities for meeting the adoptive needs of black children through a series of regional conferences throughout the nation. Homes for Black Children’s work and success was the model program introduced through these regional conferences.

Homes for Black Children is a nonprofit 501(c) (3) whose mission is to assure that every child has a permanent home. Homes for Black Children is a comprehensive community based child welfare agency that continues to contribute innovative ideas and program practices to the child welfare field.
The agency’s powerful influence on services to families and children in the Detroit community has been acknowledged over the past 42 years in many publications including Administration for Children, Youth and Families publications, *The Wall Street Journal*, Children’s Defense Fund publications, and major Detroit area newspapers.

Spaulding for Children
16250 Northland Drive
Suite 120
Southfield, MI 48075
248-443-7080
www.spaulding.org
awilliams@spaulding.org

Established in 1968, Spaulding for Children is a private, nonprofit child welfare agency licensed by Michigan State and accredited by the Council on Accreditation. With a mission of partnering with families, communities, organizations, other States, and the nation, to assure that all children grow up in safe, permanent families and have the help they need to be successful in life. Spaulding was one of the first Agencies to specialize in placing children labeled “hard to place” or “Special Needs” and is responsible for much of the current thinking regarding permanency for all children. Today, Spaulding is comprised of three service entities: the Academy for Family Support and Preservation, National Quality Improvement Center for Adoption/Guardianship Support and Preservation (N-QIC); the Spaulding Institute for Family and Community Development, and Child and Family Services, the direct service arm of the Agency comprised of prevention, foster care, adoption, and adoption support and preservation services.

Spaulding’s target population includes families with risk factors for child maltreatment, children placed in care through the public child welfare system, and prospective and current resource families. Additionally, Spaulding provides training to child welfare professionals and families nationally and internationally.

Mississippi Families for Kids
407 Briarwood Drive
Jackson, MS 39206
601-957-7670
lwmsffk@aol.com

Mississippi Families for Kids was organized in 1998 to serve residents of Mississippi. They have successfully placed hundreds of children with families. Their mission is to ensure that every child has the opportunity to have a safe, permanent placement. The purpose of the organization is to provide an array of community services that include, but are not limited to: adoption; foster care; post-adoption; home studies; working with children with serious emotional problems; and education and training in conflict resolution, anger management, and other child welfare services needed to ensure strong families and even stronger communities.
The New York Council on Adoptable Children was incorporated in 1972 with the mission statement that every child truly needs and deserves a permanent, loving, and nurturing family.

The council serves primarily the foster care population of New York City. This population is more than 95 percent African American and Latino. Over the years, the council has successfully recruited prospective adoptive parents from these two communities and currently has almost 100 families waiting to adopt children in foster care.

COAC has a contract with the City of New York for Recruitment and Retention of families for New York City foster and adoptive children. They have the ability to do purchase of service. They provide foster care placements and adoption services for children in the foster care system. COAC does foster and adoptive home studies. They do host orientation sessions and provide MAPP training for the families they recruit. COAC works with all families, without regard to race, religion, ethnicity, sexual preference. They recruit homes for children age 5–21 of all races, religions, ethnicities, sexual persuasion or ability.

The New York Chapter ABSW Child Adoption Counseling and Referral Service officially began operation on January 13, 1975. It developed as part of the vision of Cenie Jomo Williams, president emeritus of the New York Chapter, to develop a foster care and adoption agency and a multi-service center to meet the needs of children and families in the Harlem community and black community at large. Leora Neal, founder and former executive director, developed the idea of the ABSW Child Adoption Counseling and Referral Service.

The mission of the program is to obtain permanent adoptive families for minority children in need of homes. The program recruits families and evaluates them via a home study. Those found appropriate are referred to public and private child care agencies for the placement of children. Follow-up is done on each case with program staff acting as the clients’ advocate until the family receives a child.

A liaison was established with the New York City Administration for Children’s Services with more than 38 public and private agencies throughout the State where we can refer our families. The agency distinguished itself as the first to offer evening and Saturday appointments for clients’ convenience. The agency was also one of few to offer ongoing post-adoption services.

The population served is primarily African American and Latino families who wish to adopt older and special needs minority children and sibling groups from the foster care system in New York.
This agency is able to contract with the state as well as to do purchase of services. They do adoption of children from public child welfare, domestic adoption of infants and older children/youth, and international adoptions. Orientation sessions are offered to adoptive parents, as well as MAPP training, and ongoing training and support. The program provides in-home services and respite services for adoptive families. It serves families of all demographics and children and youth of all ages and demographics no matter what the child's/youth's disability.

Spence-Chapin

410 East 92nd St.
New York, NY 10128
212-400-8150
www.spence-chapin.org/adoption-programs/b1c_african-american-adoption.php

In 1953, Mrs. Jackie Robinson, wife of the famous Brooklyn Dodgers baseball player, was elected to Spence-Chapin’s Board of Directors and served as a spokesperson to help the agency recruit families. Throughout the 1950s, other illustrious African-Americans who helped to recruit families included Mrs. Ralph Bunche, Marian Anderson and Mrs. Hubert Delany.

In support of the agency’s outreach efforts, Eleanor Roosevelt was the featured speaker for a Spence-Chapin conference in 1954. Mrs. Roosevelt was quoted in The New York Times as saying, “No matter what the color of their skin, all our children must be looked at as the future rich heritage of the country.”

Today, African-American adoption services are still a cornerstone of Spence-Chapin’s Domestic Adoption Program. Over the past twenty years, we’ve placed almost 700 African-American babies, whose average age at placement was eight weeks. Free information meetings are conducted for prospective adoptive parents, who may be single adults or couples. Skilled adoption specialists guide parents through the home study process and on to adoptive parenthood.

**African-American Parents Advisory Committee**

In 1991, the agency formed the Spence-Chapin African-American Parents Advisory Committee. The Committee, known as AAPAC, is a sounding board for the agency, providing input on matters concerning African-American adoption and bringing families together for social networking. AAPAC has also been instrumental in developing ideas on recruitment initiatives and program administration; and raising funds to assist families with adoption costs. All families who adopt through the African-American program are invited to participate.

AAPAC members meet monthly in the evenings via teleconference and quarterly at one another’s homes to conduct business and plan activities. They also get together regularly to enjoy family activities ranging from apple picking and pool parties to an outing at the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. One of the unforeseen and extremely positive outcomes has been the close ties formed by members and by their children. At first, the children reacted with surprise at meeting other African-American adopted children. Now, members share many accounts of how their children have benefited from knowing other adopted children, parents and regularly being part of the majority.
Spence-Chapin (continued)

Family Day, first hosted by AAPAC in 1991, is an annual summer gathering for adoptive families. Filled with entertainment, games and plenty of food, the event draws a large group of adults and children (infants to teenagers), where new and experienced adoptive families alike have an opportunity to meet old friends and make new ones. The sense of community that prevails in this African-American adoption program is strong and unique.

NORTH CAROLINA

Another Choice for Black Children

2340 Beatties Ford Road
Charlotte NC 28126
704-394-1124
704-294-3843 (fax)
www.acfbc.org
ruth@anotherchoice.net

Another Choice for Black Children Inc. is North Carolina’s first agency focusing on recruiting families to adopt African American and other children with special needs from the foster care system. This not-for-profit organization opened its doors on January 15, 1995 and is blessed to be 19 years old.

Another Choice for Black Children believes strongly in living their mission and purpose which is to “build and sustain families”. To that end, they provide a range of pre- and post-placement services to all families to ensure children remain in their adoptive families. The agency works with families of all races, religions, ethnicities, no matter their sexual preference or marital status.

Though resources are limited, however, their outreach and commitment is unwavering. The agency focus is making the best and most appropriate matches. Recruiting families to adopt brothers and sisters, teenagers and African American boys are their priority. They work with children and youth from infancy to age 21 without regard to race, religion, ethnicity, sexual preference or need. We have found families for many children and teens deemed “unadoptable.” These children and teens have soared since joining their family and they serve on our speaker’s network.

Another Choice for Black Children contracts with the North Carolina Department of Social Services. They work with a few out of state agencies around adoptive placements and have the ability to do purchase of services.

Services offered:

- Foster Care
- Adoption from public foster care
- Domestic infant adoption
- Domestic older child adoption
- Home studies for foster care and adoption
- Orientation for potential foster and adoptive parents
- MAPP training
- Ongoing trainings for foster and adoptive parents
- Therapeutic services for foster and adopted children
- In home services
- Respite and post-adoption service
OKLAHOMA

One Church, One Child of Oklahoma
3129 N. Martin Luther King Avenue
Oklahoma City OK 73111
918-794-7575
www.onechurchonechildokla.com/onechurchonechildokla

The Reverend K. Gerone Free is president of One Church, One Child of Oklahoma. The organization’s key strategy and goal originated from its founder, Father Clemens, in 1987 with the words, “If one member in every church would adopt one child, there would be no more children in the system.”

The organization’s strategy and goal is driven by the belief that African American children in the child welfare system are a community responsibility. Since it is a community responsibility, it should be addressed by the community. A second belief is that the church is still very influential and has access to families in the African American community.

Strategies for using African American churches include: educating families to the situation of African American children in foster care, demystifying the adoption process by providing speakers and educational materials, being a site for support groups to assist in the retention of families, and providing a forum where prospective families and recruiters can meet.

PENNSYLVANIA

Together As Adoptive Parents Inc.
478 Moyer Rd.
Harleysville, PA 19438
215-256-0669
215-513-2921 (fax)
taplink@comcast.net

Together as Adoptive Parents Inc. was founded in 1988. They are not a placing agency, but have a contract with the Philadelphia Department of Human Services to provide post-adoption and post-permanency services. They also host recruitment events to find families who will adopt children over the age of 5, but their main focus is post-adoption and post-permanency services.

Each year, Together as Adoptive Parents Inc. provides resources, support, and training to more than 700 families. Their mission is to provide a support network among parents, disseminate information, and implement programs that promote the well-being of children and adoptive, foster, and kinship families. They believe that the adoption, foster, or kinship road should never be walked alone and that no adoptive, foster, or kinship parent or child should have to figure out where to find help.

Together as Adoptive Parents Inc. has a contract with the U.S. Department of Human Services to provide post-adoption services to families. They also have collaborated with the Salvation Army and complete the home studies for the families they recruit.
The mission of Three Rivers Adoption Council (TRAC) is to “create and provide adoption opportunities and a range of services for all children growing up without permanent, caring families.”

Three Rivers Adoption Council is viewed statewide as the highest quality provider of innovative family-focused adoption services with an emphasis on African-American and special needs children as measured by their key stakeholders of children, families, employees, funders, member and peer agencies, and all levels of government.

Since its’ inception in 1978, Three Rivers Adoption Council has evolved from a small group of adoptive parents and agencies exchanging information about waiting children into the region’s central resource for adoption information and referral services, support and education. The agency has worked so that no child will have to face a life without permanency. The agency was founded by adoptive parents and professionals and established as a volunteer-staffed project of the Junior League of Pittsburgh.

Adhering to the permanency standards of the Child Welfare League of America, Three Rivers Adoption Council is a multi-service agency for children who cannot remain with their birth families and the resource families who provide these children permanency. Primarily, the children served fall into several categories: more than half are African American; many are older or part of a sibling group who need to stay together; and others have emotional, physical, or mental disabilities. Most of these children have experienced multiple moves in the foster care system and high percentages have been victims of abuse and neglect.

Three Rivers Adoption Council works with public and private agencies to implement cooperative, cost-effective programs to meet the placement and post-placement needs of these children. The agency provides recruitment, information and referral services, counseling, family preparation, post-adoption services, and parent and professional education services to achieve and maintain maximum permanency opportunities for children and their families. TRAC provides foster care placements, adoption of children from foster care, and domestic infant adoptions (non-foster care). They do foster and adoptive home studies. They provide orientation for foster and adoptive parents. They offer 26 hours of pre-service training for foster and adoptive families. (They do not offer MAPP or PRIDE training.) All the training is therapeutically based and trauma informed. Families are also required to receive 15 additional training hours annually to maintain their certification.
Three Rivers Adoption Council
(continued)

Their services include therapeutic trainings for foster and adoptive parents, therapeutic services to foster and adopted children, in-home services, and respite services for foster and adoptive parents, post adoptive services.

The agency’s programs include adoption resources, black adoption services, and connections. They are one of the largest SWAN affiliates and accept referral from all the state’s unites of service (Child Pre, Family Profile, Child Profiles, Post-Adoption Services, Respite, Child Placement, Supervision and Finalization services.) The agency does work collaboratively with all states in placing children with their approved families and they can accept purchase of service.

Three Rivers Adoption Council works with families and children of all races, religions, ethnicities without regard to their sexual preference. They work with children and youth from infancy to age 21 with all abilities.

Finding and supporting permanent resources for waiting children is essential. The failure to do so constitutes a great potential loss to society because children who grow up without families are at risk throughout their lives to become involved with the criminal justice, mental health, and homeless populations. That’s why Three Rivers Adoption Council believes so strongly that every child needs a family.
Women’s Christian Alliance is a non-sectarian, nonprofit multi-service agency that provides resources and support to more than 5,000 children and families in and around North Central Philadelphia. For more than 90 years, agency has worked to create positive social, educational, and economic transformation in its community and beyond. The agency’s current areas of focus include providing helpful resources for families, recruiting parents for foster care, and developing community and corporate partnerships.

The post-World War I era sharply defined history for thousands of African Americans who migrated from the rural South to the great seaport cities of the Northeast. They came searching for jobs, housing, and safe communities where they could raise their families. During the early 1900s, Melissa Thompson Coppin, M.D., then one of 20 African American female physicians in the United States, organized a group of churchwomen from the historic Richard Allen African Methodist Episcopal church to help with the relocation, child care needs, and housing and employment problems that confronted the new Philadelphians. In 1921, Women’s Christian Alliance became the first African American foster care placement agency in Philadelphia, beginning the legacy of encouraging community families to proudly accept responsibility for providing love and support for abused and neglected children.

The Women’s Christian Alliance has been an effective voice on behalf of children and families for more than 90 years. Through case management and support services, they work to help families help themselves. Whether a family seeks out services or is referred to them, the primary goal of foster family care is to provide a safe and healthy temporary home for children who are required to live separately from their birth families and to reunite them with their families whenever possible.

Women’s Christian Alliance provides comprehensive adoption services to birth families, children up to age 18, and persons interested in enlarging their family through adoption. Support services include pre-adoption workshops for prospective adoptive parents, home study materials to assist families in learning about the realities of parenting through adoption, pre-placement orientation and other assessments to determine the prospective parents’ ability to meet a child’s needs. Women’s Christian Alliance’s adoption services program is recognized by the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare as a model approach.
Adoption Advocacy was founded in 1999 as a nonprofit adoption agency. The mission of the agency was to provide home study and supervision services that could expand the options for South Carolina families that wanted to adopt legally free children across geographic borders. The fulfillment of this mission has resulted in over 600 children from foster care being adopted into forever homes. These children represent 24 states across the country. Ninety percent of these children were of minority backgrounds. Eighty-three percent of the children were of African American or mixed racial heritage, while seven percent were of Hispanic heritage. The vast majority of these children was over the age of eight years old and had been residing in the foster care system in their home state for over three years.

It is important to note that the 1997 Adoption and Safe Families Act (ASFA) was barely dry when the agency was founded. ASFA brought a framework to form Adoption Advocacy and to help remove geographic barriers for South Carolina families to adopt children from foster care from any state. As a result, Adoption Advocacy actively seeks available foster children for our home studied available families in South Carolina. Resources such as the state adoption resource exchanges, regional exchanges, and national data bases such as adoptuskids.org are fertile grounds for SC families to find children that they want to adopt. The staff at Adoption Advocacy believes that there are no unadoptable children, only untapped resources.

Removing geographic barriers for families seeking minority children has been one of the two components for attracting families who want to provide forever homes. The other key to Adoption Advocacy’s success is the removal of financial barriers to help families adopt minority children. The use of grant funds for home study services, coupled with finalization costs that are covered by state and federal programs, allows minority families to take the “plunge into the world of adoption” without taking financial risks.

Adoption Advocacy has contracted with the departments of social services in 23 states. That has resulted in the placement of over 600 children since 1999. We do not contract with the state of South Carolina.

Adoption Advocacy contracts with the sending states for a purchase of service for home study, family preparation, and supervision services until finalization.

Adoption Advocacy works with families adopting for public child welfare, domestic infant and older child adoptions (non-foster care) and international adoptions. They do adoption orientation session and home studies. They provide ongoing training, respite for foster and adoptive parents and post adoption services.

Adoption Advocacy are accepting of all families, children and youth. They service children from infancy to age 17, no matter what the child ability or the challenges the child might present.
The Dallas Minority Adoption Council provides information and referral services about adoption agencies and services that best meet the needs of families looking to adopt. This service is available to residents within the Greater Dallas community, however, to a limited degree, families inquiring from out of state are referred to national adoption resources that can be more helpful.

The Dallas Minority Adoption Council does not do orientation or training. They are a referral agency and refer families to the agencies for services as well as encourage and support the families during the process to becoming foster and adoptive parents.

One Church One Child of North/North Central Texas and Surrounding Counties of Texas, Inc. was organized in the late 80s and incorporated as a nonprofit in 1995. Its mission is to find permanent adoptive homes for children in foster care through faith-based recruitment and collaborative community efforts. They serve families interested in providing permanent homes to foster children as well as those seeking private adoption services. They identify families primarily through churches and community groups. Minority children and families represent about 95 percent of clients. Their successes include being a leader in faith-based recruitment for more than 15 years, initiating services to bilingual families, and leading the AdoptUSKids recruitment response team in Texas. Their current focus is on expediting the state adoption process for families needing personalized services.
Family And Youth Advocacy Center, Inc. was originally founded as a private, nonprofit, 501(c) (3) child placement agency licensed in Virginia. In 2012, the mission and organization name was changed from, African American Adoptions, Inc. to FAYAC and began focusing solely on adoption advocacy, education, and recruitment.

FAYAC diligently works to recruit and identify families who are interested in establishing permanent life-long connections with children foster care in Fairfax County and throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia.

FAYAC believes that no child should be raised within the foster care system. Every child has the right to have a permanent, loving, and caring family — birth or adoptive.

FAYAC gladly works with and assists any family or individual interested in adoption. However, the organization’s primary focus is the adoption of African American children because they are disproportionately represented in the foster care system.

FAYAC services consist of the following:

- Recruiting families and individuals interested in adoption
- Referring families and individuals to the appropriate adoption agency and adoption resources
- Supporting families and individuals through the adoption process
- Engaging adoption agencies to support the adoption efforts of African American children
- Providing technical assistance and education on adoption procedures throughout the pre- and post-adoption processes
- Undertaking community outreach and public information activities
Virginia One Church, One Child

1214 West Graham Rd.
Richmond, VA 23220

800-440-5090 (toll free)
804-329-3420
804-329-3906 (fax)
oonechild@aol.com
www.vaonechurchonechild.org

One Church, One Child is a national minority adoption recruitment program. It was founded in 1980 by Father George Clements in Illinois. The Virginia One Church, One Child Program began in 1985 as a part of the State’s campaign to recruit families to adopt hundreds of waiting African American children. The program is funded by the Virginia Department of Social Services. Additional support is provided through special project grants and contributions from churches, individuals, and private foundations.

The primary focus and priority of the program’s work is finding families for African American children. They believe in every child’s right to love and permanency and work on behalf of all waiting children.

Virginia One Church, One Child Inc. is a private, nonprofit 501 (C) (3) corporation. They work across the Virginia to promote adoption awareness and to recruit adoptive families for the State’s waiting children.

The program is governed by a statewide board of directors. Staff members include an executive director, administrative assistant, program coordinator, outreach social worker, adoption social worker, regional coordinators, and recruitment specialists in five Virginia regions. A network of more than 300 churches completes their family recruitment team.

NATIONAL

African American Adoptions Online

530-432-7372
www.africanamericanadoptionsonline.com

Diane Schafer,
Director of Adoption Services

24 Hour Hotline: 1-800-923-6784
Yahoo IM: dianelta1
Verizon Text#1-530-559-9824

African American Adoptions Online brought African American families together through adoption successfully for years. With infertility on the rise, more childless African American couples are turning to the Internet to build their families through adoption.

The privacy to be able to research and read about adoption in their own homes, and the ease-of-use in using online resources have allowed thousands of prospective adoptive families to safely adopt and find the resources they need.

With our sister organization Lifetime Adoption (www.lifetimeadoption.com) providing safe and successful adoptions since 1986, we have assisted African American couples wanting to adopt, and birth mothers seeking African American families.