

# Impact Report

2025



*Adoption Connection, PA*  
Families Grow Here.



# Meet Our Board



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Thompson**

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**Christine States**

Board Member

Dear Friends,

Because of you, children in our community are finding safety, stability, and hope.

Every day, we meet children who have experienced loss and uncertainty beyond their years. They come to us carrying questions no child should have to ask: Where will I sleep tonight? Who will take care of me? Am I loved? Thanks to your partnership, we are able to answer those questions with compassion, consistency, and care.

Your generosity and belief in our mission make it possible for healing to happen—for families to open their hearts and homes through foster care and adoption. You have helped us to equip foster parents with training and resources, walk alongside birth families during moments of crisis, and ensure that children receive the emotional and practical support they need to grow and thrive. These outcomes are not mere statistics—they are lives changed, futures restored, and families strengthened.

The best part of my job is the moment you witness a child come to realize they are safe and seen; when fear turns into trust, loss into belonging, uncertainty into hope. Those transformations happen because people like you choose to show up; because our community consistently chooses compassion and to invest in children who deserve security and love, especially during complicated times in their journeys.

Looking toward the future, the need remains great. More children are entering care, and more families are needed to say “yes.” With the continued support of partners like you, we can continue to expand our programs, strengthen our services, and ensure that no child has to face this journey alone.

On behalf of our staff, volunteers, and, most importantly, the children and families we serve, thank you. Your partnership is not just funding programs; it is changing stories every single day.



With gratitude,

Robin Thompson  
Executive Director



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Why Adoption Connection,  
PA, is here:

To help families **grow**.



Nichols Family on their adoption day, 2025

Our goal at Adoption Connection, PA (ACPA) is to see stronger families in our community. We help strengthen families through our services outlined in this report. We know that families don't just grow through adoption, but through fostering, support, reunification, and encouragement. We long to see the whole family unit thrive from birth parents, to foster families, and of course, youth in care.





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# 2025 Adoptions

Adoption Connection, PA, assists with adoptions through foster care and private, domestic adoptions.



Child Focused Recruiter with her first adoption through ACPA, October 2025

- 23 Adoptions Through Foster Care
- 05 Private Domestic Adoptions
- 58 Children In Foster Care Securing Permanency



“

We have learned that family is **everything** when you stick together and support each other.

-The Wagner Family, 2025 Adoptive Parents

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Foster Care

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Fostering  
stability and  
permanency  
for the 151  
children  
served.





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# Foster Care in 2025



Permanency looks different for every case. Some children are adopted by their foster families, others return to their families of origin. For us, any safe, permanent, and stable home for a child is something to celebrate.

23

Adoptions through  
Foster Care

12

Children Reunified  
with Families of Origin

20

Kinship Care  
Placements



They brought life back into our lives in a way we've never experienced before!



-The Wagner Family, 2025 Adoptive Parents-



We've grown to recalibrate what is most important in our lives—which is our new family. Every day brings unexpected joys, giggles, and love into our lives.



-The Montgomery Family, 2025 Adoptive Parents





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# Domestic Adoption

**“I have done two adoptions through you [Adoption Connection, PA]... It was an emotional process, but the staff there made it so much easier, having a community to support me through it all. I love Adoption Connection and all the things you do for the community.”** -Birth Mother



## 05 Domestic Adoptions

Five families grew through the life-changing gift of adoption. To families waiting to adopt a child, being chosen to parent is the greatest gift of all. Children can grow within a family unit in which they know they are chosen, welcomed, and loved.

## 08 Birth Mothers Served

Every birth mother who is served receives caring, unconditional support from our staff, regardless of what choice she makes. We strive to ensure that every child is loved and taken care of; whether through a loving plan of adoption or parenting in the biological family. Adoption Connection, PA, is here to support for as long as is needed.

““Our home has always been filled with love, but we always felt there was a missing piece. Amelia has overflowed our house with so much love [for us] and for everyone around us as well.”“

**The Montgomery Family, 2025 Adoptive Parents**

““Parenting has been full of unexpected joys... Our hearts are so much more full than we expected. Our son has grown our love for each other.”“

**Sydney & Trevor P., 2025 Adoptive Parents**

# SWAN Services

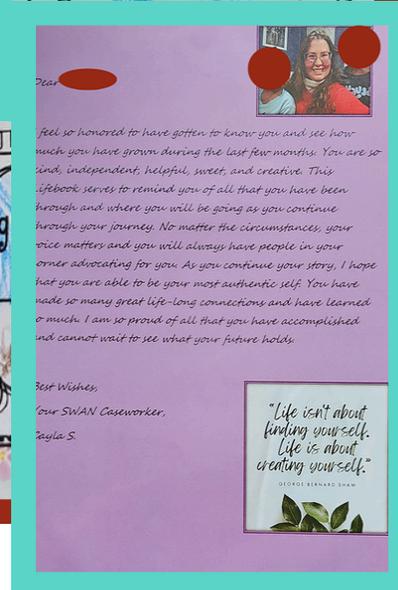
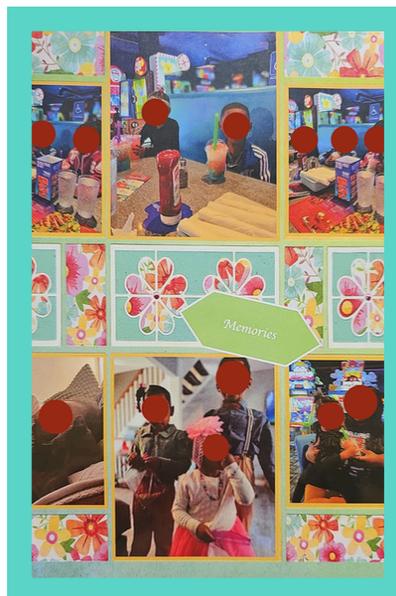
Adoption Connection, PA, is a SWAN (Statewide Adoption and Permanency Network) affiliate, meaning that we perform various preadoptive units of service for children and youth in foster care, including child preparation, child profiles, family profiles, post-permanency services, finalization, placement, and child specific recruitment (CSR).

## 31 Children had Child Preparation Visits Performed.

Child Preparation Visits are sessions in which SWAN caseworkers help children work through issues that may make the transition from foster home to permanent home difficult.

## 62 Child Profiles Written

Child Profiles lay out vital information about the child for potential care takers, including the child's history, level of functioning, and special needs.



## 31 Lifebooks Completed

As a result of multiple placements, children in foster care often have details of their story missing from record or memory. Our SWAN department constructs Lifebooks to help document key people, moments, and factors of children's lives so that they can take those records with them to any future placements and remember their past.

“

It is so obvious that they feel loved and nurtured, which is visible when they interact... Both are social and confident in their interactions between family and friends.

”

-The Wagner Family, 2025 Adoptive Parents-





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# Family Time Visit Coaching

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“We meet parents, ‘where they are at’. Coaches take a non-judgmental stance and parents become remarkably vulnerable and willing to change.” -Stephanie Gavel, Program Manager

Adoption Connection, PA, wants to see families grow, and that includes families of origin growing in confidence, competency, and capacity. In our Family Time Coaching Sessions, biological parents receive coaching before and after visits with their children to help them meet their children’s needs, build on parenting skills, and set realistic goals. Coaches provide feedback, encouragement, and often even transportation to visits. Because of high demand in our region, ACPA accepts referrals for birth parents of children in care regardless of what agency the family’s case is filed with.

**Adoption Connection, PA, was able to offer an average of 23 coaching sessions a month to birth parents in 2025.**





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# New Program: Connecting Home

ACPA added our new Connecting Home: Reunification Preservation Program in 2025. This program serves families who have experienced reunification from the foster care system in Washington County. We look forward to expanding this service to more areas in 2026.



ACPA's New Washington County Office

## ♥ Strengthening Families

This four-month program guides the whole family through healthy and honest communication, conflict resolution, understanding trauma-informed care, self-care and stress management, boundary setting and consistency, and positive reinforcement.

## ♥ Keeping Kids Safe

Close involvement of the program coach and Office of Children Youth and Families will ensure children's safety throughout the program. Our goal is for participants to have no new substantiated reports of abuse or neglect during or after the program.

## ♥ Preventing Re-Entry

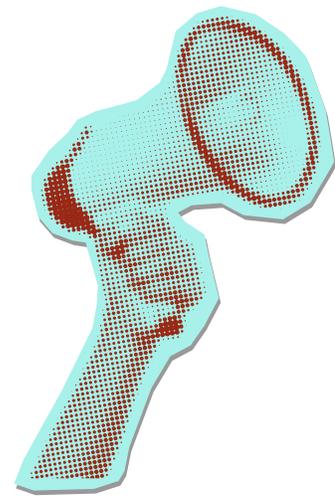
Every time a child is removed from their home, it is a traumatizing experience. Our program's goal is to prevent the re-traumatization of re-entering care and to keep families safe, strong, and together through weekly safety evaluations, life skills coaching, resource connections, and crisis intervention.

## ♥ Responding to Needs

ACPA is the only agency in our region to offer this kind of aftercare program and will accept referrals regardless of what agency the family's case is filed with. We just want to see children safe, families together, and communities thriving.



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# Recruitment



Magician performs for children and families at the Westmoreland County Fair Foster Care Day

Our team attended 24 recruitment events across five counties in 2025. At these events, team members promote the need for foster homes in the area, encourage attendees to promote the need for foster parents, and share other ways to support children in care. Participation in these events, combined with our online efforts, raised awareness and foster family orientations.





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# Recruitment Collaborations



Because Adoption Connection, PA, believes that every home for a child is a win for our shared society, ACPA leads collaborative recruitment efforts to spread awareness of the need for fo families. In 2025, ACPA collaborated with various organizations to highlight the needs of vulnerable children in the county.



Executive Director, Robin Thompson, speaks at Allegheny County Foster Parent Appreciation Luncheon to honor two ACPA foster families.



ACPA partners with Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) at recruitment events.



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# Outreach

## Community Family Closet



The Community Family Closet exists to serve our community. Supplied entirely by donations, the Closet is open to anyone in need, absolutely free of charge. A recipient may submit a request by calling the office or filling out an online form. ACPA staff then do their best to fill the requests with the donations that have been received. Recipients may request items such as clothing (for all ages), toiletries, diapers, wipes, linens, towels, infant items, books, formula, and more. The Community Family Closet provides opportunities for Adoption Connection, PA, to partner with other area non-profits and be a crucial to those in our community.

# 6,759

## visitors to our closet in 2025

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**5,240**

**people provided with necessities through the Community Family Closet.**

**100**

people provided with clothing, shoes, and hygiene products after Hurricane Melissa through a community member

**20+**

nonprofits and organizations have partnered with, relied on, or referred individuals to the Community Family Closet

**40%**

increase in traffic in 2025

**\$432,000**

worth of necessities given back to our community at no cost to individuals in need

**1,519**

donors supplying our community with necessities





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# Volunteerism & Community Engagement

481

**Volunteer Engagements**

Filling our space with kindness

1,288

**Hours of Service**

To our Community Family Closet

64

**Hours Given Back**

To our community by ACPA employees



Adoption Connection, PA, takes great pride in our relationship with our community. Our organization seeks to be a staple where individuals can give, receive, serve, and be served. We enthusiastically host not only individual volunteers, but groups looking to make a difference where they live. We are grateful to groups like Shell, Islamic Center of Western Pennsylvania, Beaver High School, and Beaver County Rehabilitation Center for giving their time to serve children and families in our community closet.

While we could never fully repay the generosity of our community, ACPA is dedicated to giving back. Employees volunteer time quarterly at a local soup kitchen to further serve those in need in our community; our way of saying thank you.

# Giving Highlights



Local young man, Elijah Clare, has collected over **12,500 diapers/pull-ups and 38,000 wipes** for our Community Family Closet. Elijah has organized community members and strangers to donate items in a diaper drive for his Mitzvah Project. These diapers and wipes are given to young kids in care as well as community families in need.

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Thanks to our community partners, we were able to help families in need this holiday season. **30 local children** received individually curated gifts, purchased by community members. An additional **137 children** and teens received over **430 brand new toys, clothes, toiletries, and household goods** for the holidays, thanks to the giving spirits of local businesses and organizations who donated from toy drives.

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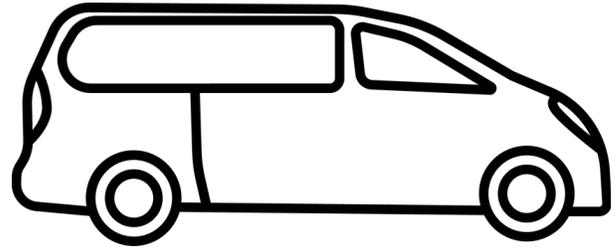
Over **300 coats** were collected by Mary Queen of Saints Parish, Dutch Ridge Elementary School, and Westminster UPC Women's Group. Adoption Connection, PA to those in need throughout the cold winter months.



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## Case Aide Family Visits

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Adoption Connection, PA, recognizes the value and need of children's connections to their families of origin. That's why our Case Aides traveled tens of thousands of miles to make visits that preserve those connections possible.

Case Aids transport children in care to visits and supervise the visits if necessary. Through this process, children have the opportunity not only to connect with their families of origin, but to spend additional time with a safe caring adult (the case aide).

Our case aides are kept busy with visits, transportations, and reports. In the second half of the year alone, we had scheduled 805 visits.



Staff completed **1,047**  
visits in 2025.



# What Our Adoptive Parents Are Saying:



“We cannot say enough nor express our undying gratitude to an organization that has forever left a **beautiful and positive imprint on our hearts**. We always felt supported through your [Adoption Connection, PA’s] efforts...”

- The Wagner Family

“We **love** everyone we’ve worked with at Adoption Connection! Robin [the Executive Director] has been a **tremendous support** for our family, and we look forward to continue working with Adoption Connection.”

- The Montgomery Family

“We loved working with the agency [Adoption Connection, PA]! Robin [the Executive Director] was so helpful to us. She is kind and caring. That is one of the main reasons we chose Adoption Connection, PA. Her heart for the entire adoption process was so **encouraging and calming throughout the process.**”

- Trevor & Sydney P.

# Get Involved

## Foster

Call and schedule a free orientation with our executive director to start your journey of opening your heart and home to a child in need today.



724.371.0671



[info@adoptionconnectionpa.org](mailto:info@adoptionconnectionpa.org)

## Give

You can make a difference in the lives of local children and families by donating funds, time, and goods to Adoption Connection, PA.



700 Turnpike St  
Beaver, PA 15009



[adoptionconnectionpa.org/give-now](https://adoptionconnectionpa.org/give-now)

## Promote

Let those in your life know about the needs of children in our area. Interact with our social media pages and help us spread our audience.



[facebook.com/AdoptionConnectionPA](https://facebook.com/AdoptionConnectionPA)

**“We would highly recommend Adoption Connection to any family who opens their hearts to a new and precious addition.”**

- The Wagner Family, 2025 Adoptive Parents -