

**Celebrating over 25 years of building families across America.**



**Adopt  
America  
Network™**

*Special Children Deserve Special Families*



**2008 Annual Report**

# Adopt America Network's Mission

*We find permanent, loving families for children in the U.S. foster care system.*

Adopt America Network is a 501(c)(3) adoption exchange, the Mission of which is to improve the lives of children in the United States foster care system who have had parental rights terminated by helping to place them in permanent, loving homes through a national network of public agencies, private agencies and volunteers.

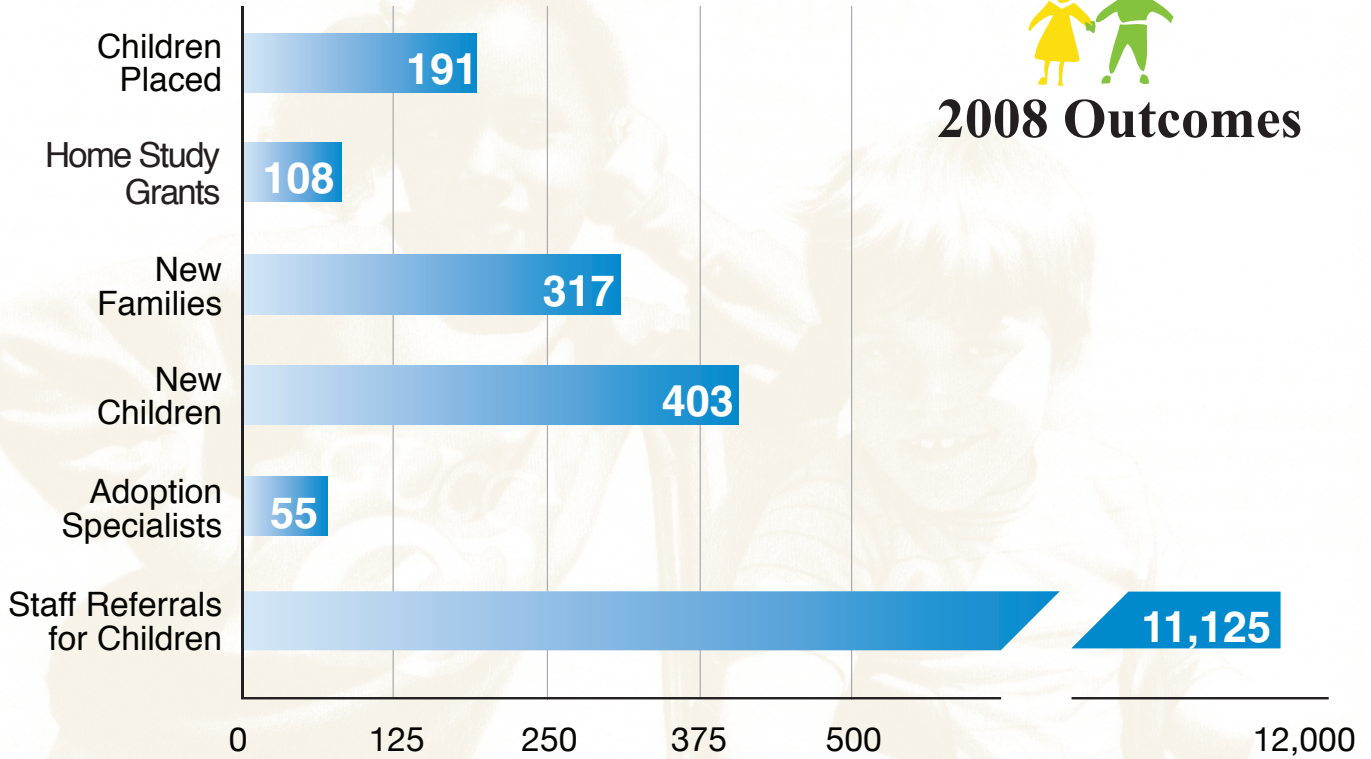
## Services provided by Adopt America Network include:

Recruitment of Adoptive Families, Pre-Service Training, Home Study Assessment, Matching Services, Child and Family Mentoring, and Post Placement Supervision.

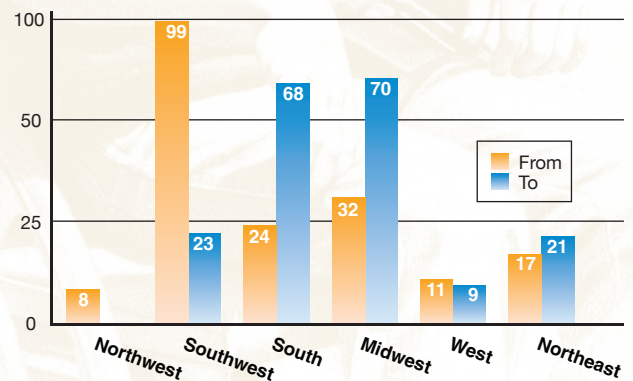
We focus on helping place special needs children – those who have been abused, neglected, have medical, physical and/or emotional challenges, are of minority heritage, have siblings or are school age or older.



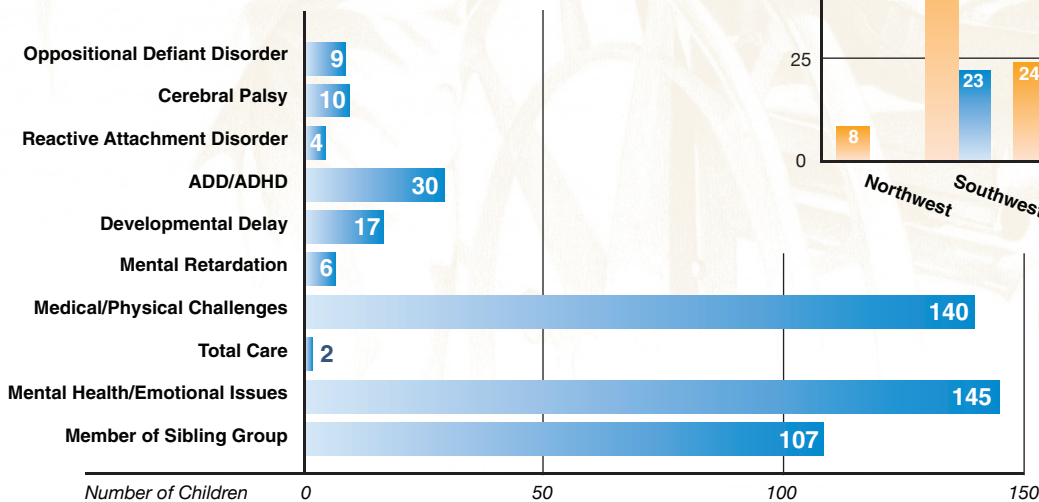
## 2008 Outcomes



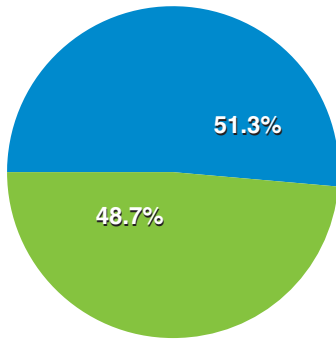
## Placement by Region



## Challenges of the Children

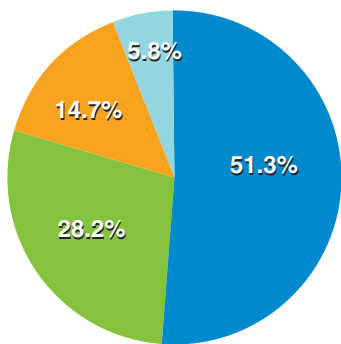


## Placement by Gender



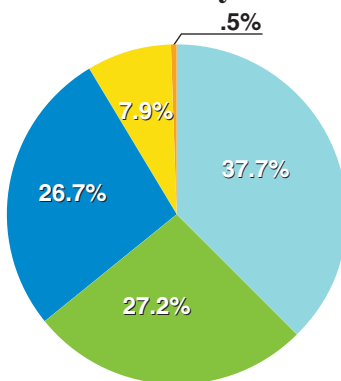
- Male (98)
- Female (93)

## Placement by Age Group



- 0 to 6 (98)
- 7 to 10 (54)
- 11 to 14 (28)
- 15+ (11)

## Placement by Ethnicity



- Caucasian (72)
- African American (51)
- Hispanic (52)
- Biracial (15)
- Asian (1)

# Our children fulfill our lives



Following several years of infertility, my husband Dave and I adopted our son Matthew, who is now 12 years old. When Matthew was 2, we learned about Adopt America Network and decided that we had found our mission, adopting children with special needs. AAN helped us to adopt three amazing children and on more than one occasion, Matthew asked if we could possibly adopt more!

Angel was born with Down syndrome and had been in foster care for 25 of the 30 months of her life when she came into our home. She was dependent on a pacemaker, but this seemed minor in comparison to her huge loving heart, beautiful smile and the radiant sparkle in her eyes! Having undergone several surgeries, we knew she was a fighter with an incredible desire to survive and a unique passion for life.

weeks and although she was a very sick little girl, like her older sister Angel, Bryana has the internal fire that was an integral part of the recovery process. She had no choice but to endure all of these traumas, but her eyes were the brightest and biggest we had ever seen! It was during her struggle to recover that we came to recognize her determination and amazing strength.

Today, Angel is an adorable and loving pre-teen who we continue to arm with the tools needed to enter into the world as a strong and loving adult. Tony has made remarkable strides, however, as many boys do, he tries to hide his wonderful heart and exhibits unrivaled methods of making people laugh. Bryana's recovery is simply phenomenal. She is not only an excellent athlete, but also strong-minded, humorous, loving and independent. And Matthew still wants more!

Now I am a volunteer adoption specialist with AAN. Since 1999, I have been recruiting families that want to share their lives with children in need of loving homes. I took on this role because of our personal understanding of the yearning for children in our life and I continue it for many reasons, but most of all because I get to watch children actually going home.

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*As an adoption specialist for AAN, the most rewarding placement that I have been involved in was Michael, a baby boy who was terminally ill. Michael was chosen by his adoptive family due to their heartfelt desire to provide comfort and sustenance in the last stages of his little life. The most important thing to them was to make sure that Michael passed on in the secure arms of a family who loved him—not in a hospital. Michael's legacy now includes not only his very own last name, but also people who will cherish him forever.*

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Tony joined our family a couple of years later. He had numerous medical conditions and was not able to swallow solid foods. Recently, Tony has been diagnosed with a list of disorders including Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, Fetal Alcohol Effect, Reactive Attachment Disorder and he experiences seizures. These are serious issues for our family, but it is Tony's ornery smile and the dynamic look in his beautiful eyes that we see. We thought Tony would be the proverbial "class clown" and we were correct!

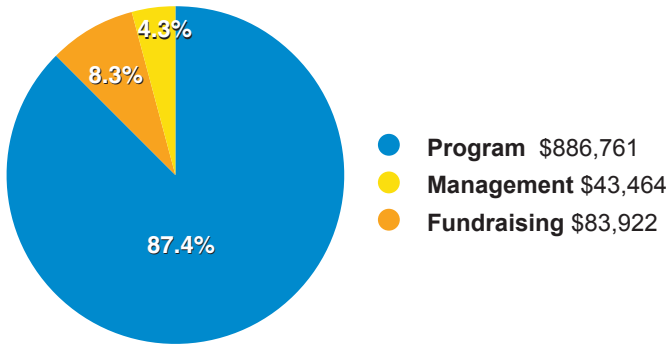
Bryana was born 2 months prematurely, was addicted to drugs, had meningitis and an E-Coli infection. She was in the hospital for three

More people should consider adoption. Children fulfill our lives. Our children have given us the gifts of energy and enthusiasm. They keep us young at heart. Most important is the simple fact that Matthew, Angel, Tony and Bryana are our future and we have the ability to instill values of resourcefulness, integrity and passion for life into their souls! As we watch our children blossom and flourish, we feel the gratification that accompanies adoption. We have contributed to the future of America by giving our children the proper tools for entrance into adulthood and to enjoy happy and prosperous lives. —Kris



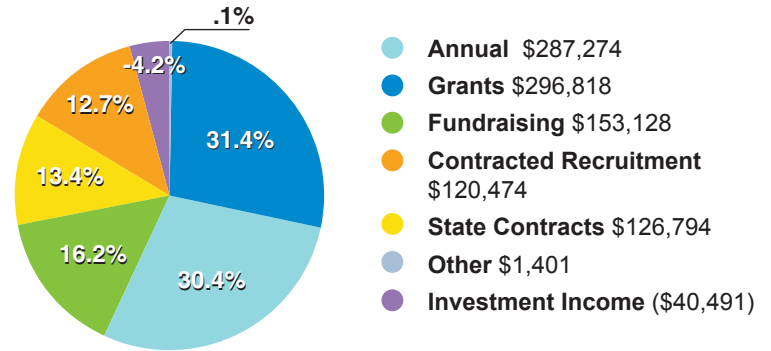
## 2008 Expenses

Total Expenses: \$1,014,147



## 2008 Revenue

Total Revenue: \$945,398



**Net Ending Assets for 2008: \$313,786**



## Building families across America

Dear Friends,

As 2008 came to a close, Adopt America had successfully helped 191 more children realize their dream of a home and family of their very own. They came from 21 different states and were adopted by families in 15 states. Truly, AAN is helping kids and families find each other no matter where they live in the U.S.

While the local and national economic downturn made 2008 a challenge, AAN navigated the turbulence and ended the year only slightly under the operational budget. A bigger concern is with families who are eager to adopt but with employment and housing uncertainty, we are seeing a slow down in the number of new families who are beginning the adoption process. Those who have adopted face the difficulty in finding the much-needed post adoption support in a time when community mental health agencies are reducing or eliminating services due mainly to state budget cuts.

AAN's dedicated board of directors and experienced staff have engaged in strategic planning to develop new, sustainable, revenue-generating services that will help to answer our families' need for critical social work and counseling services. Our commitment to helping to place children from foster care with loving, adoptive families is unwavering. We pledge to use our resources to assist families and caseworkers to get children to permanency as safely and quickly as possible. No matter the special challenges or circumstances, AAN will continue to make a profound difference in the lives of hundreds of children each year.

In 25 years of building families across America, over 3,500 children are living their dream because of AAN and you. Thank you for making all of this possible and for helping us to launch our next 25 years of service to children and families.

On behalf of all of the children who still wait,

Tammy Corral  
Chairman of the Board



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