



Host A Child In Your Home This Summer

 **love basket**
An affiliate of Nightlight® Christian Adoptions

 **generations**
adoptions
a division of nightlight® Christian adoptions

 **a helping hand**
adoption agency
An affiliate of Nightlight® Christian Adoptions

Colombia



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Colombia Hosting – July 2018

Kidsave's Summer Miracles® Program gives older orphaned children, ages 11 to 14, a chance to experience what life is like in a loving family. This July, over 50 children from Colombia will come to the States for an active, engaging 4-5 week experience, focused on giving people a chance to meet and advocate for them to find a forever family. For more information, visit [Kidsave's website](#).

Your next step in hosting is to contact us. For more information on hosting and adopting from these countries, call **Natalie at 714-693-5437** or email natalie@nightlight.org



A Journey of Joy and Happiness: A Snowflakes® Embryo Adoption

Our family building journey has brought us nothing but joy and happiness! Unfortunately, it did not start out that way. After we had one son, we were certain we wanted more children. After three miscarriages, we decided to discontinue our attempts to conceive another genetic child. We decided to explore adoption as a means for growing our family. We first tried domestic infant adoption, but that led to additional heartbreak. We were determined to bring another child into our home – we have so much love to give! One day, I was sitting at my computer, and I decided to type “I want to have a baby!” into the search bar. The Snowflakes Embryo Adoption Program was the first item in the search results list!

Like many people, we had never heard of this option before. What a strange and foreign concept! I called Snowflakes and gathered as much information as possible. The more I learned, the more I knew that this was the answer to our prayers. Full speed ahead! I submitted our application and honestly, I’m not sure my loving husband had actually processed what we were pursuing yet.

We completed our home study and selected a clinic. We waited as patiently as possible for a family to choose us to adopt their remaining embryos. Our first match didn’t work out. It was incredibly disappointing, but we received lots of encouragement from the Snowflakes team. Quite quickly, we were selected by another placing family who had four kids through IVF. After the adoption was finalized, we had snippets of contact with the family, mediated by Nightlight. The family answered some questions we had and sent pictures of their whole family.

We had our first embryo transfer. We transferred one embryo and learned we were pregnant. Joy! Happiness! Apprehension. Would the pregnancy stick? It did, and the entire pregnancy was incredibly smooth—absolutely perfect. We decided we wanted to reach out to our placing parents and see if they would like to exchange email addresses. This led to us exchanging phone numbers. After texting, talking, and emailing we established a wonderful, personal relationship between us. We felt blessed and honored that they chose us to be able to give one (and someday more) of their embryos a chance at life.

The Christmas after our son was born, both families agreed to meet at a hotel. As the family who gifted us with embryos came into the hotel lobby, I felt an instant connection. I was holding the baby they created: the baby they blessed us with. It is extraordinary to think that before any of us knew each other, or even were born ourselves, God had a plan. God knew this baby, and He knew he would be a part of our family.

I hope our journey as “extended family” has only just begun. The joy and happiness we feel now can only continue to grow!



Key Dates for 2018

Nationwide:

CA, CO, KY, MO, OK, SC, TX

Summer Reunion Picnic, June 23

[RSVP for your Picnic here](#)

California

Monte Carlo Night: November 10

Vivian’s Hope Fundraiser: November 10

Texas

Generations Adoptions Hope Gala: October 20

Foster Feature:

Since the conception of Nightlight's foster care and foster adoption program in 2013, our Colorado office has worked with over 60 families and approximately 100 children. Some of these children needed a short-term, temporary placement, while others have been adopted by Nightlight families.

When Arick and Rachel decided to become foster parents over two years ago, their intention was to provide a safe and loving home for children in need until they could be reunified with their biological family. Their family was matched with a sibling set of two children, and after approximately one year, the judge determined it was not safe for these children to return home. The couple now waits for the court process to be complete, so they can finalize their adoption. When asked about their journey thus far, the couple shared the following:

It has been almost three years since our family officially started a journey into foster care. From the first training, we knew that Jesus was rewriting our story. We were not empty pages, though. At the time, we had three young girls and a storyline that appeared to follow all of the typical narratives. But we know that God doesn't follow the rules of humans, and for His glory, our story took a turn we will always be grateful for.

"Oh! I would love to do that." Or, "We've thought about that a lot." This is a common response when people learn that we are a foster/adoptive family. So, to the brave souls who feel like they may have a calling on their life to join the foster family club, here is what we would tell you. Be prepared for an adventure. Be prepared to occupy some of the deepest emotional spaces you have ever known, and often two opposite emotions at once. Be prepared to depend on God like you possibly never have before.

When asked about the hardest parts of foster care, a few things blaze through my mind. Is it the tantrums? The scheduling of visits and therapies? Is it the heartache? Feeling like a mama bear for those times I wasn't there, before I had ever met them? Yes. That is foster care. It is hard.

Do you know what else our story is? It's a love story. As our family grew, so did our capacity to give. To think that we get to be front row to the healing work of Jesus (and instruments even), is humbling. These little babies need to know that there is not one day of their lives that a loving Creator has not had His eye on them. And here we are whispering those truths to them every day. This is when I feel as if I can't put down the book to our own story!

If you know a foster/adoptive family and catch a glimpse of their crazy lives, don't let it scare you. They need you more than they can communicate. Don't be afraid, lean in, and contribute to a story bigger than all of us.

Interested in learning more about Nightlight's foster care and/or foster adoption program? Call our Colorado office at (970) 663-6799 or email at foster.co@nightlight.org.





Did you know that we have a new app called "My Pregnancy My Future"? Download it from the app store (Google or Apple).



<http://smile.amazon.com>

Shop and donate with one click today, and automatically donate 0.5% of everything you buy on Amazon in the future to Nightlight.



Adoptive Parents Needed for Study on Adoption-Related Workplace Policies



My name is Matt Quade. My wife and I just recently returned from China with our adopted son. Just like you, Nightlight Christian Adoptions was our agency. As an adoptive parent and a business research professor at Baylor University, I am especially interested in the role an adoptive parent's work organization plays in the adoption process through their adoption-related policies. My colleagues and I are currently identifying married adoptive parents to participate in our study. Each couple who participates will be asked to complete one survey per person (approximately

10-15 minutes per survey). If both surveys are completed, the couple has a chance to win 1 of 20 \$50.00 Amazon gift cards.

Our research is not possible without your participation. So, we thank you in advance for your time and consideration. We hope our research will shine an important light on adoption.

If you are interested in signing up to participate, please follow the link below:

https://baylor.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_306ICS491kWNgNL

To participate:

- Spouses must be at least 18 years or older.
- Your adoption of at least one child must have been finalized in the last 24 months.
- At least one of the spouses must work (non self-employed) full-time (30+ hours/week).
- That spouse's full-time work must be in a work setting (ex: office, store, building).

Please click on the link above and sign up today if you would like to participate.

Also, please share this opportunity with other adoptive parents you know who may be interested in supporting this research. The more potential participants for the study, the better we'll be able to understand how workplace policies impact adoptions.

Talk with our experts -714.693.5437 - info@nightlight.org

Nightlight provides adoption services as a permanent response for children without parents through child advocacy, parent education and lifelong support...because every child deserves a loving family.