

adoption-share
annual report 2021

Again!

Pictured on front cover: Nedd Family brought together through Adoption-Share's strategic partnership with the Selfless Love Foundation, a nonprofit making it possible for agencies and families to utilize Adoption-Share's Family-Match Program for adoption matching at no cost in the state of Florida.

A WORD FROM OUR FOUNDER AND CEO *Thea Ramirez*

"*Again*", the faint cry 100 meters behind me on the track would pierce the cold October morning. With that simple word, we would be off for another 800 meter jaunt 30 seconds faster than our race pace. My legs would grow so tired after the repetition of these workouts. A brief rest and swig of water and before I could blink the shrill cry of *Again* would pierce through the calm sending us back onto the track for another lap and then another.

25 years later - sitting on the back row of a cramped airplane, I find myself reflecting, grappling with the magnitude of what it means to be faithful to the process of transformation. The exercise of reflection at the conclusion of each year- for my team has simultaneously served as the summation of what has been and a charge to carry us forward into the new year.

2021 has put Adoption-Share at the moment in a metaphorical track workout in which the breaks between each set seem to get shorter and shorter. The calmness of the water break, shattered by the call of a coach calling our team *again* to the starting line- demanding our faithfulness to another round, another lap. *Again*, echoes through our heads.

Mother Theresa once said "Be faithful in the small things because it is in them that your strength lies." 2021 has been a year of both being faithful to the small things and yielding the outcomes that have resulted from our faithfulness: an opportunity to greater responsibility and impact.

"Small things" can come in all shapes and sizes. Operating within our core values as an organization may seem small- but when pressure tested amidst the backdrop of a world still reeling from a pandemic- it has proven to advance our team- attracting unbelievable talent drawn to our mission and ethos.

Faithfulness to transparency and accountability may seem like small things- but when placed under the scrutiny of a financial auditor and a SOC 2 Type 2 audit, confidence, credibility, and the opportunity to serve new states were the immediate outcomes. Faithfulness to our commitment to learn and improve our computational models to increase the quality and efficiency of our matching system may seem like small things- but when pursued with great rigor, attracted the leading minds of three world renowned academic institutions.

The work of transformation is hard but for those engaged in this work- it is important to not neglect the "small things" that propel our missions to achieve change in the child welfare space. *Again*- beckons us to straighten our posture and with heavy limb, get back on the start, ready for what's next, expectant of what's to come. *Again!*

As we enter a new year- Adoption-Share is leaning forward. We are resting on the balls of our feet. Our right hand clasped around the start button of the stop watch. We are ready for the shrill cry of *again* to greet us, ready to click start and spring forward, pulling back our stride and forcing our obedience to the pace that we have been tasked to hold- like a metronome- steady and consistent.

The ding in the airplane signals the flight attendants to prepare the cabin for landing. I find myself dreaming of cool fall mornings in Pittsburgh and wet, squeaky Nikes with the fresh dew from the track absorbed in its soles.

Faithfulness begets faithfulness- and as we advance our mission to ensure children without families achieve permanency through adoption- we relish the opportunity to begin *again* in 2022!

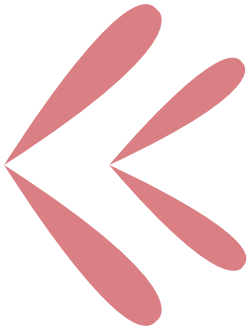


Again, Thea

Thea Ramirez
Founder and CEO

www.adoption-share.com

[f](#) [t](#) [e](#) @adoptionshare



Adoption-Share is a 501 (c) 3 tax exempt organization that exists to leverage technology to bring efficiency, innovation, and reform to the private and public adoption process and to raise awareness about adoption in the United States.

We are relentless dreamers, humble doers, and daring innovators, passionately dedicated to developing solutions to remove the barriers that keep families from adopting and children from stable homes and bright futures. We believe that when the right tools are employed, comprehensive and systemic reform is achievable in the child welfare arena.

Highlight Reel

From Data to Advocacy

SOC 2 Type 2 Audit Completion

Commitment to Security, Availability, and Accessibility

SOC 2 compliance is a component of the American Institute of CPAs (AICPA)'s Service Organization Control reporting platform. Adoption-Share completed a SOC 2 Type 2 Audit in 2021. The SOC 2 Audit evaluates Family-Match's application + infrastructure are established and maintained in a manner that assures security, availability, processing integrity, confidentiality, and privacy of customer data. (aicpa.org)



Adoption-Share Receives 7th IRB Approval

Commitment to Putting Families and Children First

In a continued effort to maintain integrity, transparency, and accountability as we deploy the Family-Match Application in states across the country, Adoption-Share applied for and received IRB approval for the seventh year in a row! The IRB ensures our pilots are conducted ethically and with the safety and security of the pilot participants in mind.



Adoption-Share Launches Innovative Adoption Awareness Campaign Featuring Hollywood Director Sean Anders and His Wife Beth!

From Data to Advocacy

November 2021 kicked off our first ever animated short, *Flight of the Heart*, along with a national campaign to flip the script on who is waiting to adopt. By highlighting waiting families (who outnumber waiting children with a goal of adoption by a ratio of 5:1) we believe more focused attention and resources can be directed towards solutions like Family-Match that can resolve the connection problem keeping children in the foster care system from being adopted in the United States. Special thanks to Adoptonly Yours for the illustration and story; Jenna Wilsuz for the animation, and MDC Productions for helping us procure Sean and Beth Anders!



L - R: Lucas Ramirez, Founder and CEO Thea Ramirez, Sean and Beth Anders, and Meagan Celeste (MDC Productions) pose for a picture at a private event in NYC



Adoption-Share and the University of Zurich formalize first ever collaborative research partnership for adoption matching!

Commitment to Good Design

Adoption-Share and the University of Zurich established a partnership to conduct collaborative research on child adoption and foster-care matching. The primary goal of the project is to significantly improve the process by which children are matched with families to increase the welfare of children and families. Leading academics from Boston College and Cornell University are also contributing to this research collaboration.



Scan the QR code to read

Founder and CEO, Thea Ramirez participates in AEI Working Group and Signs Joint Response to Growing Calls to Abolish Child Protective Services (CPS)

Commitment to Leadership

"Prevention and Intervention are not competing philosophies. Both are needed to ensure children's safety." - Naomi Riley

In 2021, AEI convened a working group that resulted in a joint statement. Since Dr. Gian Gonzaga and Thea Ramirez presented to scholars and leaders at the American Enterprise Institute in 2019, AEI convened a working group of child welfare leaders from across the country to tackle topics to include but not limited to COVID's impact on child welfare, the role faith based community can play in improving child welfare, and racial disparity in the foster care system.



Georgia Peach Sweetens to Innovation in Child Welfare

Commitment to Inspiring Change

Adoption-Share signed a contract with the Division of Family and Children Services in Georgia in November of 2021! Families from across the state of Georgia with a desire to adopt children from the foster care system are invited to create a profile on Adoption-Share's Family-Match Program. Children with a goal of adoption and no families yet identified to adopt them from Regions 1, 8, and 13 will be onboarded to Family-Match for adoption matching. The Division of Family and Children Services in Georgia is the first child welfare department of a state to invest its own financial resources to fund Adoption-Share's work.

Mentions and Moments

Presentation to All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for Adoption and Permanence

The APPG for Adoption and Permanence launched a new inquiry in response to the commencement of the Children's Social Care (CSC) Review in England.

This inquiry sought to consider some of the key points of vulnerability in a child and family's adoption journey and how families can be strengthened to enable all members, but particularly children and young people, to experience the ongoing love, stability, and safety they need in order to flourish.

Founder and CEO Thea Ramirez, was invited to speak on how technology and predictive analytics can be used as a powerful tool to increase efficiency and stability in foster and adoptive placements.



Extra, Extra! Scan the QR codes to read

Adoption-matching pilot launches in Georgia

SEPTEMBER 17, 2021

Atlanta, GA. Today, the Georgia Department of Human Services (DHS) Division of Family & Children Services (DFCS) announced a partnership with AdoptionShare for a pilot of its Family Match program, an innovative adoption matching technology designed to connect families with children in foster care who are eligible for adoption. The pilot is slated to begin in October 1, 2021.

Over the last five years, the number of finalized adoptions has increased from 761 in 2015 to 1,493 in 2020, demonstrating efforts to find foster families for youth in Georgia's foster care system.

To continue the momentum of the adoption program, the Family Match pilot will utilize predictive models to assist case workers with finding adoptive families for waiting children. With a compatibility assessment developed by the foster and researchers from AdoptionShare, the program aims to determine the child's adoption placement, match children to families who they will flourish, and improve case worker efficiency.

"We believe the Family Match program will help us find families for children in foster care who are without adoptive families. Many of these children are older, members of large sibling groups, or children who continue to deal with significant trauma," said Catherine L. Jones, Georgia DHS Commissioner and DFCS Director.

Currently, placement is based on several factors, including the child's age, gender, and ethnicity.

"Adoption in Georgia is an ongoing effort," said Thea Ramirez, Founder and CEO of AdoptionShare.

New adoption-matching program launches in Georgia

By Washington Post Staff Writer David S. Lee, September 17, 2021

Georgia's new adoption-matching program, which uses predictive analytics to help find families for children in foster care, is set to launch in October.

The program, called Family Match, is a pilot of a technology called Family Match, which uses predictive analytics to help find families for children in foster care who are eligible for adoption. The program is set to launch in October.

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The Need for a New Script – A New Message for Adoption Awareness Month

By Washington Post Staff Writer David S. Lee, September 17, 2021

Adoption Awareness Month is a time to celebrate the lives of adopted children and the families who raise them. But for many adopted children, the message of adoption is often one of loss and longing.

The program is a pilot of a technology called Family Match, which uses predictive analytics to help find families for children in foster care who are eligible for adoption. The program is set to launch in October.

NO WAY TO TREAT A CHILD

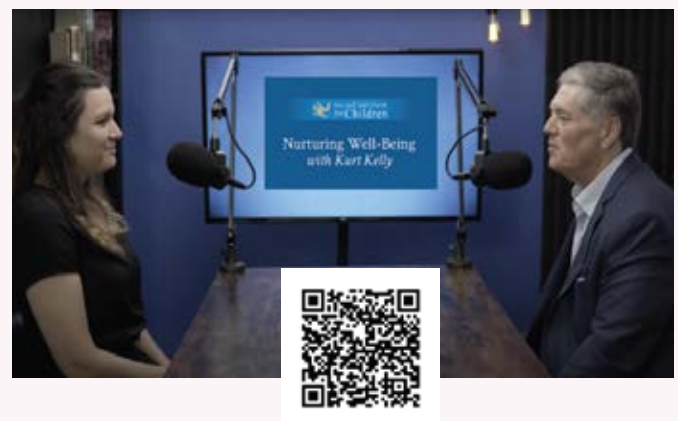
HOW THE FOSTER CARE SYSTEM, FAMILY COURTS, AND RACIAL ACTIVISTS ARE WRECKING YOUNG LIVES

NAOMI SCHAEFER RILEY

Family-Match included in Riley's No Way to Treat a Child as an example of how big data can help kids in foster care

Nurturing Well-Being with Kurt Kelly Podcast

Nurturing Well-Being with Kurt Kelly features a conversation with the Founder & CEO of AdoptionShare Thea Ramirez about National Adoption Month, and the ways tools and technology are making a life-changing difference for children through adoption.



Word from our Director of Private Infant Adoption Network

Our network for private infant adoption helps prospective adoptive parents get matched faster

by networking with licensed adoption agencies and adoption attorneys from all over the United States.

As a mom to 8 children, 5 through adoption, I have a unique perspective in my expanding role as Director of Adoption-Share's private infant adoption network and Family Coordinator for Family-Match in Georgia, that has proven to be an invaluable resource to offer and share with hopeful adoptive parents. I have been on both sides of the fence. I have experienced the tiresome wait and exuberant joy. I have experienced the Proverb on a personal level- that hope deferred makes the heart sick but a longing fulfilled is a tree of life.

In spite of a continuing global pandemic that disrupted every aspect of life as we know, I was continually in amazement at the sheer resilience of hope in the heart of prospective adoptive parents who long to embrace their son or daughter through private infant adoption. Despite copious amounts of uncer-

tainty, the persistent hope and resilience of men and women who long to expand their family was inspiring.

Adoption-Share offers an online platform to help hopeful adoptive parents make connections faster and in keeping with our values, I made it my personal mission to personally connect with every family and adoption professional on our platform. As our platform continues to grow and we continue to celebrate the beautiful families forged through adoption, I look forward to being a catalyst for more longings fulfilled!



Kristina Mongillo,

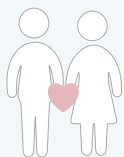
Private Infant Adoption
Network Director | Adoption-Share



Our platform has helped shorten the wait time for hopeful adoptive parents, given licensed adoption agencies and attorneys more families to consider, and empowered families to have more control, transparency, and decision making ability.

Our Accomplishments in 2021

Our network of adoption professionals help women making an adoption plan, consider families on our platform as prospective adoptive parents, through a licensed child placement agency or adoption attorney.



70

Prospective adoptive families served on myadoption-share.com.



257

Grew our network of licensed child placement agencies and adoption attorneys from across the United States.



Connected **7** women who were confronted with unexpected pregnancies and wanting to learn more about adoption to a licensed adoption agency in her own state.



130

Adoption situations posted.

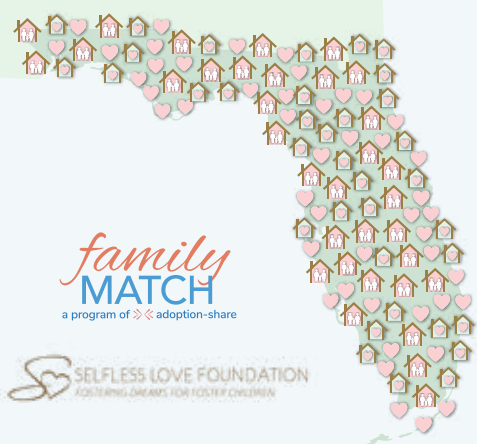
Bringing Efficiency

Our Family-Match Program in Florida continues to lead the way for demonstrating the success of a data driven application designed to efficiently and appropriately match waiting children with waiting families.

Thanks to the generous support and strategic partnership of the Selfless Love Foundation, families and agencies in Florida are able to utilize Family-Match for adoption matching at no cost. We are happy to announce Selfless Love Foundation's pledge to continue its strategic partnership with Adoption-Share for the next three years!

In 2021, we continue to be heartened by our results:

- ✓ Family-Match increased its lifetime matches by 47% (as compared to same time last year) and increased lifetime adoptions through the application by 62% (as compared to same time last year).
- ✓ The percentage of children being matched within the first 6 months of being on-boarded onto the system increased by 74% since the program's launch in July of 2018.
- ✓ Preliminary analysis from our top using agencies demonstrated a 25-50% increase in the adoptions of children deemed "hardest to place".
- ✓ Estimated savings of over \$30.1M the state of Florida can realize over the next 8 years.



690+ Children Matched



430+ Children Placed



305+ Adopted



100% Participation by all 19 community-based care circuits statewide



2000+ Families have created profiles



Maintained on average an open and active pool of 800 children

Of the 300+ adoptions facilitated by our Family-Match Program in Florida



100%

Are considered special needs



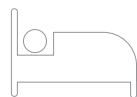
39%

Were 10+ years old



42%

Have a disability



50%

Spent time in congregate care homes or residential treatment facilities.



63%

Are part of sibling groups



47%

Occurred outside the child placing agency's area

Family Corner <<

Personally, this year I was reminded of the important role our tech platform plays in changing the lives of hard-to-place children and families who have been waiting to adopt. A family waiting for several years was connected with a child many had given up on but because our tool looked past the distance and saw a family that would fit together perfectly- the child and family were able to finalize their adoption at the end of the year. This is just one example of the over 100 adoptions we celebrated this year; each one unique and amazing. We are so grateful to be a part of these moments.

In addition to celebrating all the matches and adoptions that occurred in 2021- here are a few other ways we supported our families and workers this year.

- ✔ Held two Family Regional Mixers where agencies from different circuits got to meet waiting families; one in NE Florida and one in the Florida Panhandle.
- ✔ Connected new families on their adoption journey with experienced "Parent Mentors". Continued to see families return to Family-Match and finalize a second adoption!
- ✔ Expanded our monthly Family Meetings on Facebook Live, with past meetings available, leading to hundreds more views. This year, our topics included:
 - "Hello, Autism"
 - Establishing Normalcy
 - Selecting a Therapist
 - Behavioral Health
 - Homeschooling
 - Internet Child Safety
 - Stress Management, Attachment
 - Q&As with the Adoption-Share Team



Libby Sobkowiak,
Family Coordinator, Florida

Did You Know? <<

Adoption-Share sends out post placement care packages to families who have been matched on Family-Match and have made it to placement!

These boxes are filled with items to equip and encourage families as they journey towards finalizing their adoption. In 2021 over 85 post placement boxes were mailed to families.

Pictured: Post Placement Care Packages on their way to being shipped out to families in Florida!



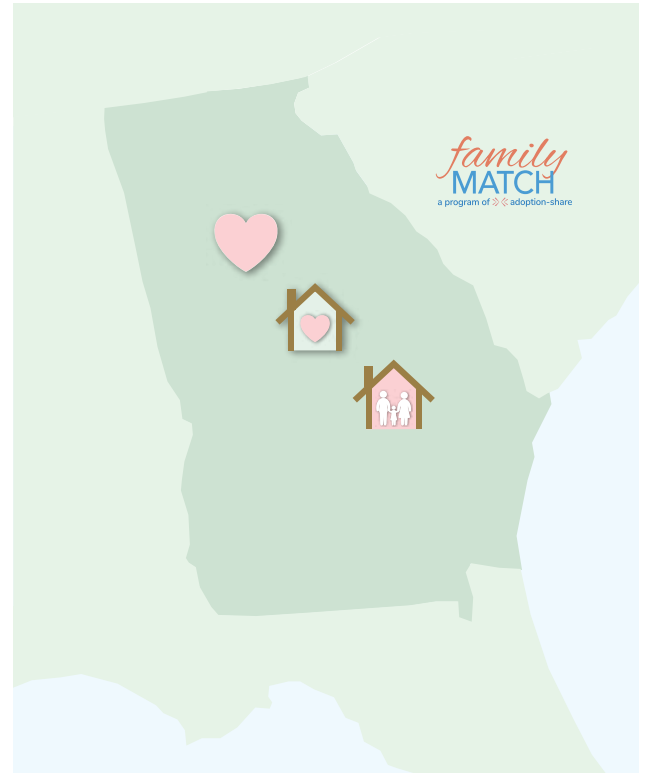
Georgia on My Mind

Family-Match Launches in Georgia!

In November of 2021- the Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS) signed a contract with Adoption-Share to pilot the Family-Match Program in Georgia. The Family-Match pilot will be implemented within three of the 14 DFCS regions of the state, to test its effectiveness within the Georgia child welfare context. With over 300 children waiting for a forever family, within the state of Georgia, the Family-Match tool, will aid caseworkers in identifying those waiting for forever families.

In addition to Georgia's DFCS Caregiver Recruitment and Retention Units efforts in encouraging families to register on Family-Match, several Family Recruitment Organizations were onboarded. These organizations will help recruit families who are interested in adopting. The families will be guided through the approval process by their local DFCS office. All families will be visible to the child's adoption case management team.

Over 50 families have registered to date and trainings will commence in January of 2022 for county workers in the regions participating in the pilot.



"We believe the Family-Match program will help us find families for children in pilot regions who are without adoptive families. Many of these children are older, members of large sibling groups, or children who continue to deal with significant trauma, but – like all children – deserve to be part of loving, stable families."

Candice L. Broce,

Georgia DHS Commissioner and DFCS Director

"This is an exciting and promising concept. I cannot wait to see the families being created through this! Thank you all for your passion for matching children with perfect families – it is visible through your explanations and teaching on the program."

Danielle Montgomery

Region One Field Program Specialist



Meet Our New Director for the Family-Match Program in Georgia!

Kimberly Brown

Kimberly joined Adoption-Share as the Family-Match Director for Georgia. She previously held positions within various private child welfare agencies. Kimberly has a Bachelors of Arts Degree in Psychology/Sociology from the University of West Georgia and a Master's of Science Degree in Psychology from Grand Canyon University. In her free time, Kimberly is a multi level Troop Leader to 28 young women with the Girl Scouts.

Sweet Moments from Our Georgia Peaches

When Finding Homes Brings Realtors® Together for an Incredible Cause

Keller Williams Realty has been leveraging technology to help people find their dream homes. As part of KW's RED Day 2021, the Keller Williams Golden Isles Family supported the expansion of Adoption-Share's Family-Match technology program to help connect children in the foster care system with their forever families in Georgia. Thanks to the generosity of KW Realtors® and community members, Adoption-Share was able to raise \$40,000 which was matched through a grant provided by the St. Marys United Methodist Church Foundation!



Keller Williams celebrating 100 post placement care packages they assembled to support Georgia families!

Adoption-Share Partners with Georgia Based Child Welfare Focused Non Profits!

To support our work in Georgia, Adoption-Share partnered with organizations from across the state of Georgia that support families interested in becoming a foster or adoptive parent. Through Adoption-Share's partnership with the organizations listed below, families are able to work through our 6 step recruitment portal and have an opportunity to be identified quickly by Georgia's Caregiver Recruitment and Retention Unit as good candidates for waiting children.



Pictured L to R, Ally Christianson, Founder and Executive Director of Hope 1312 Collective and Thea Ramirez, Founder and CEO at Adoption-Share, Inc.



NORTH POINT
COMMUNITY CHURCH



Adoption-Share completed a SOC 2 Type 2 Audit in 2021 for the first time.

SOC 2 compliance is an accreditation developed by the AICPA. In order to qualify for SOC 2, Adoption-Share demonstrated, via an independent third-party audit, that it has controls in place to ensure the security, availability, and confidentiality regarding the Family-Match Platform.

Achieving SOC 2 Type 2 Compliance is an incredible achievement for any sized organization. For a non profit tech organization- achieving SOC 2 Certification is extraordinary. Adoption-Share is proud to have achieved compliance in 2021 and looks forward to maintaining compliance each year.



Investing in Research << and Continued Learning

Through our Family-Match Program, Adoption-Share is collecting a unique data set in child welfare that zeroes in on the quality of child and family pairings through the identification and long term tracking of the attributes initially derived in the scientific literature that influence stability in child and family placements. We continue to follow families matched on Family-Match, as they progress towards placements, and from placements to finalized adoption and beyond. The outcomes of the pairings generated through Family-Match inform the continuous improvement to the computational models we use to recommend child and family pairings that will have the greatest likelihood of success. In 2021, Adoption-Share made significant investments in growing our application and team to keep pace with the data and our learnings. Here are a few snapshots!

Adoption-Share Hires Manager of Data Analytics and Reporting

Christopher Reid is a qualitative data analytic specialist. He believes data creates a narrative to help elucidate patterns and traditional thought processes.

Christopher attended the University of Alabama (UA), where he received a degree in both Finance and Statistical Economics. While pursuing his studies, Christopher conducted data collection, analysis, and market research for the University of Alabama (UA) under the Strategic Communications Department. His research was utilized to increase consumer interactions amongst the UA campus facilities and departments. Not only was Christopher furthering his educational knowledge but was also a key member of the University of Alabama swim team. As a member of the UA swim team and post-graduation as a professional athlete, Christopher competed at the Olympic Games and World Championships. Through the pursuit toward excellence, Christopher discovered unique and unconventional practices for his training and mindset to achieve success. A key component to Christopher's incredible success was strategic and intuitive thinking that helped him discover innovative techniques not yet practiced by his competitors. Christopher has replaced his swimming goggles for a keyboard, but he still has a vision for unconventional thinking and learning in order to further child-adoption from foster care through data analytics.



Partnership with University of Zurich

Through its collaborative research agreement with Adoption-Share, the University of Zurich published its first paper entitled *Search and Matching for Adoption from Foster Care* in March of 2021. The paper compared two approaches child placement agencies can employ to match children waiting to be adopted with families waiting to adopt. The family driven search approach relies on families to respond to announcements made by the caseworker responsible for finding an adoptive home. Conversely, the caseworker-driven search approach involves the caseworker utilizing a software tool to perform a targeted search for families. Among the findings, the researchers "identified various advantages of the caseworker-driven approach" and that further "the equilibrium outcomes in caseworker-driven search can Pareto-dominate the outcomes in family-driven search, but not the other way around". The researchers illustrated their results numerically to demonstrate the effect different model parameters (e.g., search costs and discount factors) have on welfare."

Nils, O. et al (2021) *Search and Matching for Adoption from Foster Care*. Cornell University. Computer Science and Game Theory [arXiv.org > cs > arXiv:2103.10145](https://arxiv.org/abs/2103.10145).

Family-Match Builds Out New and Improving Algorithm <<

Dr. Gian Gonzaga and Heather Setrakian



Family-Match is a web-based application created by Adoption-Share.

It utilizes computational models that help placement workers identify families who have the highest likelihood of a successful placement with a child in need of a permanent family. The model was developed based on peer reviewed research that identified predictors of success in these placements. As matches are made, Adoption-Share follows child and family pairings as they progress from placement through adoptions and into post adoption.

Through a series of post placement assessments, Adoption-Share continues to test the learnings of successful and failed adoptive placements and make changes to its computational models, ensuring the predictive power of the model continually improves over time.

In the first version of the Family-Match algorithm:

- A relational fit score is created and is based on child attributes, family attributes, and the match between child and family.
- These attributes are combined into a single score that is used to rank order which pairings are least likely to disrupt.
- Additionally, the assessments identified family preferences for child attributes (identified as conversation starters). Conversation starters are used by workers to evaluate a family's openness to children and likelihood to accept a match on attributes to include race, gender, age, number of children to be adopted in a sibling set, and disability status.

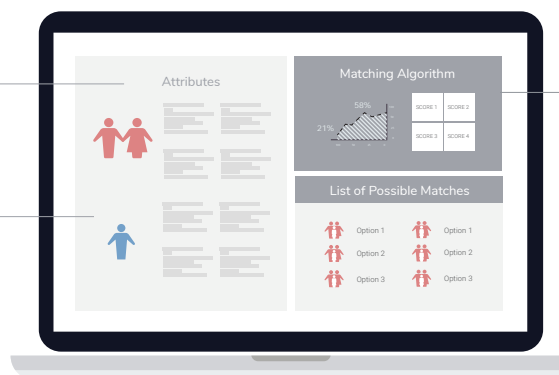


Version 2 of the Family-Match Algorithm

Expands the number of attributes used in the model

The relational fit score will continue to be based on:

- ✓ Child attributes
- ✓ Family attributes
- ✓ Match between family and child



Provides four different scores which give the caseworkers additional information.

- ✓ Score 1: Family Preferences
- ✓ Score 2: Child Attributes
- ✓ Score 3: Family Attributes
- ✓ Score 4: Relational Fit

Faster Families

A New Front End Tool to Our Family-Match Program

Adoption-Share's Family-Match Program was launched to more efficiently and appropriately match hard to place children with licensed, approved and waiting families.

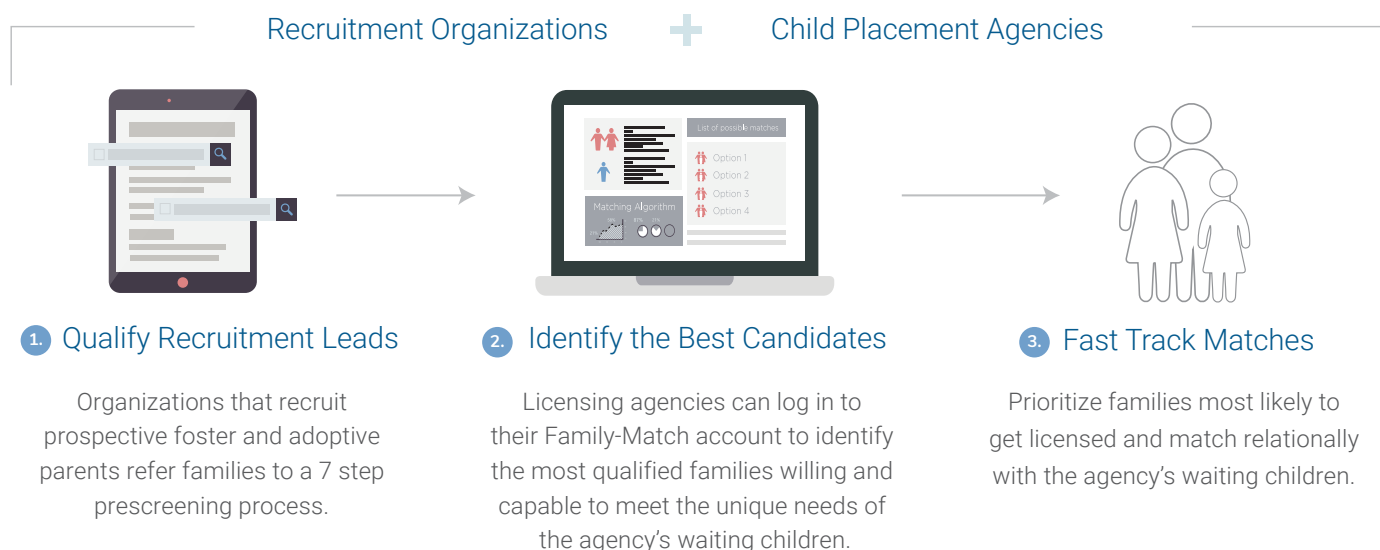
Now, Family-Match has been expanded to help child placement agencies identify the most qualified candidates from the moment they inquire about becoming a foster or adoptive parent. Instead of processing all families on a first-come, first-serve basis, workers can prioritize licensing for families who have passed a readiness assessment, disclosed prior criminal history, stated their capacity and interest, completed a 60 minute overview on trauma informed parenting and completed their Family-Match Compatibility Assessments.

The Need

Agencies report less than 20% of families who reach out for information on fostering or adopting from foster care will become licensed.

The Solution

Family-Match 2.0 is bridging the divide between recruitment and agency on-boarding for improved, accelerated matching.



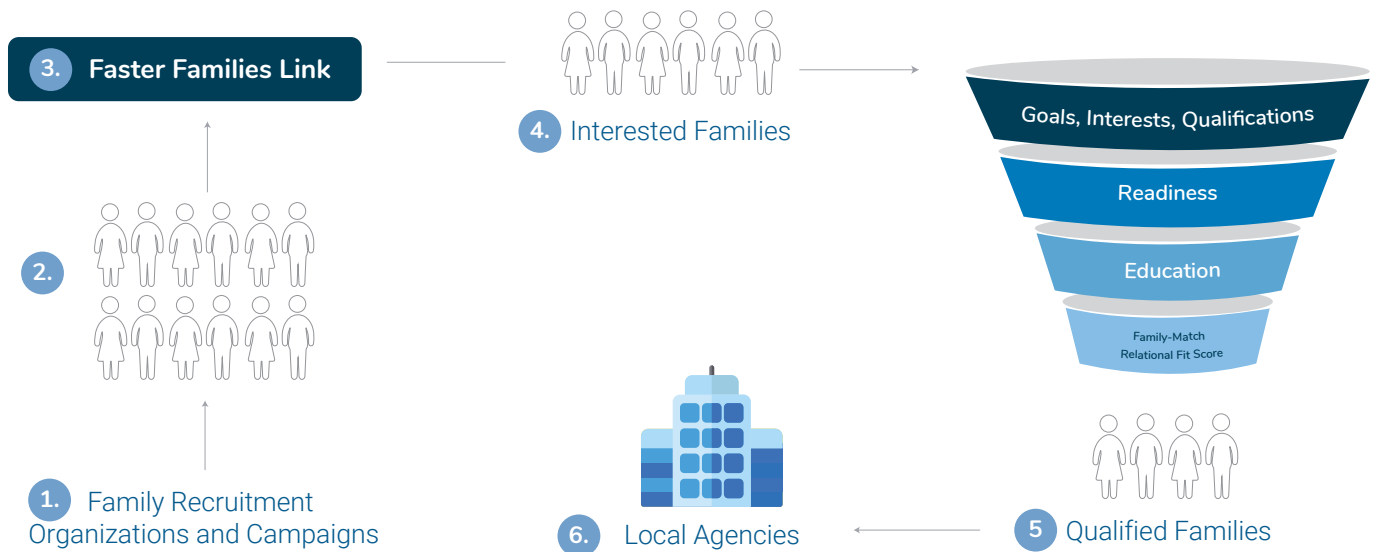
Heartened by Our Progress

Since our recruitment portal launched in the April of 2020, over 700 families began our Faster Families Pre-Application Process for Recruitment

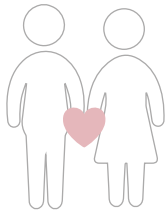
- ✓ Qualified 45% of prospective adoptive family leads- this helps workers more quickly identify the most capable families and mobilizes them faster.
- ✓ Increased percentage of families acquiesced into a formal licensing process by 17% from last year.
- ✓ Improved the percentage of recruited families who made it through the licensing process by as much as 86%.
- ✓ Increased percentage of adoptions via families identified through our recruitment portal by 100%.

Here is how it works

Family-Match 2.0 helps a licensing agency's on-boarding process from being overwhelmed by families who are not ready to continue the process.



Who are the families that come through Faster Families?



100% want to adopt.

68% are hoping to adopt 2 or more children.

61% are open to all races.

46% are open to cognitive needs.

57% are open to mental needs.

42% are open to children with medical needs.

90% Are predominantly of the Christian faith.

43% are open to older youth.

69% are married.

50% make 100K or more each year.

"Family Match has allowed us to streamline our processes and to continue working with community families during COVID and in working in a virtual environment. What was once a 1 to 3 hour process of conducting in-home family interviews has now become an efficient onboarding process thanks to Faster Families (extension of Adoption-Share's Family-Match Program). I am now able to prioritize which families to invite to our pre-service training classes based on information I can access on our prospective families which in turn ensures our agency is licensing families who are the most ready, willing, able, and compatible with the children we serve."



Jamie Cook, CHS Treasure Coast

Flight of the Heart

Mentions and Moments

Flight of the Heart

In November 2021, Adoption-Share launched Flight of the Heart - a campaign to offer a new script for policymakers, family court judges, families, and adoption professionals who are hungry for a fresh solution to helping children in foster care achieve permanency through adoption. With an estimated 30,000 children in foster care who are eligible for adoption and do not have a family identified to adopt them, Flight of the Heart draws awareness to the prospective adoptive families who long to adopt children from foster care. Research shows prospective adoptive families outnumber waiting children by a ratio of 5 to 1 (Kamarck, 2011).

To drive home our message and provide hopeful parents with an opportunity to engage, prospective adoptive families from across the United States were invited to launch animated paper airplanes to share how long their hearts have been in flight.

To communicate our message- Adoption-Share partnered with Tiny Type Studios to create an animated short narrated by Hollywood Director, Producer, and Screen Writer, Sean Anders (Instant Family) and his wife Beth. Illustrations and story were created by Tiny Type Studios.

The film was animated by Jenna Wilsuz, a recent graduate of Savannah College of Art and Design and edited in post production by our friends at iMint Media.

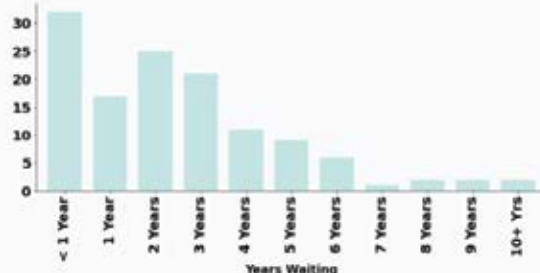
To watch our video or learn about our campaign go to flightoftheheart.us



Track Our Flight Path



Total Number of Families Waiting To Adopt



FAMILY-MATCH

Meet our Partners

Strategic Partner in Florida

Selfless Love Foundation, a Florida based 501 © 3 non profit organization, dedicated to transforming the lives of current and former foster youth through awareness, strategic partnerships, and advocacy. Selfless Love Foundation partnered with Adoption-Share to fulfill its goal to see children achieve permanency through adoption in the state of Florida. Thanks to the Selfless Love Foundation's financial support and advocacy for our program, Adoption-Share's Family-Match Program was launched in Florida at no cost to families or child welfare agencies in July of 2018 and our collective work has transformed the lives of hundreds of children through the gift of family.



Picture Credit: SLF and AS Teams Celebrate our 100th Adoption! Photo Cred: ThisisMo Media



Alithya: Alithya Group Inc. is a North American company specializing in digital strategy and technologies. Alithya is the second largest company in its industry in Canada, with a turnover of \$260,000,000 USD. The company employs over 2,000 people in Canada, the United States and Europe. Adoption-Share partnered with Alithya to build and assist with maintaining at no cost, a front end application to Family-Match designed to more efficiently and appropriately optimize families who are just getting started on their adoption or foster journey. We are so grateful for their support!



Capital One: Capital One is on a mission to bring humanity, ingenuity and simplicity to banking. In support of this mission, the Capital One Impact Initiative advances socioeconomic mobility by advocating for an inclusive society, building thriving communities and creating financial tools that enrich lives. Associates have been supporting Adoption-Share's Family-Match program with pro bono expertise in User Design Interface (Ulx) and Data Architecture/Scale, among other areas. We are so grateful for the talent and expertise of the team Capital One has put in place to help us improve and maintain our mission.



Trauma Free World: Trauma Free World is a community dedicated to helping people around the world heal from childhood trauma. Headquartered in Cincinnati, Ohio, Trauma Free World offers training all around the world, as well as online for anyone with an internet connection or mobile phone. Trauma Free World partners with leading trauma researchers to adapt cutting edge trauma research into training that is accessible to all, regardless of literacy level, and applicable across cultures. Thanks to their support-Adoption-Share is able to provide access to Trauma Free World's 75 minute Overview of Trauma Informed Care to every prospective foster and adoptive parent who makes their way through our new recruitment portal at no cost. To date over 168 prospective foster and adoptive families have been trained!



University of Zurich: Adoption-Share and University of Zurich established a collaborative partnership for research pertaining to the primary goal of this project is to research child adoption and foster-care matching processes with the aim to significantly improve the process in which children are matched with families to increase the welfare of the children and the families. As part of the collaborative research agreement, world-renowned academic minds from Boston College and Cornell University have engaged in the ongoing analysis to support the University of Zurich's collaborative partnership with Adoption-Share.

Our Financial Supporters <

We acknowledge with gratitude the financial investments of our strategic partner in Florida, partnering organizations, friends, family, and individuals who have given so generously to support our efforts in 2021!

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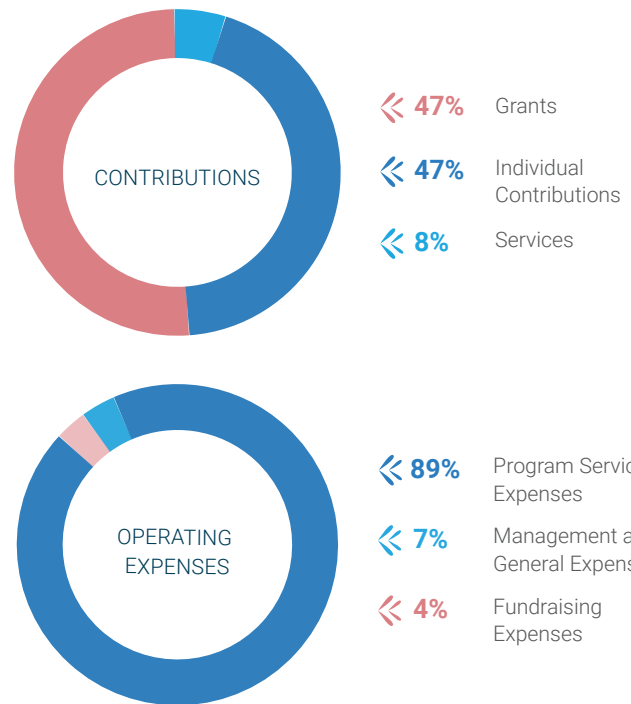
Sources of Financial Support <

Fiscal Year 2021 (Jan. 1, 2021 – Dec. 31, 2021)

Adoption-Share operating funds come from three sources: individual contributions, contributions from grant-making organizations, and service revenue. Total Adoption-Share contributions in 2021 was approximately \$653,000.

Adoption-Share's total operating expenses in 2020 was \$640,000.

Adoption-Share's total in kind contributions are estimated to be \$344,000 dollars in 2021. Financial contributions and in kind contributions brought the total of combined support to almost \$995,000.



**Unofficial unaudited statement for FY2021. Does not include in-kind services or donations.
For audited statement visit adoption-share.com in June of 2022.*

>> Did you know? <<

According to the National Adoption Council, each adoption represents a savings of \$15,480 for each year a child remains in his or her adoption placement until they reach 18 years of age.

For the 198 children on Family-Match that have been adopted over the past 2.5 years with the average age at adoption being 10- a conservative estimate would be a cumulative savings over 7 years of **\$33.59 million dollars.**



adoption-share

PO Box 1532 Brunswick, GA 31521

www.adoption-share.com

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