



EVAN B. DONALDSON

adoptioninstitute

# Annual Report

JULY 1, 2009 - JUNE 30, 2010

Creating a Better World for *All* Families



## Who we are

### The Evan B. Donaldson Adoption Institute

Improves the lives of millions of children and families through adoption-related research, education, advocacy – and leadership – that leads to more-effective laws, policies and practices. The Institute is not an agency that places children for adoption but, rather, a nonprofit organization that promotes social justice and systemic change so that many thousands of boys and girls get permanent, loving homes – and so that all their families enjoy better lives.

## What we believe

We are guided in our work by these ethics-based principles and values:

- Every child needs and deserves a permanent family
- Adoption is a natural, beneficial way to form a family
- Everyone’s needs in the extended family of adoption must be respected
- Openness and honesty are critical, deception and coercion are undermining
- Practices must adhere to high ethical standards and be free of profiteering



## What we do

The Institute conducts and synthesizes research; offers education to inform public opinion; promotes ethical practices and legal reforms; and works to translate policy into action. Here are just a few examples of our initiatives:

- **Keeping the Promise:** An ambitious initiative designed not only to help children who need homes, but also to enable their families to succeed.
- **Educating the Educators:** Providing training and materials that enhance the prospects for success for children who are adopted or in foster care.
- **Expanding Resources for Children:** Working, through research, to give children and youth in foster care a better chance to move into loving families.
- **Beyond Culture Camp:** Shaping practices to enable children (especially those who are transracially adopted) to grow up with a healthy identity and self-esteem.
- **Leveling the Playing Field:** A range of programs to achieve social justice, equality and respect for everyone in the extended family of adoption.



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**ANN DUNBAR, U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT**

“Your organization is THE place ... to meet with.”

# A Message from the Executive Director



ADAM PERTMAN

The second-most-frequent question people ask me at conferences and other appearances (after “Who is Evan B. Donaldson?”) is some variation of the one in the headline below, and that’s fair enough. After all, the Adoption Institute doesn’t place children for adoption or provide a direct service like counseling, so what is the intent of our work and who are its beneficiaries?

It’s a particularly good time to address that question because, in the past year, we’ve completed some of the highest impact and most important work in our history. And that’s where the answer lies – in what we deliver and what its effects are on real lives.

## ANSWERING A BIG QUESTION . . .

Our multiyear study entitled “Beyond Culture Camp” is a perfect example. It provides the deepest examination to date of how to shape positive identity for adopted people, especially those whose race/ethnicity differs from that of their parents. This work has been praised as “groundbreaking” and “invaluable” by everyone from adult adoptees to their parents, from adoption practitioners to mental health professionals. Most pointedly, its specific, hands-on recommendations are being widely used by agencies to assist families – and by families to help raise their children.

“For the Records II” is our latest initiative to achieve equal rights for adult adoptees, just as we work mightily to do the same for birthparents and adoptive parents because, as a colleague once told me, smiling: “The Institute isn’t on anybody’s side; it’s on everybody’s side.” That’s exactly right, and so I’m proud to say that this latest research-based report is being utilized across the country by activists, policymakers, legislators – and by me when I testify in various states – to bring about legal changes so that all adopted adults can get the same medical, genetic and historical information about themselves as their non-adopted peers.

Also in the past year (actually, just a few weeks ago), we issued “Keeping the Promise,” a major publication that puts an unprecedented focus on the services needed by families who are struggling because their children were abused, neglected or institutionalized before they were adopted. Numerous child welfare and adoption organizations have endorsed this work and hailed it as a vital step for enabling adoptive families to succeed. There’s a lot to be done to implement its recommendations, but we finally have a road map for tangibly improving many, many thousands of lives.

I hope those descriptions make the intent of our work, and its beneficiaries, crystal clear. We do not just publish papers and hope that greater knowledge will instigate incremental

change; rather, we provide the research-based tools – and the leadership – for achieving systemic progress for everyone touched by foster care and adoption, and for adoption itself.

All of us at the Institute strive to achieve that ambitious goal every day, and I’m delighted to say that we’re succeeding. The recession has made the job tougher, to be sure. But we’re able to do it because the stature and impact of the Institute are growing, and so are the numbers of individuals, companies and foundations who recognize the unique value of our work.

I’ll end by expressing my deepest gratitude to all of you who share our vision and enable our efforts to achieve equality, ethical best practices and social justice in the world of adoption. Those include our strategic partners – such as the Child Welfare League of America, LifeCare, Spence-Chapin and Adoption Learning Partners – and our major funders, who are listed in this Annual Report. A very deep bow also goes to our extraordinary Board President, Susan Notkin, and her fellow Directors – including our newest Board members: Anne Chambers, Hollis Forbes, Leslie Pate Mackinnon, Jennifer Evans Montgomery and Anne Youngblood – for their hard work and dedication, without which this organization quite simply could not exist.

I’d also like to extend a warm word of appreciation to the staff of the Institute, especially our Associate Director, Tara Linh Leaman, who joined us six months ago and is already making

## WHAT ARE WE WORKING TO ACCOMPLISH?

her mark; our outgoing Interim Development Director, Nancy Tran (we’ll miss you); and our new Development Director, Bill Boltz. We employ some of the most talented and respected professionals in their fields, and it is my privilege to call them my colleagues and friends.

Most important, of course, are the people reading this Annual Report. You volunteer with us, tell us your stories, give us invaluable input and write the checks – large and small – that pay for our salaries, our rent, our research and our advocacy, so that we can continue to serve the too-many children who still need permanent homes, and the millions of families who provide them.

We cannot possibly thank you all enough but, through our accomplishments, we will try. I wish you a joyous holiday season, and a healthy and successful year to come.

Sincerely,



Adam Pertman

p.s. To answer the first question (who is Evan B. Donaldson?), go to: <http://www.adoptioninstitute.org/about/history.php>

# Board President's Letter



SUSAN NOTKIN

When I look back on the accomplishments of the Evan B. Donaldson Adoption Institute this year, I am amazed at the range of issues we have tackled, the quality of the research, the growth of our educational efforts and the extensive media coverage we received. When you review the highlights of our work in this Annual Report, or look back over our monthly newsletters, I think you will agree it has been another year of Adoption Institute excellence. In less than 15 years, the Institute has become widely recognized as the national “go-to” resource for knowledge-based best practices in adoption and foster care. Our input is sought by political leaders debating new laws and regulations, and professionals in the field regularly come to us for training materials and critical up-to-date information.

Each year, the Institute produces groundbreaking reports on the key questions surrounding adoption. Three years ago, we issued “For the Records: Restoring a Right for Adult Adoptees,” the first comprehensive look at the concrete results of unsealing original birth certificates. The response from across the country—from adopted people, professionals in the field and journalists—was overwhelming. So, this year we asked our researchers to update their research and analysis. And once again, they came back with a powerful document, “For the Records II: An Examination of the History and Impact of Adult Adoptee Access to Original Birth Certificates,” a work that will serve as a touchstone for advocates of change and more humane practices.

This is just one example of the kind of work done by Executive Director Adam Pertman and the rest of our remarkable staff. I wish I had more space to go into the many diverse projects they undertook this year to great effect—including advocacy efforts and new on-line education endeavors. Their initiatives continue to move public awareness and the field of adoption forward, and we are grateful for the excellence of their work and the commitment they bring to the Institute.

I am often asked how the Institute is able to accomplish so much in these difficult times. The answer is simple: We have a very loyal group of supporters who recognize the value of our work and entrust us with their donations, secure in the knowledge that their money will be very well spent. We are also fortunate to have a dedicated and growing team of volunteers who give freely of their time and expertise to an organization they believe in. I would like to acknowledge just a few of their contributions.

Many thanks are due to the organizers of our special events—critical elements in our annual fundraising strategy and unique opportunities to bring our message to new, broader audiences. Our annual “Taste of Spring” benefit, which took place in New York on May 13, was outstanding in every way. The hard work of benefit Co-Chairs Kim Donaldson, Hollis Forbes, Sandy McManus and Doug Mehne paid off when close to 300 enthusiastic attendees enjoyed an evening of great food and fun. Our annual West Coast event, “Celebrating ... Our Families, Our Children,” was held in February and was another terrific success. Caroline Fitzgibbons, Kathleen Hricik and Sandy McManus deserve much praise for their exemplary leadership of this celebratory evening.

Once again, I must commend our Board of Directors. Individually and collectively, they have addressed head-on the challenges we face in serving the entire adoption community through our unique brand of research-based analysis, public advocacy and education. I am proud of how well our colleagues have met their commitments to this organization, providing us with the cornerstone of support upon which we are building a solid, secure future.

Finally, my deepest thanks to all of our donors, whose steadfast giving in these difficult times is a real testament to the power of our work. Whenever our efforts deliver inspiration to families, provide timely training to social workers, or spark ideas for new legislation, it is you who deserve the credit.

With warm regards and best wishes for the holiday season,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Susan Notkin', written in a cursive style.

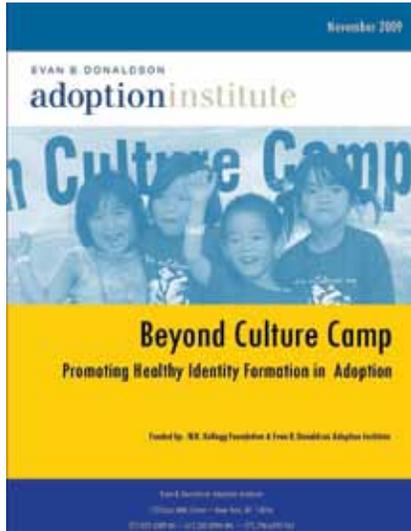
Susan Notkin

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**BECKY HUBBERT, CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES**

Thank you for your wonderful work. We so appreciate your advocacy of good adoption practice.

# Programs and Projects



The Adoption Institute has not only conducted important programs and projects in the past year – but has also worked diligently to achieve comprehensive, strategic next steps for each one. So, in each of our priority areas, we follow up pub-

lished research and policy analyses with a wide range of activities to ensure that our work has the desired impact – to better the lives of children and families by improving adoption policy and practice. Here are examples of activities we developed on two recent projects so that our initiatives will be a catalyst for broader change.

**Promoting positive identity for transracially adopted youth:** Last November, we published a landmark study entitled *“Beyond Culture Camp: Promoting Healthy Identity Formation in Adoption,”* which is the most extensive examination of adult adoptive identity to date. The study provided significant new information and insights regarding the impact of adoption and the experiences that are most helpful in facilitating positive identity, particularly for transracially adopted

individuals. As a first step with all of our research, we seek to widely disseminate our work through the media, to adoption organizations, and through professional conferences. For instance, this study was prominently featured in an article in the New York Times (“Adopted from Korea and in Search of Identity”), as well as in many other media outlets including ABC News. There are links to the study from at least 20 adoption-related websites and blogs, and our staff presented the research at many national and international conferences, including those of the North American Council on Adoptable Children, the Child Welfare League of America, the International Conference on Adoption Research in the Netherlands, and in a panel discussion sponsored by the Library of Congress’ Asian American Association.



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**DIANE LAVIN**

We’ve become adoptive parents and are so appreciative of the work you do on behalf of the adoptive community.

# Programs and Projects



In order to reach a broad range of adoption professionals and adoptive parents, the Institute's Executive Director, Adam Pertman, also presented the study in two webinars with Adoption Learning Partners; one was for parents and featured key findings, along with practical tips on promoting a healthy sense of self for transracially adopted children; and the other was for professionals, who received C.E.U. credits for attending. The parent webinar quickly sold out, and the recorded presentation is available online. In addition, Adam presented another webinar on the study for an adoptee organization; it was recorded and installed online.

The Institute is working with two adoption agencies – Lutheran Social Services of New England and the Kinship Center – to follow up on the study's recommendations by developing practice resources for promoting positive identity in transracially adopted children. Together, we have formed an advisory board to guide this project, and co-sponsored a conclave last June at

Tufts University in Boston that brought together 45 experts in the field, from practitioners and researchers to adoptive parents and adopted adults. The event focused on delineating the needs of transracial/ethnic adoptive

families and the types of resources that would be most effective in supporting them. We have obtained additional funding and are working to develop a research-based resource guide for adoption professionals for developing an ongoing support network for transracially adopted children and their parents – with more to come.

### **Achieving equality and fairness in adoption:**

An ongoing Institute priority has been to provide research and advocacy aimed at achieving equality and fairness for adoptive parents, birth parents and adopted individuals. One of our key efforts in this realm has been working to restore adult adoptees' access to their original birth certificates. Executive Director Adam Pertman has continued to provide testimony in states across the nation where legislation related to access is proposed, and has consulted with state lawmakers and advocacy organizations. During the past year, he has provided advocacy on this issue in Washington, Missouri, South Dakota, Pennsylvania,

Indiana, Minnesota, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, and Illinois.

Last summer, the Institute published "For the Records II: An Examination of the History and Impact of Adult Adoptee Access to Original Birth Certificates," in order to provide an up-to-date analysis of the research and history that informs the debate on so-called "open records." Adam was invited to speak on this issue on numerous TV and radio shows, including on CNN, National Public Radio and others. The report itself was featured in many news stories, including in the Washington Times, the Denver Post, ABCNews.com, and CWLA's Children's Voice. Adam gave several presentations on the issues involved, including at an international adoption conference, "Adoption: Secret Histories, Public Policies" at MIT in Cambridge last spring, and other staff members also presented on this topic at additional conferences.

Progress on this issue has been slow; in the 2009–2010 sessions alone, lawmakers in at least 11 states considered it – and in one, Illinois – they enacted a statute last summer significantly expanding OBC access, making theirs the seventh state to do so in the past decade.

In addition to the two program priorities described above, the Adoption Institute has continued its work on many other initiatives.

**One of our primary goals is to disseminate accurate and up-to-date information about adoption**

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HEATHER L. DODD

“I am the daughter of an adoptee and adoption rights advocate. ... I think I speak for many in the adoption community when I say “Thank You Sincerely.”

## [ Programs and Projects ]

### **to the public, adoption professionals and policymakers, and the media.**

When adoption is in the news, such as in recent stories on adoptions from Haiti, the 7-year-old sent back to Russia, or adopted children finding birth relatives on Facebook, the Institute provides information, context and perspective. For example, when the Russian boy was “returned,” Adam provided guidance and interviews for numerous journalists from television (NBC Nightly News, ABC World News, MSNBC and New England Cable News, among many others, to radio (NPR), to many print media, and on numerous websites.

The Institute is working on several current projects to address the needs of children being adopted or awaiting adoption from foster homes in the U.S. Improving ongoing supports for families adopting children from foster care and internationally is the goal of our most recent publication, **“Keeping the Promise: The Critical Need for Post-Adoption Services to Enable Children and Families to Succeed.”** By garnering the endorsements of approximately 20 adoption and child welfare organizations for this report, we plan to work with a broad base of experts to develop better, more accessible post-adoption services. In the coming year, we will follow this publication with a new study on therapeutic intervention with families who adopted children from foster care and are facing significant challenges. **We also are working on another project related to overcoming barriers to permanency**

### **for older youth in foster care.**

**The Institute has continued work on expanding resources for waiting children and promoting equity and ethical policy and practice by improving services to gay and lesbian persons seeking to adopt.** We have continued to advocate for equitable laws and legal decisions and have provided in-person and written testimony in court cases, as well as signing onto amicus briefs. A major victory on this issue was the recent lifting of the ban on gay adoption in Florida – a case in which Institute staff testified and our research was utilized. We also are working on a survey of gay and lesbian adoptive

families regarding their own adoption experiences, and have edited a book on this subject that will come out in mid-2011.

**Promoting ethical practice by adoption professionals continues to be a major priority of our work.** During the past year, Institute staff developed curricula for training professionals who work with parents with unplanned pregnancies. We also developed an online course for attorneys to receive continuing education units in ethics; we have piloted the course in Florida and, in the coming year, we hope to expand it to attorneys in other states, as well as to social workers.



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**TONI OLIVER** from *Rootsadopt.org*, founder President & CEO

Adam, like your other initiatives on diversity, this is so on the cutting edge and keeps the Institute in the forefront of relevant adoption issues.



**T**he Adoption Institute is unique in its independent, knowledge-based activities designed to improve adoption-related attitudes, laws, policies and practices. One of the ways the Institute has been highly effective in educating the public, policymakers, professionals and practitioners is through the media. Our research and policy papers are frequently used as background for and cited in news stories, while our Executive Director and other staff members are regularly interviewed on a broad range of topics relating to adoption, foster care, child welfare and ethical practices.

Our expertise is utilized when there's a story in the U.S. or abroad about specific policy concerns, when journalists are conducting in-depth examinations on the ways adoption is affecting society, and when the subject is the uplifting (or heart-wrenching) experience of a single family; in other words, whether the issue is big or



small, the media turn to the Institute for reliable information. Perhaps most important, our programs and projects receive wide coverage from print, broadcast and internet journalists nationally and globally, helping to raise the discourse and awareness on critical issues in adoption - and helping to promote positive change. Here are just a handful of examples of our presence in the media during FY10:

An Institute report released in July 2009, “For the Records II: An Examination of the History and Impact of Adult Adoptee Access to Original Birth Certificates,” addresses the importance of access to birth certificates as a basic human right, the ineffectiveness and insufficiency of mutual consent registries and the myth that birth mothers were promised anonymity from the children they relinquished. The report received extensive media coverage in print outlets and on television, including stories in the Washington Times, Denver Post and on cable news stations such as NECN. In addition, Executive Director Adam Pertman was featured on CNN Newsroom, highlighting the Institute report’s findings.

Last November, the Adoption Institute released a landmark study, “Beyond Culture Camp: Promoting Healthy Identity Formation in Adoption” which highlights adoption as an increasingly significant aspect of identity among adopted adults. Two major articles— “Adopted from Korea and in Search of Identity” by Ron Nixon of The New York Times and “Adoptees Face Sting of Discrimination,” by Susan Donaldson James of ABC News — discuss how the findings of the report validated many Korean adoptees’ experiences with race and adoption.

In a January 2010 press release, The Institute offered its deep condolences to hundreds of thousands of people whose lives have been lost or irrevocably altered by the earthquake in Haiti. In addition, the Institute argues that priority be given to the protection and care of children who are denied the protective environments of family, community and government during times of crisis. The Institute urges that lessons from prior emergencies guide relief efforts related to the welfare of children, including prioritizing the safety

and security of children and families, comprehensive efforts to unite and trace family members, concurrent planning for children without identified caregivers, and the need to address the widespread trauma caused by experiencing brutal events. Adam Pertman offered commentary and context about this issue in the Detroit News, Columbus Dispatch, The Daily Beast, and Chicago Tribune, among others.

In an April 2010 press release, the Institute urged Washington and Moscow officials to move “thoughtfully but expeditiously” to avoid a cessation of Russian adoptions to the United States. The Institute believes the case of the boy “returned” to Russia by his adoptive mother should be investigated and changes in policies and practices should be implemented as swiftly as possible. In addition, Executive Director Adam Pertman stressed the importance of children moving into permanent, loving families — domestically when possible, internationally when not — and that the victims of a lengthy process will be children who remain institutionalized. The Institute offered important points for policymakers, journalists and the public to consider during the decision-making process, including:

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**STACEY SMITH**

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for the excellent interview on *The View* yesterday. For first time EVER, I felt I was witness to a wonderfully thoughtful and accurate portrayal of adoption on television.

that prospective parents should be carefully evaluated to ensure they are a good “match” for a particular child, and that the severity of problems increases along with the length of time a child will be institutionalized. Adam Pertman was interviewed by a number of news outlets covering this story, including the Christian Science Monitor, NBC Nightly News, ABC World News, New England Cable News, and National Public Radio.

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# Thank you ...

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Dec. 10th

To Whom this May Concern:

*I am pleased to donate money to your institute because I was adopted. I was adopted when I was two days old. I am still close to my birth mother and I see her every year. I also have three little brothers, two of which, live with my birthmom and my other brother, Adam, was adopted by my parents. I am glad to be adopted and I do not mind sharing my story. I am 15 now and I am so pleased to have the chance to help kids like me. I encourage others to give money to [the Adoption Institute]. It is so rewarding!*

Thank you!  
Marya Purrington

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July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010

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The Adoption Institute thanks the following individuals and corporations for their generous donations of goods and services that helped us continue our work.

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We have made every effort to recognize all individuals, foundations and corporations who have generously contributed to the Evan B. Donaldson Adoption Institute during the past fiscal year (July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010). Please accept our sincere apologies if we have inadvertently omitted or incorrectly acknowledged your gift. Please let us know of any corrections by contacting Development Director William Boltz, at (212) 925-4089 or [wboltz@adoptioninstitute.org](mailto:wboltz@adoptioninstitute.org).

# Special events roundup



## Taste of Spring 2010

Taste of Spring, the Institute's major annual fund-raising event, achieved everything we hoped it would. The party—which took place at the historic Puck Building on May 13—was a fun evening with close to 300 delighted, supportive attendees (the one who won an iPad in our raffle left especially happy); a gourmet's delight with delectable dishes from Bar Breton, Mesa Grill, Jean Georges, David Burke Fishtail, Yuva, Zarela and Artisanal Premium Cheese, along with fine wines donated by Kobrand, Shea Vineyards, Iron Horse, RO Imports, Cognac One and Bottlenotes; a wonderful opportunity to toast our honorees, Peter Burki and LifeCare, along with Kobrand; and, last but certainly not least, a financial success that raised more than \$300,000 to enable the Institute's vital, unique work. Special guests included Deborra-lee Furness, Katie Brown, Zarela Martinez, Cyril Renaud and Bobby Flay.

**1)** Chef Bobby Flay. **2)** Board member Doug Mehne and Honoree Peter Burki. **3)** Board members Fred F. Greenman, Jr. and Lynn C. Franklin. **4)** Board member and Benefit Co-Chair Sandy McManus, Board President Susan Notkin and Benefit Co-Chair Kim Donaldson. **5)** Curt and Angel Schade with Jim Forbes and Benefit Co-Chair Hollis Forbes. **6)** Honorary Co-Chair Deborra-lee Furness and Dr. Jane Aronson. **7)** Event Chair Bill, and Jane, with daughter Kim.

# Special events roundup



## Celebrating ... Our Families, Our Children

The Adoption Institute held a benefit in Los Angeles on Wednesday, February 3, 2010, and it was successful in every way. In addition to reuniting with West Coast friends, and making new ones, we were able to share information on many of the Institute's exciting projects – and we raised over \$90,000 in sponsorships and donations, more than meeting our goal for the event. This funding is vital to keep our work going in the coming year. The event honored Peter Levine of Creative Artists Agency, an adoptive father of two, a passionate advocate for children who need loving families, and an active supporter (and former Board member) of the Adoption Institute, as well as a founding member of the Institute's L.A. Advisory Council. Corporate sponsors included HBO; Sony; Kennedy/Marshall Company; Max Studio; UTA; Hansen, Jacobson, Teller, Hoberman, Newman, Warren & Richman LLP; Holding Pictures; 4 Boys Films; and Ted Hartley, Dina Merrill Hartley and RKO Pictures.

## The Institute Reaches out to Chicago and Boston

Chicago was the site for an educational, uplifting and fun evening at the home of Adoption Institute Board member Bruce Boyer and his wife, Julie Biehl on April 19. With the help of Host Committee members DeVerille Huston, Jackie Kaplan and Board member Jennifer Evans Montgomery, the event helped raise awareness for the Institute and much-needed funds. Close to 40 attendees learned about the important role the Institute plays in improving the lives of children and families in our country and around the world.

The Institute held a wonderful brunch in Boston on May 16 honoring Dr. Laurie C. Miller, a professor at Tufts University, founder of the International Adoption Clinic at the Floating Hospital at Tufts, and a vocal backer of our work. Nearly 100 people enjoyed the lovely atmosphere and delicious food generously provided by Rudi's Resto & Café, listened to terrific music by the band Bliss, and learned more about the importance of our programs and projects from Executive Director Adam Pertman.



**8)** Executive Director Adam Pertman. **9)** Carla Gugino presents the award to the evening's honoree Peter Levine. **10)** Laura Innes and Nanci Christopher **11)** Shohreh Aghdashloo and honoree, Peter Levine. **12)** Event host Sue Naegle, Host Committee members Glenn and Helaine Bruck Ross. **13)** Board President Susan Notkin, Julie Bowen, Radcliffe Bailey, Victoria Rowell and Executive Director Adam Pertman.

## Board of Directors

Susan Notkin, PRESIDENT  
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Anne Cooley Youngblood



**New York staff** (left to Right) Office Administrator & Project Associate Harris Kaplansky, , Development Associate Nancy Tranh, Associate Director Tara Linh Leaman, Development Director William Boltz.

## New Board Members

**Anne Chambers** is a social entrepreneur, dedicated to business success and achieving positive change in the world. She is CEO and founder of RED212, an Ad Agency that AdAge called P&G's "Secret Hot Shop." Red 212 contributes to the growth of leading brands and is the cornerstone business of what are now three entities founded by Chambers. A sister company, Bright Future Foods, was created to launch MA-ME, an on-the-go edamame snack brand. Both RED212 and Bright Future Foods are committed to supporting adoption by contributing a percentage of profits to the third entity, The Bright Future Adoption Foundation (of which Chambers is the Founder and Board President). She also is on the advisory board of the International Adoption Center at Cincinnati Children's Hospital and is a member of Social Venture Network and C200. She lives in Cincinnati with her husband, Cliff Schwandner, and daughter, Annie.

**Hollis Forbes** was born in Chicago and raised in St Louis. She moved to New York in 1985 to continue her career in retailing, working for Federated Department Stores. Her last position before leaving the workplace to focus on her family was VP of Sales for Sag Harbor Sportswear, a \$750 million division of Kellwood Industries. Hollis and Jim Forbes have two daughters, ages 11 and 6. Their youngest daughter was adopted through a domestic agency in 2003. She is currently a trustee at The Children's Museum of the East End, The East Hampton Historical Society, and The Big Apple Circus.

**Leslie Pate Mackinnon**, L.C.S.W., has over 30 years experience as a psychotherapist. She is in private practice in Atlanta, GA, where she works with individuals, families and groups. Her practice specialties are couples and families created through alternative means (adoption and third party reproduction). She was drawn to the field by her own experience of placing two sons in 'closed adoptions' during her late adolescence. She has been involved in adoption education and reform for many years. Mackinnon, an expert on the complex issues encountered by these modern families, speaks nationally and internationally, and is especially committed to educating the psychotherapeutic community about adoption and donor issues. She and her husband, Bill, are raising 18-year-old twins conceived through IVF.

**Jennifer Evans Montgomery**, is a dynamic financial industry executive with an outstanding record of success. Since 2007, she has engaged in special projects for the founder/CEO of Meritage Funds, a Denver-based family of venture capital funds. From 2000-2006, she was the Director of Regulatory Compliance and Special Projects, Office of the President of The Cradle, a partner organization of the Adoption Institute. In this capacity, she served on the agency's senior management team to develop strategy, policy and practice to ensure continuous quality improvement in all areas of the organization.

**Anne Cooley Youngblood**, began her career in the non-profit industry in 1984 as an Account Executive with Commuter Transportation Services, helping companies to develop and implement employee programs. In recent years, she has been deeply involved with the Everychild Foundation, a group of 225 women who provide a \$1 million annual grant to an organization or agency in Los Angeles County that serves children who suffer from disease, disability, abuse, neglect or poverty. She serves on the Everychild Public Policy Committee and the Boards of the Homeless Funders group and the Los Angeles Public/Private Funders Partnership for Infants and Toddlers. She also volunteers at "My Friend's Place," a refuge for homeless youth. She and her husband live in Los Angeles and have four children, ages 9-23.

## Senior Research Fellows

**Richard P. Barth, Ph.D.**, is the Dean of the School of Social Work at the University of Maryland.

**Devon Brooks, Ph.D., M.S.W.**, is an Associate Professor in the School of Social Work at the University of Southern California, where he also serves as the Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs.

**Naomi Cahn, J.D., LL.M.**, is the John Theodore Fey Research Professor at George Washington University Law School in Washington, D.C.

**Harold Grotevant, Ph.D.**, is the Rudd Family Foundation Chair in Psychology, University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Formerly, he was the Distinguished University Teaching Professor of Family Social Science and adjunct professor of Child Psychology at the University of Minnesota.

**Victor Groza, Ph.D.**, is Grace F. Brody Professor in Parent-Child Studies at the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio.

**Dana E. Johnson, M.D.**, is the Director of the International Adoption Clinic and of the Division of Neonatology at the University of Minnesota Children's Hospital, and is a Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Minnesota.

**Ruth G. McRoy, Ph.D.**, is Professor and Donahue and DiFelice Endowed Chair at the Boston College School of Social Work and the Ruby Lee Piester Centennial Professor Emerita at the University of Texas at Austin School of Social Work.

**Ellen Pinderhughes, Ph.D.**, is an Associate Professor in the Child Development Department of Tufts University.

**Scott Ryan, Ph.D.**, is Dean of the School of Social Work at the University of Texas at Arlington.



**Staff not pictured**  
David Brodzinsky (California),  
Jeanne Howard (Illinois),  
Susan Livingston Smith (North Carolina)

**Boston staff**  
(clockwise)  
Executive Director  
Adam Pertman,  
Volunteer Marianne  
Leonard, Intern Leslie  
Lorquet, Project &  
Research  
Associate Kerri Johnson.

### Evan B. Donaldson Adoption Institute Statement of Activities\* For the Year Ended June 30, 2010

	Temporarily Restricted	Unrestricted	Total
<b>Support and Revenue</b>			
Contributions –cash: unrestricted		561,520	561,520
temp. restricted	136,500		136,500
Less: Direct costs of special events		(100,590)	(100,590)
	136,500	460,930	597,430
Contributions –services		48,000	48,000
Training fees		15,000	15,000
Speakers' fees		9,197	9,197
Other program service income		1,482	1,482
Investment income		1,656	1,656
Realized gain (loss) on investments		(362)	(362)
Satisfaction of program restrictions	(43,457)	43,457	
<b>Total Support and Revenue</b>	<b>93,043</b>	<b>579,360</b>	<b>672,403</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Program services		489,777	489,777
Supporting service			
General and administrative		98,144	98,144
Fund-raising		166,159	166,159
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>754,080</b>	<b>754,080</b>
Increase (decrease) in net assets	93,043	(174,720)	(81,677)
Beginning net assets	126,587	557,359	683,946
<b>Ending net assets</b>	<b>\$219,630</b>	<b>\$382,639</b>	<b>\$602,269</b>

\*If you would like a copy of our complete audited financial statement, please contact William Boltz, Development Director, at (212) 925-4089 or [wboltz@adoptioninstitute.org](mailto:wboltz@adoptioninstitute.org).

# The Adoption Institute Celebrates Our Partners

## Spence-Chapin Services to Families and Children

Seeing a need for an independent, unbiased adoption research and policy organization, the Board of Spence-Chapin Services to Families and Children created the Adoption Institute in 1996 with a substantial initial gift. Since then, Spence-Chapin has continued to provide generous annual operating support, as well as guidance and a vital, ongoing connection to the “front lines” of adoption, as practiced by one of the nation’s premier agencies since its founding in 1908. Now in its second century, Spence-Chapin is a prominent voice and leading advocate for adoption, committed to the well being of all members of the triad.

## Child Welfare League of America

In 2009, the Child Welfare League of America (CWLA) and the Adoption Institute formed a strategic partnership to enhance the efficacy of their current work, to forge important new projects together, and to increase their impact. CWLA and the Adoption Institute remain independent entities, but collaborate on specific research, work products, trainings, advocacy and other programs and projects designed to improve laws, policies and practices in the fields of adoption, foster care and child welfare.

## LifeCare, Inc.

In 2009, the Adoption Institute and LifeCare, Inc. — the country’s leading provider of health and productivity solutions for employers - formed a partnership to enhance service offerings to and best practices by corporations throughout the U.S. relating to adoption, foster parenting and diversity in family life. The Adoption Institute helps train LifeCare’s team of professional Adoption Specialists on the most current research and information on adoption, and the two organizations are developing a variety of educational resources, seminars and webinars.

## The Cradle / Adoption Learning Partners

Renowned as one of the foremost adoption agencies in the country since opening in 1923, The Cradle provides lifelong support for all who are touched by adoption. In recent years, The Cradle has expanded its scope to include Adoption Learning Partners (ALP), online training courses for prospective adoptive parents and adoption professionals. The Cradle has been a generous provider of operating support for the Adoption Institute, and now participates in a partnership between the Adoption Institute and ALP to improve the preparation and training of adoptive parents and adoption professionals.

## Adoption Quarterly

*Adoption Quarterly (AQ)* is the leading academic research journal in the field of adoption, featuring peer-reviewed research and other work from the fields of the social sciences, humanities, biological sciences, law and social policy. Dr. Scott Ryan, one of the Adoption Institute’s Senior Research Fellows, is the magazine’s Editor; Executive Director Adam Pertman is the Associate Editor; and several members of the Adoption Institute’s Board, Staff and Senior Research Fellows serve on AQ’s Editorial Board.

EVAN B. DONALDSON

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**Evan B. Donaldson Adoption Institute**

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“

**RICH**

Thanks to Adam Pertman and the Institute for your unflinching research and work!

“

**JANICE GOLDWATER, LCSW-C, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ADOPTIONS TOGETHER**

I want to be a part of your team. You are doing great things.

Our work to improve adoption and foster care could not continue without the support of those who share our commitment to promoting ethical, research-based laws, policies and practices. Please consider advancing our unique initiatives by making a tax-deductible donation.

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