



KOREAN AMERICAN
ADOPTEE ADOPTIVE
FAMILY NETWORK

2022

Annual REPORT



Building Community,
Building Self.

✉ info@wearekaan.org

🌐 www.wearekaan.org





KOREAN AMERICAN
ADOPTEE ADOPTIVE
FAMILY NETWORK

2022 Annual Report

Message from the Executive Director

I'm excited to release KAAN's very first annual report, an opportunity for us to share and celebrate our accomplishments over the past year! Yet regardless of this published report, KAAN has worked to support adoptees and their families through education and dialogue for the past 25 years. This is done primarily through our annual conference, however, the COVID-19 pandemic created opportunities to venture into the virtual world and provide more opportunities throughout the year. Moving to the virtual world more consistently has changed the landscape of how our community interacts with one another, but what has not changed is the amount of support and dialogue that we are able to provide.

2022 saw us return to an in-person annual conference in Denver, CO. It was a joy to be back in a physical community with people we had met online over the past two years, and to reunite with those that we had previous relationships with. When planning an event like the annual conference, it is sometimes difficult to envision what it will look like and feel like. It was overwhelming for me to be back in community with the KAAN community, and to meet new people and see old friends. It was the first time I was able to bring one of my children, and to hear how much she enjoyed it and what she learned through being around other kids filled my heart.

I am looking forward to #KAAN2023 in Rosemont, IL in the coming months. My hope for any event that KAAN organizes is that attendees find it enriching and educational, and have a positive impact on how they see, understand and experience themselves. My hope is that we will continue to be able to provide a space for adoptees and their families where they are able to connect with one another on a different level than on a day-to-day basis through having tough conversations, and reflections.

Sincerely,
Katie Bozek, PhD.
Executive Director of KAAN



KOREAN AMERICAN
ADOPTEE ADOPTIVE
FAMILY NETWORK

WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

2022 Annual Report

Our Mission:

Our mission is to enrich the lives of Korean-born adoptees and transracial adoptees, and their families, by connecting the community through dialogue, education, and support.

Our People:

Advisory Council Members

Katie Bozek, Executive Director
Rachel Hye Youn Rupright, Assistant
Director

Nathan Roudabush, Treasurer
Amanda Assalone
Scarlett Hester
SunAh Laybourn
Jen Neis
Grace Newton
Nathan Nowack
Kala Sharp

Key Volunteers:

Scottie Allen
Sara Engelhardt
Jon Oaks
Ben Oser
Nicholas Ramsey
Mimi Short
Carly Zuckweiler

Our Work:

- **Annual Conference:** Held for 3 days each summer, this conference brings together adoptees and their loved ones for a weekend full of workshops and keynotes, entertainment, wellness activities, and youth program, and more on topics of race, identity, family, connections, and current events.
- **Community Conversations:** Scheduled throughout the year, these virtual conversations focus on timely and specific topics such as relationships around the holidays and Stop Asian Hate; as well less formal meet-ups prior to and after the annual conference.
- **Communications throughout the Year:** Our website, enewsletter, blog on our website, and social media pages (Facebook, Instagram, YouTube) all provide updates and articles to our community throughout the year.

Our Committees:

Communications
Education
Engagement
Finance



KOREAN AMERICAN
ADOPTEE ADOPTIVE
FAMILY NETWORK

#KAAN2022

2022 Annual Report



Korean American Adoptee Adoptive Family Network



2022 Conference By the Numbers

#KAAN2022:
Building Community, Building Self
Denver, CO: June 24-26, 2022

Registrants



adoptees and
family members



States + DC



189
first time attendees



Adoptee awarded
registration scholarships



Countries



210
identified as an adoptee

Volunteers

KAAN Conference is run entirely by volunteers!



8 Advisory Council members



16 individuals who assisted with conference planning & logistics



4 Youth Program mentors

Programing



keynote and mainstage
entertainment offerings



breakout sessions



breakout sessions
for adoptees only

**Celebrate our 25th Anniversary
in Chicago, IL for the
#KAAN2023 Conference**

Help us continue our tradition
of bringing connections to our
community and [donate today](#).

www.wearekaan.org

"The entirety of the programming was so well organized and executed! I absolutely loved the flow and intentionality of each session and heavily appreciated KAAAN's dedication to creating safe and welcoming spaces centered around adoptee voices."

-2022 Conference Attendee

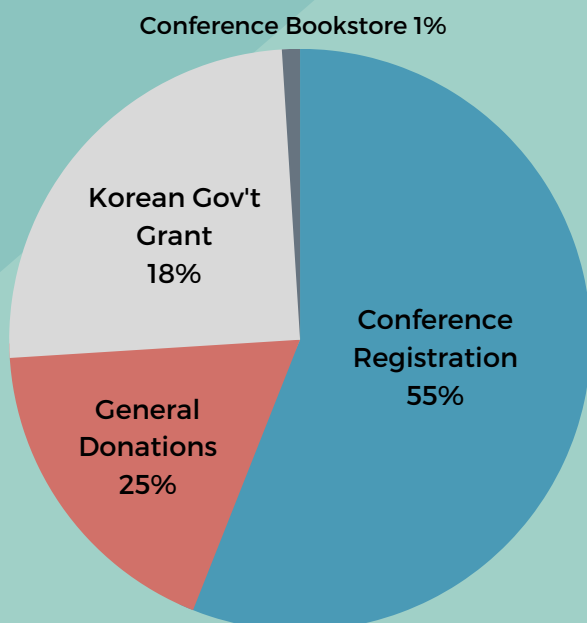


KOREAN AMERICAN
ADOPTEE ADOPTIVE
FAMILY NETWORK

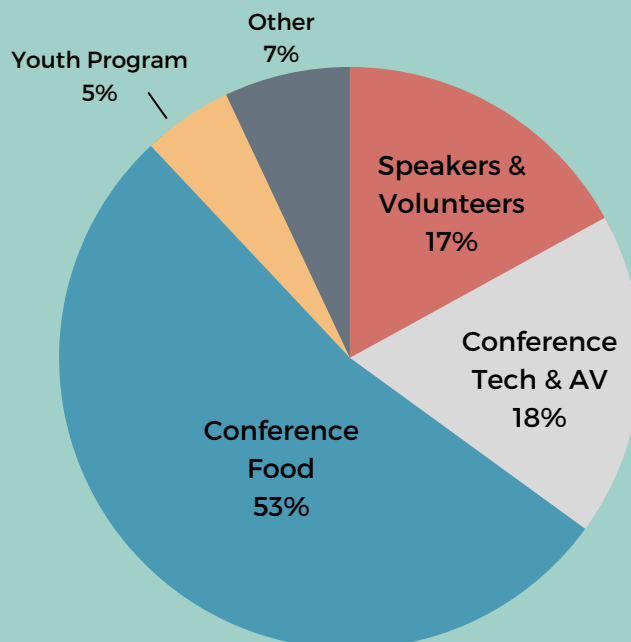
FINANCIALS

2022 Annual Report

Sources of Income



Types of Expenses



Did you know...? 93% of KAAN's annual expenses are related to our annual conference? This includes hotel food costs, conference AV and technology, and honorariums and financial assistance to compensate and attract quality speakers and contributors.

In order to keep KAAN conference registration affordable, registration rates do not cover the full cost of the conference. KAAN utilizes a generous grant from the Korean Government and private donations from individuals and organizations to offset the true cost of the conference.

We are an unpaid volunteer-led organization, which allows us to maintain extremely low administrative costs (i.e. insurance and general operating expenses).



KOREAN AMERICAN
ADOPTEE ADOPTIVE
FAMILY NETWORK

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

2022 Annual Report

Carol Klukaczewski
Jen Kvalseth
Lynne Love
Daniel Matthews
Glenn Morey
Jeremy Morton
Aileen McHugh
Andrew Murphy
Sara Salansky
Mary Schmitt
Matthew and Stacy Schroeder
Destiny Simpson
Allison Spooner
National Center for the Rights of the
Child (Korean Government Grant)

Stephen and Whitney Johnson
Shana Kaufman
Ann Peterson
Suzanne Switzer
Carly Zuckweiler
Jody Allen
Martha Apple
Amanda Assalone
Caitlin Behle
Families With Children From China, Inc
Gary and Kala Sharp Charitable Fund
Ann Higgins
Yizhou Hu
Insurance Professional Connection of
Greater Danbury



PROJECT FISCAL SPONSOR
**THE FOUNDATION
FOR ENHANCING
COMMUNITIES**

KAAN partners with The Foundation for Enhancing Communities (TFEC), a non-profit based in Pennsylvania to serve as our fiscal sponsor. TFEC provides fiduciary oversight, financial management, and other administrative services for a reasonable annual fee. This allows KAAN volunteers to focus on our programming and other efforts serving our community.

To learn more about TFEC, visit: www.tfec.org



KOREAN AMERICAN
ADOPTEE ADOPTIVE
FAMILY NETWORK

LOOKING AHEAD

JUNE 30 - JULY 2
2023

2022 Annual Report

Looking Ahead at What's to Come

Despite the numerous challenges in planning and bringing our annual conference back to in-person, the feedback we received from attendees was overwhelmingly positive. While KAAN made every attempt to build connections virtually throughout the pandemic, it was clear to us that there's nothing which can replace or replicate the relationships and conversations which occur during an in-person conference. We're excited for what's in store for our 25th Anniversary Year at the 2023 KAAN Conference in Rosemont, IL, at the Westin O'Hare. Our all-volunteer team has already been planning for months on the theme of Generations: Reflecting Back, Looking Forward.

For more information, visit: www.wearekaan.org/conference

If KAAN has made a positive impact on you or a loved one in your life, we invite you to join our list of supporters to help us continue our work. We cannot continue to build connections, empower one another, and create community without the help of generous donors. Contribute to our mission by making a meaningful gift that will make a positive and lasting impact.

Donate today.



Generations

Reflecting Back, Looking Forward 





KOREAN AMERICAN
ADOPTEE ADOPTIVE
FAMILY NETWORK

2022 Annual Report

REFLECTIONS

"This was my first KAAAN Conference, so I went in not knowing what to expect. I was completely blown away by the community energy and found strength in everyone's courage and willingness to be vulnerable. It was indescribable to be surrounded by my fellow adoptees; I hope this will not be the last conference I attend!"

-2022 Conference Attendee

25 Years of KAAAN Reflections

As we celebrate our upcoming 25th anniversary, Ellen and Stacy share reflections of their experience with KAAAN. To read their full contribution, visit: www.wearekaan.org/blog

Ellen Heitzig - "As I continued on my adoption journey, I came to understand different perspectives and experiences of transracial adoption. I was yearning for more. This is where KAAAN came in. KAAAN fulfilled and continues to fulfill my desire for a space where I can process with others who may relate. I can attend sessions that open my eyes to topics I never thought about or could not articulate, and I can have conversations that provide clarity and closure..."

Stacy Schroeder - "It is impossible to imagine what I would be like if I had not encountered KAAAN. This organization has shaped me personally and professionally. It played a major role in my development as an adoptive parent, sister, and friend and both broadened and deepened my understanding of race and many other things as well. I met so many fascinating people who became teachers, mentors, and friends. Communities like this--where adoptees of all ages gather and parents, spouses, and others are included and empowered as allies--are so vital."



www.wearekaan.org



www.facebook.com/wearekaan



www.youtube.com/@KAANvideochannel



www.instagram.com/wearekaan

**Stay Connected
with Us**