



WE'VE CHANGED OUR NAME! FORMERLY THE CAPE COD ADOPTION NETWORK, WE ARE NOW CAPE COD ADOPTION RESOURCES.

Spot Light: The Dwane Family
"The Universe has a way of knowing
when people belong together."



"Mom, I really want a little brother," my 9 year old son Brandon announced to me in our kitchen one fateful January day in 2007. He continued, "I know my little brother is out there in an orphanage somewhere, we just have to go and get him." My husband chimed in, "Are we talking about adoption? You know I have always dreamed of having a daughter." Brandon reacted, "Great, a little brother AND a little sister!" That day the seed was sown and the universe began laying the path to our children.

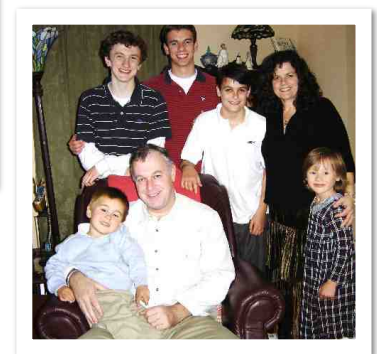
A year and a half later on June 20, 2008, my husband Philip and I left Martha's Vineyard and boarded a plane out of Logan, waving goodbye to our 3 biological sons; Ryan 17, Ben 13, and Brandon 10. We had labored through the paper work and appointments and even the heart break of a not-to-be referral. But all of that melted away as Philip and I sat holding hands in an office of a little orphanage in Petropavlovsk, Kazakhstan. The door opened and our 3 year old son Aran walked in. He was beautiful. We met our 5 year old daughter Anya shortly after. Although we couldn't speak each other's language, LOVE as they say is indeed a universal language.

Our month long stay in Petro was such an amazing experience. We chose Karen Medve of Good Hope Adoption Services. I believe Karen is an angel whose mission in life is to connect the children of the world with their forever families. It takes great fortitude and love to do what she does daily. Choosing Good Hope meant we didn't need to worry about the details. Their in-country team took care of everything which enabled us to focus on enjoying our bonding time with our new son and daughter. Those days were filled with so many inspiring and heart wrenching moments.

Anya and Aran were escorted into our arms on August 13, 2008. Our family was now complete. The past 6 months have been filled with many laughs, many tears, and many miracles. All of the children have adjusted and bonded well. Anya excels in school and has many friends. Aran is a comedian and is inseparable from his older brothers. The boys are amazing with their new little brother and sister.

I reflect often on our time spent in Anya and Aran's orphanages and think of all their friends still waiting for families. I realize now that to be able to witness the strength of the human spirit in the eyes of children was truly a gift. I believe it takes strong Faith and miles of patience to build your family through adoption. But the love of a child cannot be measured and when you help to heal a child you help to heal the world.

If you have any questions or comments feel free to email me at LynnMVsanctuary@aol.com
With Peace and Light,
Lynn Dwane and Family
Philip, Lynn, Ryan, Ben, Brandon, Anya and Aran



Welcome to the Seventh Newsletter offered by Cape Cod Adoption Resources!

This Quarterly newsletter is offered to friends and families associated with adoption. We welcome comments, suggestions, and recommended articles to include in future newsletters. Cape Cod Adoption Resources was created to fill a need for coordinated information and support for families on the Cape. Through our educational and social programs, we bring families together to create an Adoption Community right here on Cape Cod. Please let us hear from you if you would like additional information on the services we offer. Tel. 508-385-7815, or on the web at www.capecodadoptionresources.org.

Published by: Good Hope Adoption Services, Inc.

Country Updates

United States: We are seeing a very positive move towards families considering Domestic Adoptions, and the opportunities for families to work within our own country. There is a two-prong path that people may take. The first, and better known, is to pursue adoptions through the DSS, (now Department of Children and Families), as foster care parents, leading to adoption for children earmarked as available for permanent placement. This process is handled entirely by the DCF social workers, and our two contacts are Nancy Kinder, located in the Brockton regional office, (508-894-3815) and Tony Brownstein, located at the Hyannis Office, (508-760-0200). DCF holds a MAPs training program for interested families, and we are lucky to occasionally have a 3-day weekend program held here on the Cape.

The second option for domestic adoptions is to work with specialized placement agencies that present a family's portfolio to birthmothers. Some of these agencies are operated by attorneys, and some by adoption professionals. Over this past year, we have successfully supported families that choose this route, and have seen beautiful babies come home. The process is on a par with international adoptions, both in timeframe and total cost. Good Hope is in a position to recommend Domestic placement agencies.

Kazakhstan: While 2008 was a tough year for Kazakhstan adoptions across the board, 2009 is turning out to be just the opposite. We are very excited that our current families are waiting far shorter lengths of time, and the new relationship with the Kazakhstan consulate in New York is very professional and timely.

Our in-country program remains strong, operated by Svetlana Sinistkaya of World Without Orphans. We are advocating for families to strongly consider Kazakhstan as the primary country of choice for international adoptions. The children are very well cared for, and the multi-ethnicity of this central Asian country is very exciting. We are currently developing a Waitlist for families interested in this country, to ensure timely dossier processing with the Kazakhstan consulate. Two trips remain the norm in most regions, and adoptions can complete in 12-16 months. Little advance information is available to families before reaching the country.

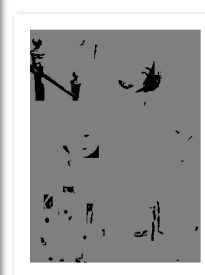
China: Most agencies have ceased to offer traditional China adoptions, as the wait continues to be very long and unpredictable. Good Hope partners with Homeland Adoptions, and supports the placement of children with minor medical needs. Most of the children have needs that either have been or can be corrected with a minimal procedure, and the wait is under one year. The program advocates the placement of boys at this time, and families must be open to adopting a child with a cleft palette.

Russia: This huge country remains open for international adoptions. Good Hope affiliates with Happy Families from New York, who has successfully worked in Russia for several years. While Russia can be complicated, requiring families to be fairly flexible to navigate this program, it remains a viable choice in a current international adoption picture with limited options. We know from past experience that children are beautiful. The process includes two trips to complete adoptions.

Poland: This Eastern European country is a little known option for families, and we continue to promote it as a good country

choice for certain families. The government of Poland prefers to place single and younger children with local families, but sibling groups, and older children are available, and present themselves as good and strong children. Good Hope endorses the program operated by Huminski's Angels, and applaud their success in placing over 1000 children with families throughout the United States.

Other countries: Guatemala, Uzbekistan, remain on hold for now.



Good Hope News!!!

The program formally known as the Cape Cod Adoption Network has been renamed and reconfigured to accommodate recent changes. The first change is the loss of the Cape Cod and Islands United Way grant, which was the financial cornerstone to this project. Unfortunately, our program for adopted families and their children did not fall into the identified need categories of the United Way for this year, which was a very late decision based on reduced contribution levels. We were informed of this decision in late December, with the grant year set to begin on January 01, 2009. This surprising news placed Good Hope in the position of rethinking the best way to continue offering much needed support services to adoptive families, and we welcome your comments and support as we navigate through these changes. The first is to modify the name of his project, now known as the Cape Cod Adoption Resources. The original project was a collaboration of several agencies.

The second change is to restructure the staffing. We are very fortunate to have on staff Tammy Coyne, who comes to Good Hope with years of experience working with toddlers, preschool age children and new mothers. Tammy will coordinate the Family events, including the Toddler Play group, Kid's Activity program, the Mom's support group, (led by Judy Fratus), and the twice annual Family Social Gatherings. To accommodate the continuance of these activities, we have no choice at this time but to ask families for a donation at the commencement of each event. This contribution will cover costs for facility rental fees, materials, and supplies. Going forward, all Play Groups and activity programs will have dues of \$6.00 per child/ per event. At the Social Gatherings, (which have been at no charge to our families for 7 years), we must now ask for a donation of \$15.00 per family to accommodate entertainment, food, as well as rental fees. The final fee will be to future educational events, and we will ask for a minimal contribution of \$25.00/ per family.

Andi Lunden, who has done such a masterful job developing this entire project, will support Tammy's efforts and has been moved to a new position within our agency. As the Assistant Director, Andi will be responsible for many different aspects of day-to-day agency management and future planning.

As the Adoption picture continues to mirror the worst of this bad economy, Good Hope happily continues to grow, and we can only do so with your ongoing support, good wishes, and participation in the different offerings. We know these connections are fundamental to the successful adjustment and development of adoptive families and their precious children. We thank you!

Good Hope Adoption Services, Inc. and The Cape Cod Adoption Resource

Don't you just love spring?

Butterflies, flowers, and playing outside...What could be better?

The Importance of Play in Early learning

Taken from:(International Adoption Articles Directory,
By: Ellie Dixon)

The importance of play to children should not be underestimated. Play is a vital part of learning and development. Research has shown that it is essential to children and helps them to reach their full potential in life.

In every day life, a child is small, powerless and is always being told what to do. But play allows a child to be "in charge". Children can investigate, discover, explore and learn about their world through play. Research shows that children whose parent's play with them develop enhanced social skills. Children learn how to share, take turns and be empathetic towards others. Play permits children to be little grown-ups, doctors, teachers, fire-fighters, artists, etc. Children can pretend to be all sorts of things in play. Who could your child be?

May Day

Celebrate May Day with your children by making your own recycled May Basket. This is an easy fun project to do with your child. Help to save our planet by using old play-Doh containers and filling them with beautiful short stemmed flowers or keepsake hand made flowers.

How to make it:

1. cut a rectangle out of construction paper to fit around the empty, clean play-doh containers
2. decorate the paper (crayons,markers,stickers,etc.)
3. hole punch two holes in the top of your containers, directly across from each other.
4. attach string,ribbon,yarn, to hang the container on a door handle
5. early on May 1st, add real or handmade flowers.

Happy May Day!



The Cape Cod Adoption Resources' Library offers wide a variety of books and resources to sign out on loan. Call us for more information!

**Also:
Tapestry Books
offers a large assortment of books on adoption.
Check out their website:
www.tapestrybooks.com**

APRIL SHOWER'S

*Pitter patter rain drops Falling from the sky,
Here's my umbrella, Hold it High! When the rain
is over and the sun begins to glow, Little flowers
start to bud, then grow, grow, grow!!*

Water play Activity:

Pull out your rain boots and find a puddle to muck around in. Fill a wading pool with water, add food coloring, bubble bath, whisks funnels, ladles etc, and prepare to have a wild 'n wet time!

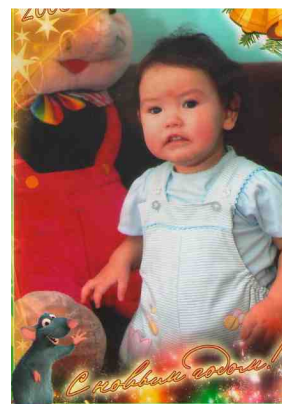


Welcome Home!

Kate, Grace, and Rinat came home in March, 2009 from Kazakhstan. They reside in Washington State with their family.



Sydney came home February,2009 from Kazakhstan. She is residing with her family in Marstons Mills.



Cape Cod Adoption Resources is an independent project under the management of Good Hope Adoption Services. While we no longer formally partner with the below listed agencies, we continue to endorse their services for families and their children. These Children/Family services include: The Cape Cod Children's Place, located in Eastham (508-240-3310); Cape Cod Child Development Services, located throughout the Cape, with headquarters in Hyannis,(508-775-6240), The Upper Cape Family Network, located in Falmouth, (508-548-0151), and the Harwich Early Childhood Advisory Council ,(508-430-1692). We continue to seek partnerships and child-friendly services to offer to our families, and welcome your input to new and different supports for all children and their families. Please call Tammy Coyne at 508-385-7815, ext. 5.

Cape Cod Adoption Resource's Calendar of Events ~ Spring

Family Support Groups:

Waiting Family Meetings: For Singles and Couples.

Place: Good Hope Adoption Services Office

708 Route 134, South Dennis, MA

Dates: Third Saturday of Each Month

Time: 5:30-7:00PM *Pizza and Coffee served

Adoptive Moms Support Group:

The Northside Methodist Church

Airline Road, Dennis, MA

Date: 4th Saturday of every month

Time: 10:00AM-11:30AM

Child Care Available with notice *Coffee and Refreshments served

Spring Gathering/Family Social

May 17, 2009

Time: 1:00-4:00 PM

at the

West Parish Congregational Church

Route 149, West Barnstable

(Exit 5, right off the Mid-Cape Hwy)



Join us for our annual picnic with families from across Massachusetts!

Family fun, games, entertainment and laughter provided.

*Please bring a dish to share!

Call 508-385-7815 for more info.



Toddler Play Group (for ages 1-5)

West Dennis Community Center
67 School St., W. Dennis, MA

Dates: 1st, 3rd, & 4th Wednesdays
of each month

Time: 12:00-2:00

2nd Wednesday:

West Dennis Library Time:

12:30-2:00

Join Us!

Kid's Activity Groups (For ages 5-13):

The Cape Codder Resort Swim Party

1225 Iyanough Rd. Hyannis, MA

Date: March 29th, Time: 11:30-1:30PM

Zoo Quarium

674 Route 28, Yarmouth, MA

Date: April 26th, Time: 1:00-3:00 PM

Dennis Indian Trail ~ The Lady Slipper Hike

Dennis Town Hall

Old Bass River Road, Dennis, MA

Date: May 31st, Time: 1:00-3:00

If you would like to volunteer for these upcoming events or for more information on any of our programs, please contact

Tammy Coyne at 508-385-7815, ext. 4

***Sign up to be on the mailing list!**

SPRING WORKSHOP WITH

Dr. Boris Skurkovich, MD.

Dr. Skurkovich will be speaking on the topic of ADOPTION RELATED MEDICAL CONCERNS facing parents who have adopted or are planning to adopt internationally.

Dr. Skurkovich's area of expertise is in pre-adoption medical advice concerning children residing in orphanages. Dr Skurkovich works at the International Adoption Clinic located at The Hasbro Children's Hospital, Rhode Island

When: April 18, 2009

Where: Good Hope Adoption Services Office

Adoption Information

Info Sessions on Adoptions will be held the first Wednesdays of the month at 4:00 at Good Hope Adoption Services, Inc.

To learn more about domestic and international adoptions join us:

January 7, February 4, & March 4, & April 1, 2009

708 Route 134, South Dennis, MA



The Year of the Ox, Lunar New Year Party

was held at the Cape Cod Super Buffet on Sunday, January 25th. Families enjoyed traditional arts and crafts, and games. There was a raffle and silent auction, as well as a delicious buffet lunch. The Clarkson family entertained all with their video and account of being in China during the lunar New Year Celebration. The event brought together 150 people to celebrate the day. Everyone had a marvelous time at what was considered by some to be one of the biggest turn outs for the event. The day was brought to an end with a traditional Chinese Lion Parade.

This event was sponsored by Good Hope Adoption Services, Inc. and Cape Cod Adoption Resources, with help from the Asian Cultural Society of Cape Cod. Thanks everyone! Looking forward to next year's party!

