

NOAS DECEMBER NEWS

the stories that matter

A YEAR-END MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



2025 has brought a unique set of challenges for smaller nonprofits like ours. The national climate, funding cuts and delays, and the growing needs of organizations that have lost support have all created real pressures this year.

Yet through it all, our team has never wavered. Our staff of 35 shows up every single day with urgency, heart, and deep commitment to meeting the evolving needs of current and former foster youth. Their work spans so much of what makes NOAS essential to this community:

- ***Helping children find safe, nurturing family homes***
- ***Supporting youth who cannot return to their birth families in finding lasting connections***
- ***Walking beside young adults as they age out, ensuring they move toward independence with stability and guidance***
- ***Providing training and support to caregivers and professionals who serve children from hard places***
- ***Filling the everyday gaps—birthdays, groceries, emergency needs—so families and youth feel seen and supported***

Amid these challenges, we have also been incredibly blessed. Our Board of Trustees has been both supportive and engaged. Our events have been filled with generous sponsors and dedicated guests. And through contributions of time, groceries, gifts, stock, and financial support, our community has continued to show up for the youth we serve.

Our supporters have lifted us up and enabled us to keep doing what matters most: creating connections, expanding support, and helping local foster youth find the families they deserve. Every new match, placement, and adoption renews our determination to work not just harder—but smarter.

As we close out the year, we move forward with gratitude, renewed drive, and an unwavering belief in what's possible when a community stands together. Thank you for being part of this mission and for helping us create real opportunities for the young people who need it most.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chayle Tarantino". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a slightly larger first name and a smaller last name.

REAL VOICES, REAL IMPACT:

Foster Youth and Young Adults on NOAS Staff

The feedback was gathered directly from the young adults and foster youth we serve, offering honest insight into their experiences with NOAS staff and the support they receive. Their words remind us why we do what we do. This month, we're spotlighting two team members who truly stood out in the eyes of those we serve.



Leah Moffett

Wendy's Wonderful Kids Recruiter

"Leah makes sure I get everything that I want or need."

~ Quote from foster youth

Brooke Vondrasek

Wendy's Wonderful Kids Recruiter

"Brooke is very uplifting and enthusiastic."

~ Quote from young adult

SAVE THE DATE FOR 2026 UPCOMING FUNDRAISERS

This final newsletter of the year comes with heartfelt gratitude—and an invitation. Start the New Year by joining NOAS at our upcoming fundraisers to help create stability, hope, and brighter futures for children in foster care.

NOAS BOOZE & BAGS BINGO

Mark your calendars! Join us on **February 26, 2026**, at **DiVieste's Banquet Centre in Warren, OH** for **NOAS Booze & Bags Bingo** — a night full of fun, laughter, and excitement. Play bingo for your chance to win **designer purses** and **top-shelf liquor**. With surprises around every corner, this is one evening you won't want to miss! More details coming soon — stay tuned!



ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

Make sure to save the date for NOAS' Play it for the Kids Golf Outing on **Monday, June 1, 2026 at Trumbull Country Club.**

More details coming soon.

THANK YOU, LIVE LIKE LINDSEY

A heartfelt thank you to **Live Like Lindsey** for their generous donation of coats for our foster youth. Your support ensures our kids and teens stay warm, cared for, and confident this winter. We are grateful for your continued kindness and the impact you make in our community.

MAKE A BIG IMPACT

One Month at a Time

Giving a **recurring gift** to NOAS is simple, effortless, and powerful. Just **once a month**, your support helps provide foster youth and families with the resources, connections, and care they need to heal, grow, and thrive.

With a recurring gift, you're not just helping today—you're helping build **generations of change**. Join our circle of monthly supporters and make a lasting difference for children and families in need.

Become a monthly donor and be part of something life-changing.

FOSTER PARENTS NEEDED.

You Can Make A Difference.

One of our greatest needs is urgent—and you can help. Northeast Ohio has a growing number of children entering the foster care system, while the number of licensed foster homes continues to decrease. These children need safe, loving, and supportive homes—and you can be the one to provide that stability.

Our next **preservice foster parent classes** begin **January 14**. This **virtual series** is designed to get you ready in **less than a month**, making it easier than ever to start your foster care journey. Whether you join the class or simply help **spread the word**, you can make a life-changing difference for a child in need.



For more information or to register.

THANK YOU FOR SHINING A LIGHT THIS ANGEL SEASON

A huge THANK YOU to all of our amazing donors, volunteers, and community partners for making our making our **Angel Tree shine this season**.

Because of your generosity, over **250 kids, teens, and young adults** will have gifts to open this holiday season. Your kindness is bringing smiles, joy, and a little extra magic to so many lives—and we couldn't be more grateful!



MEET JAYDA, AGE 15



Jayda enjoys making videos, listening to music, roller-skating, and eating Puerto Rican food. Jayda is talkative, outspoken, and independent. Jayda loves to talk and is full of energy. She is interested in a future career in cosmetology/nails.

[**Read more about Jayda**](#)

See More Children And Teens Who Are Waiting For A Family

FIND US

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