

# NOAS JANUARY NEWS

## the stories that matter



### It's BINGO time—classic game, modern vibes!

Join NOAS for **Booze & Bags Bingo** on **Thursday, February 26** at **DiVieste's Banquet Centre** for a night of nonstop fun. Doors open at **6:00 PM**, featuring a **dinner buffet and cash bar**, plus raffles and a chance auction with opportunities to win **cash, booze, baskets, and a Louis Vuitton travel bag**. Enjoy **10 games of 3-Up Bingo** with chances to win top-shelf booze and designer purses, all while supporting a cause that matters. Perfect for men, women, bingo pros, first-timers, and anyone who loves a great night out. Grab your crew, play for a purpose, come for the bingo, stay for the vibes, and win big.

*[Sponsorships and Tickets](#)*

### NOAS PARTNERS WITH NEOMED

*[for White Coats for Hope Program](#)*



NOAS is proud to partner with **Northeast Ohio Medical University (NEOMED)** on the **White Coats for Hope Program**, an inspiring initiative designed to empower foster youth through mentorship, guidance, and meaningful opportunities.

This innovative program connects foster youth with **medical student mentors**, providing early exposure to healthcare careers and hands-on learning experiences. Beyond career exploration, the program supports **emotional resilience** by offering **consistent, trauma-informed mentorship**, helping youth navigate challenges and build confidence.

White Coats for Hope also aims to **break cycles of adversity**, demonstrating to youth that their past does not define their future. By fostering strong mentor relationships, encouraging personal growth, and promoting academic success, the program equips foster youth with the tools to envision and achieve long-term career goals.

NOAS' **recruiters, Bridges liaisons, and family case workers** are actively seeking to **match youth with this outstanding program**. For youth and families interested in participating, this is an incredible opportunity to gain guidance, build connections, and explore a future full of possibilities.

Together, NOAS and NEOMED are helping foster youth **dream bigger, reach higher, and create brighter futures**.

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## START STRONG

### *Stay Supported with NOAS*

Taking the step to become a foster parent doesn't mean doing it alone. Our **in-person Pre-Service Training Classes**, beginning **February 21**, are designed to help you connect right from the start — with **other families like yours** and with the **NOAS staff who will support you every step of the way**.

These engaging, in-person classes go beyond training. You'll build meaningful relationships, ask real questions, share experiences, and start creating the support network that will help you stay connected and confident throughout your



**Register Today**

foster care journey. At the same time, you'll gain the skills and knowledge needed to provide a safe, nurturing, and supportive home for foster youth in need.

or contact **Simone** at [sgant@noas.com](mailto:sgant@noas.com) for more information.

***Your journey starts with connection — and it starts here.***

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## NOAS WELCOMES

*Erika Eskenazi to our NOAS Team.*

Erika is a graduate of Towson University with a degree in Deaf Studies with a focus on Psychology and Early Childhood Education. She is most recently coming from the Bair Foundation where she was a qualified behavioral health specialist. Erika was also a child protection specialist with Cuyahoga County. Erika has spent her career helping build community and relationships for children and teens. She is excited to bring her experiences to NOAS and in her role as a Wendy's Wonderful Kids® Recruiter.



## NOAS WELCOMES

*Lindsay Wolf to our NOAS Board.*

### LINDSAY WOLF, CBDA

Board member

Joined the Board in 2025

Committees: Major Gifts/Legacy

**Mrs. Wolf** and her wife Raelynn reside in Howland. She is a proud graduate of Warren Harding and Youngstown State University. Lindsay is a Financial Advisor with TSG Advice Partners and brings over 20 years of experience creating active asset management and financial planning solutions. Her passion is to educate and empower while helping clients reach their goals. Lindsay is committed to serving vulnerable youth, young adults, and animals. In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her family and friends, reading, golfing, gardening and canning.





## MEET SHAUNDON & ALENA, AGES 13 and 14



*Both **Alena** and **Shaundon** are adventurous, intelligent, and active youths with vivid imaginations. They can be very shy and quiet but are affectionate. They're hoping for a forever family who believes what we believe... siblings belong together.*

[Read more about Alena and Shaundon](#)

***See More Children And Teens Who Are Waiting For A Family***



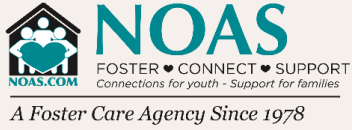
## THANK YOU FOR BELIEVING IN OUR MISSION

This holiday season, the NOAS community came together in an incredible way. Thanks to your generosity, our Annual Appeal raised **nearly \$60,000—the largest total in our history**. Because of you, NOAS can continue to inspire, develop, and nurture lasting support and connections for foster youth and families. Your compassion is strengthening families, creating stability, and changing lives.

Thank you for being an essential part of the NOAS family.

## FIND US

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