

Crossroads of America Adoption Conference

Date & Time: September 30 – October 1, 2011, 9:00 am – 4:30 pm

Breakfast and registration starts at 8:00 am



Speaker Spotlights



Jason Kovacs

Mr. Kovacs, our keynote speaker, is the Director of Ministry Development for ABBA Fund and an adoptive father. Jason and his wife were among the first recipients of an ABBA Fund loan and were able to adopt two children, developing a passion for adoption fundraising. He will speak about the plight of orphans in our world, the need for adoption, and fundraising for a personal adoption and adoption ministries.

Carolyn Twietmeyer, Founder and Director of Project HOPEFUL, an organization with a mission to educate, encourage, and enable families and individuals to advocate for and adopt children with HIV/AIDS. She is the mother of 13 children, 6 of whom were adopted. Ms. Twietmeyer and her organization have been featured on Today Show, CBS News with Katie Couric, and People Magazine.

Michele L. Jackson, JD, Founder of The Fatherless Foundation, Inc. and MLJ Adoptions, Inc., is regarded as one of the foremost legal authorities in international adoption and international family law issues. She has served as an Adjunct Law Professor at Indiana University School of Law teaching International Comparative Family Law and International Organizations Law.

Wayne S. DeVeydt, CPA., Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of WellPoint, Inc., is a father of three and a prospective adoptive parent. Mr. DeVeydt is also an advocate for adoption and orphan care. He will speak to balancing work and parenthood. He has been seen on CBS News, MSNBC, Bloomberg, among various other news media outlets.

Bernardo Salazar, At-Home Winner from season 5 of NBC's *The Biggest Loser* and author of *Monstercise*, focusing on getting kids up and active. He will be conducting a session on nutrition for adopted children.

Judy Miller is an adoptive mother, advocate, educator, support specialist and author. Her work has appeared in *A Cup of Comfort for Adoptive Families*, *Pieces of Me: Who Do I Want to Be?*, and *Chicken Soup for the Soul: Thanks Mom*, among other publications.

Includes Over 35 Sessions on Adoption Issues:

- **Affording Adoption:** Resources for grants, fundraising, and low interest adoption loans. You will also learn strategies for writing outstanding grant applications and planning your adoption budget.
- **Techniques to Strengthen Attachment:** Easy suggestions you can work into daily interactions with your children to build stronger, better attached relationships.
- **Home Study 101:** You will be able to view a mock home study to ease any apprehension about this process.
- **Medical Issues in Adoption:** Dr. Michele Zoremeier will speak on medical issues in adoption including vitamin deficiencies specific to internationally adopted children.
- **Racism and My Child:** Understanding racism in light of history, stereotypes, current events, and more.
- **What Your School Needs To Know:** Adoptive parents and teachers discuss how to be your adopted child's best advocate in school.
- **Non-Profit Fundraising:** Fundraising tips and techniques to raise funds for your non-profit efficiently.
- **Legal Risks in International Adoption:** In depth discussion on legal risks associated with adoption.
- **Getting to Hague:** Instructional session on obtaining and maintaining Hague Accreditation or Approval.

For more information and a schedule of events, please visit www.mljadoptions.com or call 317-875-0058. We hope to see you there!