

National Reunification Month 2022

Hello everyone, I hope all is well and that you all are continuing to celebrate and recognize National Reunification Month 2022. This year's theme is ***Reunification: Shifting Power and Reconnecting Families All Year Long***, and I am excited to share with you some exciting updates and resources:

[National Reunification Month \(americanbar.org\)](https://americanbar.org)

National Webinars

- June 21, 2022, 3:00-4:30 pm ET [Building Parent Leadership and Power to Support Faster, Lasting Reunification and Prevent System Involvement \(americanbar.org\)](https://americanbar.org)
- **Click the link to the Recording and Resources for the webinar** [Supporting Families through Reunification and Beyond \(americanbar.org\)](https://americanbar.org)

Reunification Heroes: Check out the National Reunification Heroes: CA-[Robyn Robbins \(americanbar.org\)](https://americanbar.org), GA- [Samantha Walker \(americanbar.org\)](https://americanbar.org), OK-[Jamie Yott \(americanbar.org\)](https://americanbar.org), NY- [Nora McCarthy \(americanbar.org\)](https://americanbar.org), and ND- [Harmony Bercier \(americanbar.org\)](https://americanbar.org). **(More to be added soon come [National Reunification Heroes-](https://americanbar.org)**

What's Happening In Your State? Here's the great reunification work/events happening across the country for 2022. [Colorado \(americanbar.org\)](https://americanbar.org), [Florida \(americanbar.org\)](https://americanbar.org), [North Carolina \(americanbar.org\)](https://americanbar.org), [Oregon \(americanbar.org\)](https://americanbar.org), [South Carolina \(americanbar.org\)](https://americanbar.org), [Virginia \(americanbar.org\)](https://americanbar.org), [Washington \(americanbar.org\)](https://americanbar.org). If you want to add your state's activities, please send me an email.

Resources:

- [Achieving Permanency through Reunification \(americanbar.org\)](https://americanbar.org): NEW! This article describes a national training program from Plummer Youth Promise that uses the latest knowledge, research, and interventions to help organizations and agencies achieve permanency for children in foster care through reunification. (6/13/22)
- National Reunification Month 2022 Social Media Toolkit [National Reunification Month 2022 Social Media Toolkit](https://americanbar.org)
- [June is Reunification Month! \(govdelivery.com\)](https://govdelivery.com) **June is National Reunification Month!** This year, consider how investing in culturally appropriate services and supports can help keep families together!
Black and American Indian/Alaska Native children are at [greater risk](https://americanbar.org) of being removed from their homes than other children. By utilizing a culturally responsive approach and seeking culturally appropriate services for families of diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds, we can address racial disproportionalities and disparities in the child welfare system and increase the likelihood of reunification for these populations.

Find strategies, tips, and tools to better engage children and families in this [resource collection](#) on reunifying families, and explore tools on [cultural responsiveness](#) to make addressing [racial equity](#) a priority in your practice

Reunification Videos & Stories

[Jamall and Jennifer's Story - National Reunification Month 2022 - YouTube](#)

[Catherine's Story - National Reunification Month 2022 - YouTube](#)

[Teen Reunites with Long-Lost Mother & Aunt](#): Based in Virginia, Connect Our Kids helps reunite families all across the country. In this story, a Wendy's Wonderful Kids® (WWK) recruiter from the Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services used Connect Our Kids tools to reunite a Haley back to her former basketball coach. This coach has since adopted Haley.

[Teen Boy Reunites with His Long-Lost Mother \(connectourkids.org\)](#)

[Abby's Story](#) In this Connect Our Kids story, Ryan, a teenager who spent many years in foster care, is reunited with his long-lost mother thanks to a Wendy's Wonderful Kids® (WWK) recruiter from the Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services diligent search using Connect Our Kids technology.

A Blast from the Past

- **Reunification Podcast:** The Children's Bureau recorded a [podcast about reunification](#) featuring Mimi Laver, Scott Trowbridge, and Chauncey Strong. Listeners will hear a conversation focusing on the current reality of reunification across our public child welfare system.
- [Building Partnerships Between Parents and Caregivers Webinar \(americanbar.org\)](#): A Community-Based Multidisciplinary Approach to Strengthening Families: NEW! In this webinar, Birth Parent National Network leaders and lawyers who work as part of interdisciplinary legal representation teams shared: new Birth and Foster Parent Partnership Tools, the importance of parents and caregivers working together to achieve positive outcomes for children, and how the legal team can support the relationships between parents and caregivers.
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- **Sibling Connections [On the Road to Reunification: Experiencing Foster Care with My Sister by My Side](#):** D'Artagnan Caliman shares his journey through foster care to getting his MSW and being a national resource for other families. His enduring connections to his sister, mother, and others resonated with the team.

That's it for now but stay tuned for additional reunification updates soon! Until then, let's remember our theme this year, and let's keep celebrating Reunifications-- ***Reunification: Shifting Power and Reconnecting Families All Year Long!***

National Reunification Month 2022

From: chaunceystrong78@gmail.com <chaunceystrong78@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 26, 2022 10:42 AM
To: chaunceystrong78@gmail.com
Cc: 'Mimi Laver' <Mimi.Laver@americanbar.org>; 'Felicea Robinson' <Felicea.Robinson@americanbar.org>
Subject: National Reunification Month 2022-Updates

Hello everyone, I hope all is well. It's only a few days away before we celebrate National Reunification Month 2022. This year's theme is ***Reunification: Shifting Power and Reconnecting Families All Year Long***, and I am excited to share with you a few updates:

National Reunification Month Website: [National Reunification Month \(americanbar.org\)](https://americanbar.org/national-reunification-month)

Webinars

Webinar 1: Supporting Families through Reunification and Beyond

June 9, 2-3 pm ET. This webinar, hosted by Georgia and Oregon's Reunification Program Managers, will explore four key areas that support successful and lasting reunification: Family Team Meetings (Building a Team), Conditions for Return, Discharge Planning/Post-Reunification Supports, and Case Worker/Family Relationships. Click the link to learn more and register. [Supporting Families through Reunification and Beyond \(americanbar.org\)](https://americanbar.org/national-reunification-month/webinar-1)

Webinar 2: Building Parent Leadership and Power to Support Faster, Lasting Reunification and Prevent System Involvement

Tuesday, June 21, 3-4:30 pm ET. This webinar, hosted by Rise, a NYC advocacy organization, will introduce the Rise CORE Program, which equips Parent Advocates to help parents navigate the system and equip them with skills, tools, and resources to reunify quickly and avoid re-entering the system. Click the link to learn more and register. [Building Parent Leadership and Power to Support Faster, Lasting Reunification and Prevent System Involvement \(americanbar.org\)](https://americanbar.org/national-reunification-month/webinar-2)

In addition to these excellent webinars, the Reunification Heroes will be celebrated soon on the ABA website. Stay tuned!!

We are also looking for great Reunification resources and to know what each state is doing to recognize Reunification Month. We hope that you share your reunification activities, trainings, and resources so that we can post them on the ABA website. We have a few this year that will be shared shortly, but we welcome more. *Here are a few examples from 2021. What's happening in your state? [Oregon \(americanbar.org\)](https://americanbar.org), [Georgia](https://americanbar.org), [Virginia](https://americanbar.org), [Nevada \(americanbar.org\)](https://americanbar.org) [Hawaii \(americanbar.org\)](https://americanbar.org), [Maryland](https://americanbar.org).* We would love to have your 2022 updates.

I am looking forward to celebrating the National Reunification month with you!

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Chauncey

Chauncey Strong, MSW

Executive Director

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[National Reunification Month](#)



From: chaunceystrong78@gmail.com <chaunceystrong78@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2022 4:47 PM

To: chaunceystrong78@gmail.com

Cc: mimi.laver@americanbar.org

Subject: National Reunification Month 2022- Nominate a Reunification Hero

Hello Colleagues,

National Reunification Month is celebrated in June and acknowledges the people and efforts across the country that help families involved in the child welfare system reunite. This year's theme is ***Reunification: Shifting Power and Reconnecting Families All Year Long.***

As we prepare to celebrate this year, if you are inspired by someone who you think of as a National Reunification Hero, please take the opportunity to nominate them. Nominations are being accepted on the [American Bar Association Reunification Website](https://www.americanbar.org/resources/publications/national-reunification-month/). The nominations are open through May 6, 2022, and the heroes will be recognized in June.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ReunificationHero>

Also, we hope that every state will acknowledge families who reunified this year and the professionals who assisted them. Please share your reunification activities, training, resources, and other information happening in your state, and we will post them on the website.

We are planning two Reunification webinars in June, and I will share more information as it becomes available. Please feel free to share this email broadly with your peers.

Thanks

Chauncey



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National Reunification Month 2021

All in for Reunification 2021

NEW! A webinar for foster care managers about Reunification Month to get them interested in honoring families in their states, and professionals who assisted them, throughout the year. This year's theme is "All in for Reunification 2021" and the goal is for every state to participate this year. Held March 25, 2021. 6/1/21. [All in for Reunification 2021 - YouTube](#)

National Reunification Month is celebrated in June and acknowledges the people and efforts around the country that help families to stay together. I am always excited to support and promote national and local efforts to recognize Reunification Month.

The theme this year is **All In For Reunification 2021!!** The Planning Committee and I hope every state and will acknowledge families who reunified this year and the professionals who assisted them. Share your reunification activities, and we will post them on the [National Reunification Month website](#).

Thank you to the planning committee members, Mimi Laver, ABA, Scott Trowbridge, Children's Bureau, Tracy Serdjelian and Keyna Franklin, Rise, Britt Cloudsdale AdoptUSKids, Jennifer Marcelli, Capacity Building Center for States, Marla Galvan, Information Gateway, and Taffy Compain, Children's Bureau. I am always very appreciative of your continued dedication and being champions for Reunification!!

Below, I have listed highlighted some of the [National Reunification Month website](#). Throughout the month, we will post additional resources as we receive them about reunification and, most importantly, share the stories of this year's Reunification Heroes. If you have additional information you would like to share, please let us know. Then feel free to share this email broadly, and let's go **All In For Reunification 2021!!** 😊

[National Reunification Month Website](#)

This year the site features:

1. **Reunification Heroes:** [Erin Thomas, our first 2021 Reunification Hero](#). (The site will be updated throughout the month and more Reunification Heroes will be added, please check back periodically). [National Reunification Month \(americanbar.org\)](#)
2. **Reunification Podcast:** The Children's Bureau recorded a [podcast about reunification](#) featuring Mimi Laver, Scott Trowbridge, and Chauncey Strong. Listeners will hear a conversation focusing on the current reality of reunification across our public child welfare system.
3. **National Reunification Month Event: Preserving Families and Creating Connections:** Join us on **Wednesday, June 30, 2021, from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Eastern** for the virtual event "[Preserving Families and Creating Connections](#)." Participants will learn about the Family Connections Program in Washington State. **Register Now!** Questions? Contact Chris King, chris.king@icf.com

4. **CBX highlights reunification.** [Children's Bureau Express \(hhs.gov\)](https://www.hhs.gov/childrens-bureau-express) This issue features a message from Associate Commissioner Aysha Schomburg on National Reunification Month. Also, an article that delves into the disparities and reunification outcomes for children of color.
5. **Oregon Reunification Manager:** In this article, [Oregon Refocuses on Reunification](#), our colleagues talk about the position and the 14 person team supporting the Manager that work to achieve reunifications across the state.
6. **What's happening in your state?** Checkout out the great reunification efforts happening in:
[Oregon \(americanbar.org\)](#), [Georgia](#), [Virginia](#), [Nevada \(americanbar.org\)](#) [Hawaii \(americanbar.org\)](#), and [Maryland](#). Don't see your state? Send us information and we can post it.
7. [How Judges Can Support Family Reunification through Parent-Resource Parent Partnerships:](#) New Resources: This alert highlights how parent-resource parent partnerships support family reunification.
8. **Reunification Webinar** [All in for Reunification 2021 - YouTube](#)
9. **enCircle** [Visit Coaching: When Reunification Is Unknown](#)

For more reunification information, please visit the [National Reunification Month website](#).

If you have more resources to share, please send them to me, and we will have them posted on the site. Again, feel free to share this email broadly, and let's go **All In For Reunification 2021!!** 😊

Chauncey

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[All In For Reunification Month 2021!](#)

