



Dave Thomas
Foundation
for Adoption®

Finding Forever Families for Children in Foster Care

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Eric Daly Joins Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption Board of Trustees

**Foundation committed to finding adoptive homes for the nearly
155,000 children waiting in North America's foster care systems**

Columbus, Ohio — The Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption, a national non-profit public charity, today welcomed Eric Daly as a member of its board of trustees. Daly is vice president of the global Wendy's® customer team at Coca-Cola®, leading a cross-functional team responsible for all aspects of the company's strategic partnership with Wendy's. He will serve a three-year term.

“The Coca-Cola Company has been a proud supporter of the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption for many years,” said Daly. “I’m honored to serve the Foundation and help make a difference in the lives of children waiting in foster care who deserve a safe and loving permanent home.”

“Eric has been a valued partner for Wendy's, a dedicated brand ambassador and a strong supporter of the Foundation, our signature cause,” said Mary Schell, chief public affairs officer for The Wendy's Company and chair of the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption's board of trustees. “I’m excited to have his leadership and experience on the board.”

Through its signature program, Wendy's Wonderful Kids, the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption provides funding to adoption agencies to hire recruiters who implement an evidence-based, child-focused recruitment model. A rigorous, five-year evaluation revealed that the model is up to three times more effective at serving children who have been in foster care the longest, including teenagers, children with special needs and siblings.

To date, more than 430 Wendy's Wonderful Kids recruiters have found adoptive homes for more than 8,500 children in foster care across North America.

“Eric has been a passionate supporter of the Foundation’s mission,” said Rita Soronen, president & CEO of the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption. “His leadership, commitment and business acumen will be great additions to the board.”

Daly grew up in Mexico City, Mexico. He returned to the United States to attend the University of Alabama, where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Marketing. He also has a Master of Business Administration from Georgia State University, with a concentration in International Business. Daly lives in Atlanta, GA.

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About the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption

The Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption is a national nonprofit public charity dedicated exclusively to finding permanent homes for the nearly 155,000 children waiting in North America’s foster care systems. Created by Wendy’s® founder Dave Thomas who was adopted, the Foundation implements evidence-based, results-driven national service programs, foster care adoption awareness campaigns and innovative grantmaking. To learn more, visit davethomasfoundation.org.

Eric Daly photo

