ANGELS IN ADOPTION® 2025 Program Events & Information

SEPTEMBER 9 & 10 | WASHINGTON, DC

The Angels in Adoption® Program events span two days in Washington, D.C. each year, designed to foster meaningful engagement between Angel honorees, Members of Congress, and their staff on the critical issues of adoption, child welfare, and permanency. These carefully curated events aim to empower honorees as effective advocates and leaders while facilitating impactful discussions and recognition of their invaluable contributions.

DAY 1: Leadership Conference

The Angels in Adoption® Leadership Conference begins mid-day on September 9. The conference will be hosted on Capitol Hill and is rooted in networking, education, and engagement with other Angel in Adoption® Honorees and child welfare policy experts from around the nation. This immersive experience focuses on sharing lived experiences and best practices in child welfare advocacy. Participants engage in sessions designed to educate and empower them and Members of Congress, fostering effective advocacy for child welfare issues.

DAY 2: Hill Day & Celebration

The Angels in Adoption® Hill Day and Celebration bring together Angel honorees, Members of Congress, and the larger CCAI community to educate and engage on child welfare best practices, and to celebrate the work supporting children and families nationwide. During Hill Day, Angel Honorees participate in personal meetings with Members of Congress and their staff to give the Angels an opportunity to receive their honoree pin, certificate and letter, share personal stories, and advocate for issues related to adoption and foster care. The Angels in Adoption® Leadership Program culminates in a celebration of the 2025 Angels which brings awareness to issues impacting vulnerable children and families in the United States and around the globe.



ANGELS IN ADOPTION® Day 1: Leadership Conference

The Angels in Adoption® Leadership Conference consists of a full day of programming on Capitol Hill where honorees gather to learn from each other and policy experts. This immersive experience focuses on sharing lived experiences and best practices in child welfare advocacy. Participants engage in sessions designed to educate and empower them and Members of Congress, fostering effective advocacy for child welfare issues.



12:00PM - 1:00PM - ARRIVAL, CHECK-IN & LUNCH

Angels check in and begin meeting other honorees, policy experts, and CCAI staff. Lunch will be provided.

1:00PM - 1:15PM - WELCOME

Meet the CCAI team. Learn some tips on how to navigate your time in Washington, D.C. and what to expect during the program.

1:15PM - 1:30PM - BREAK

1:30PM - 2:30PM - PANEL

Angels hear from CCAI, child welfare experts, and other key personnel on adoption and foster care policy barriers to permanency and national models that are working to address them. Note: A kids' corner will be available.

2:30PM - 2:45PM - BREAK

2:45PM - 3:15PM - ROUNDTABLES ROUND 1

Angels have the opportunity to meet each other and learn more about shared experiences and passions. Breakouts are hosted by experts on a range of topics. Angels will participate in discussions related to their policy track. Note: A kids' corner will be available.

3:15PM - 3:30PM - BREAK

3:30PM - 4:00PM - ROUNDTABLES ROUND 2

Angels return to the same table as before where new experts will lead the second discussion related to a different policy.

4:00PM - CLOSING

4:00PM - 4:30PM - EXTRA TRACK DISCUSSION (optional)

4:00PM - 6:00PM - DINNER BREAK

Head over to the Barracks Row neighborhood of Southeast DC and grab a quick bite ahead of the film screening. For recommendations, see your "DC Guides" resource!

sample schedule of events (from 2024!)

ANGELS IN ADOPTION® Day 2 (morning-afternoon): Hill Day

Angels in Adoption® Hill Day brings together advocates to use their voices and expertise to inform Members of Congress and their staff about the needs of their communities. Angels Honorees will be organized into small groups and, with the guidance of our wonderful Hill Day Leaders, will visit congressional offices to bring very important child welfare issues to the attention of congressional members and their staff. Angel Honorees will also receive their honorary Angels pin and certificates during their Hill Day meetings. Oftentimes this is the highlight of the program for Angel Honorees. The CCAI team hosts seminars before and during the program to help prepare honorees for Hill Day, including how to discuss relevant child welfare topics in congressional meetings and how to strategically share your story.



Day 2 (evening): Celebration

The Angels in Adoption® Leadership Program culminates in a celebration of the 2025 Angels which brings awareness to issues impacting vulnerable children and families in the United States and around the globe. The Celebration is a gathering of the adoption and permanency community from around the country hosted in Washington, D.C. to celebrate with a cocktail reception, entertainment, and short program for a night centered around community, connection, and building momentum so that one day every child knows the love and support of a permanent family.

