



**Contact:**

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Thank you for your interest in having Darren & Stacey Gagnon come and speak to your organization. For almost a decade now they have been speaking to professionals, foster families, schools, parents, teachers, and caregivers on understanding trauma and its effects on children. They also love sharing their story of how they came to start Lost Sparrows, Inc. to help with the orphan crisis in Eastern Europe. Their experiences as a licensed foster family in the state of Arizona gives them a valuable perspective on working with children from hard places. The feedback the Gagnon's receive when they speak is always positive. People appreciate hearing real stories that share the truth of parenting challenging children. They have been able to speak across the US, and in several countries in Europe including Bulgaria, Russia, and Bosnia.

*Below you will find three different versions of biographies and pictures for marketing purposes. If there is anything else that you would like, please do not hesitate to reach out.*

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**Bio #1 - Darren and Stacey Gagnon**

Darren and Stacey Gagnon are passionate advocates for children in the areas of special needs, adoption, and foster care. They both have degrees in education and have a combined 25 years in the classroom. Stacey is also a licensed RN and has mostly worked in public health and pediatric mental health. They have committed their lives to bringing an informed voice to raise awareness, training, and support for children in crisis and to those charged with their care.

Stacey Gagnon is the creator and Director of Trauma Lens Care where she provides training on trauma, substance abuse, and ACEs in schools, jails, and public forums. Embodying their beliefs, Darren and Stacey are the parents of 7 children, 5 of which are adopted. They have also fostered for over 12 years. Their critical work has resulted in the co-founding of Lost Sparrows, Inc., a 501(c)(3) with the goal of ending the flow of children into orphanages in Eastern Europe. Lost Sparrows provides education and training to social service officials, government administration, and caregivers working with children in orphanages and foster care.



Their unique backgrounds, experiences, and heart for children and families give them incredible testimony. Stacey has shared many of her challenges and emotions through her blog <http://www.ransomforisrael.com/>. She began the blog after bringing home their son from Bulgaria, to encourage other foster and adoptive families. One of her blog posts went viral which led to Darren and Stacey being invited onto the Today show with Megyn Kelly. This eventually led them to write a children's book titled Cowboy Joel and the Wild Wild West. The book is designed to help parents teach their children about kids that look different or have disabilities.

## **Bio #2 - Darren and Stacey Gagnon, consolidated**

Darren and Stacey Gagnon are passionate advocates for children in the areas of special needs, adoption, and foster care. The Gagnon's are the parents of 7 children, 5 of which are adopted and they also have 12 years of foster care experience. Darren and Stacey both have degrees in education and have a combined 25 years in the classroom. Stacey is also a licensed RN and has mostly worked in public health and pediatric mental health.

Stacey Gagnon is the creator and Director of Trauma Lens Care and, together, the Gagnon's co-founded and serve with Lost Sparrows, a 501(c)(3) with the goal of ending the flow of children into orphanages in Eastern Europe. Lost Sparrows provides education and training to social service officials, government administration, and caregivers working with children in orphanages and foster care. Their unique backgrounds, experiences, and heart for children and families give them incredible testimony.

You can find out more about Trauma Lens Care at [www.traumalenscare.org](http://www.traumalenscare.org) and about Lost Sparrows at [www.lostsparrows.org](http://www.lostsparrows.org). Stacey has also shared many of their challenges as foster and adoptive parents and her emotions through her blog, [www.ransomforisrael.com](http://www.ransomforisrael.com).

## **Bio #3 - Stacey Gagnon**

Stacey Gagnon is a foster mom, adoptive mom, blogger, educator, published children's book author, a registered nurse, and an international speaker. She writes the popular blog on adoption and foster care at [www.ransomforisrael.com](http://www.ransomforisrael.com). Stacey and her husband Darren founded Lost Sparrows, Inc in 2016 to alleviate the flow of children into orphanages in Eastern Europe. She also began a program to help first responders communicate with schools when children are involved with the police called Trauma Lens Care. She has traveled across the US and Europe speaking and training on the effects of trauma on children and advocating for special needs children. You can find out more about Trauma Lens Care at [www.traumalenscare.org](http://www.traumalenscare.org) and about Lost Sparrows at [www.lostsparrows.org](http://www.lostsparrows.org).

