

**From:** Christy Obie-Barrett [christy@afamilyforeverychild.ccsend.com] on behalf of Christy Obie-Barrett [cbobie@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 19, 2012 2:04 AM  
**To:** jennifer.dunn@afamilyforeverychild.org  
**Subject:** AFEC New Events & Opportunities April 2012

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**A Family For Every Child**

**April 2012**

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## Donate to AFEC

Would you like to contribute to AFEC's cause for helping children? Any amount can have a lasting impact on a child. Click below!

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## Mentor Program

### Want to Partner with us?

With over 1/2 a million foster youth in the United States needing mentors, no mentoring organization could successfully reach all of these "at risk" kids. We would like to partner with you in getting mentoring programs started across the country.

A Family For Every Child has successfully built a mentor program that is helping match foster youth with healthy adults. Studies show that surrounding foster care youth with positive role models will help increase their odds for future success.

## Online Child Matching Event

*Hosted by A Family For Every Child*

**DON'T MISS OUT ON RESERVING YOUR SPOT FOR OUR UPCOMING EVENTS!**

**We are proud to offer our unique and innovative Online Child Matching Events!**

A Family For Every Child has partnered with social workers from across the country to feature special children that are looking to find their forever families.

During these online webinar events you will have private access to view photos and/or video, while hearing first hand from the child's social worker.

You will have the opportunity to have your questions answered directly from the social workers, and hear feedback and information about the type of families that would be the best match for these children. Sign up for just one or attend all of our upcoming events, to find the child or children that you could be the forever family for!

For more information visit our [website](#).

In order for you to attend these special events you will need to fill out the online registration form and insure that you have uploaded your homestudy with us.

Only adoption workers and families with completed homestudies will be approved to attend these events due to the personal and detailed information that will be provided about the children during the events.



Due to the high demand for Webinars and Webinar registrations, families and Agencies that register after our webinar is full will be put on a waiting list and notified when an opening is available.

**Upcoming Events**

Mentoring relationships can play a huge role in helping foster youth reach their potential and have healthy, successful lives. Research shows that youth who are mentored are 45 percent less likely to use illicit drugs; 59 percent more likely to succeed in school; and 73 percent more likely to attain higher life achievement goals. Foster youth are moved from school to school and home to home. They lack stability and permanency. It is our responsibility to ensure that these youth have the opportunity to build lasting relationships.

These youth can learn to thrive when someone gives them the time and energy to show they care.

A Family For Every Child would like to help your agency set up a mentor program in your area. We will provide the following assistance for agencies working with "at risk" youth.

- \* Selecting the management team for your organization
- \* Developing a financial plan
- \* Promoting the program
- \* Building relationships with Department of Human Services, therapists, schools etc.
- \* Building relationships with community partners
- \* Recruiting mentors
- \* Training, screening, background checks on mentors
- \* Matching process
- \* Monitoring and support of the mentor/mentee relationship
- \* Closure
- \* Evaluation of the program's success
- \* Sustaining the program

The mentor support system provides guidelines on how to build new mentor programs and/or successfully help strengthen your old program. It focuses on designing and planning the program, managing the program and sustaining the program.

Please contact Heather Smith at 541-343-2856 or [Heather@afamilyforeverychild.org](mailto:Heather@afamilyforeverychild.org)

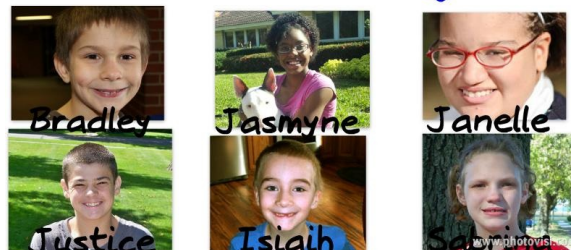


## Learn More About These Kids

REGISTRATION DEADLINE COMING SOON!  
HOMESTUDIES MUST BE APPROVED  
NO LATER THAN APRIL 20TH!

# April 25th!

## Is Your Family A Match?



Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions about attending or registering.

Linzy Minger : [Linzy@afamilyforeverychild.org](mailto:Linzy@afamilyforeverychild.org)

## Landrieu Introduces Foster Care Mentoring Act

Bill aims to connect foster youth with supportive adult mentors

WASHINGTON - United States Senator Mary L. Landrieu, D-La., introduced the Foster Care Mentoring Act of 2011 this week, which aims to connect foster youth with caring and supportive mentors. Joining Sen. Landrieu in sponsoring this bill are Sens. Mark Begich, D-Alaska, and Tim Johnson, D-S.D.

"Mentoring relationships can play an enormous role in helping foster youth reach their academic and personal potential," Sen. Landrieu said. "These youth, who have been moved from school to school and from home to home, lack stability and permanency and can learn to thrive when

for more information on how to get your mentoring program started.

## Lifebooks - For Parents & Volunteers

### Parents making Welcome Books for Adopted Children!

Lifebooks of Lane County would like to extend an invitation of assistance. We have a good supply of pre-made pages if you are interested in using our resources. Our format is 8 1/2 x 11, but we are capable of supplying other sizes upon request. Having trouble finding a place to begin? We have an experienced team of volunteers that would love to help!

At times we will offer space to work on your albums along with the use of our cropping tools and supplies of paper, stickers and lettering. We all know how important Lifebooks and Welcome Books are for children in the state of Oregon. We at A Family For Every Child in the Eugene-Springfield area will gladly put together packages for you to pick-up, or for a shipping & handling cost, will mail them to your door. Just let us know what types of pages you are interested in and any other information you feel we should know.

For more information, please contact:  
Sandra Estep  
Lifebook Co-Cordinator  
541-687-9641  
[lifebook@afamilyforeverychild.org](mailto:lifebook@afamilyforeverychild.org)

Gail Van Gundy  
Lifebook Co-Cordinator  
541-688-1488  
[lifebook@afamilyforeverychild.org](mailto:lifebook@afamilyforeverychild.org)

## Scrapbooking Enthusiasts!

We are looking for volunteers interested in helping caseworkers organize or complete Lifebooks for Foster Children in Lane County. All volunteers will have to complete a volunteer form found online. Scrapbooking experience would be preferred but not a must, help is available for newbie's. Volunteers will be contacted by Caseworkers when needed.

stability and permanency and can learn to thrive when someone gives the energy and time to show that they care. It is our responsibility to ensure that these youth have the opportunity to build lasting relationships with adult role models. Whether these relationships are developed through natural interactions or through a mentoring program, they are rooted in trust and respect and have the potential to last a lifetime."

Research shows that children who are mentored are 45 percent less likely to use illicit drugs; 59 percent more likely to succeed in school; and 73 percent more likely to attain higher life achievement goals. Specifically, the Foster Care Mentoring Act of 2011 aims to improve the outcome of children in foster care through establishing long term relationships with responsible, caring adults by:

Authorizing \$15 million to establish statewide foster care mentoring programs. States would be eligible to receive up to \$600,000 to establish or expand a foster care mentoring program.

These programs would be specially designed to serve the needs of foster youth and would have a strong emphasis on improving academic achievement.

Providing \$4 million to begin a national public awareness campaign and mentor recruitment program. The bill authorizes the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish a nationwide campaign to raise public awareness of the need for foster care mentors and opportunities to get involved.

Allowing up to \$10,000 in federal student loan forgiveness for those who volunteer to mentor a child in care. Mentors who participate in a foster care mentor program would be eligible to receive up to \$2,000 in federal student loan forgiveness for every 200 hours they serve. A total of \$10,000 in student loans incurred by participating college or graduate students would qualify for forgiveness.

*"A mentor is someone who allows you to see the hope inside yourself."  
- Oprah Winfrey*

## Child Recruitment/ Listing Roles

### \*Slide Shows/Video (Can be done from anywhere):

Create slide shows of kids, and edit video of children

### Newsfeed:

Maintain newsfeed on web

### Web Help of all Kids:

Help update web pages

### Social Media Roles:

Google plus, youtube, four square, QR, overall Social Media goals

### Video Segments:

Of How-to (short) process and programs

### Graphic Design for Web Pages:

Such as front page, text message page, HGA site

### Text Coordinator:

Work on cleaning up text listing, and integrating into all our web pages, social media and email outreach

### Survey Volunteer:

Explore different survey options and explore how to integrate this into SF, design surveys and identify groups' surveys needed

### Writers:

For success stories, web pages and more

Some of the Lifebooks may be time sensitive and will need to be completed in a time frame set by Caseworker. Supplies will be furnished: albums, or notebooks, pre-made pages to choose from, adhesives, cropping tools, stickers, letters & additional paper when requested.

Your job would be placing photos of a child in a Lifebook or you may be asked to help a Caseworker organize the photos and pages.

In Lane County, please contact:  
Sandra Estep  
Lifebook Co-Cordinator  
541-687-9641  
[lifebook@afamilyforeverychild.org](mailto:lifebook@afamilyforeverychild.org)

Gail Van Gundy  
Lifebook Co-Cordinator  
541-688-1488  
[lifebook@afamilyforeverychild.org](mailto:lifebook@afamilyforeverychild.org)

Interested volunteers, please fill out [this form](#).

## Questions?

Feel free to call at 541-343-2856 or email:  
[heather@afamilyforeverychild.org](mailto:heather@afamilyforeverychild.org)

### SEO:

Linking us to other sites

### Public Listing:

List on the public site

### Audio File Coordinator:

Gets audio for kids on the site and those to come or matching event kids

### Photo Coordinator:

Coordinate photos for kids and matching events

### Matching Online Coordinator:

Create flyers, outreach, templates and web pages to market Matching events, do outreach for agencies, schedule Matching events, plan outreach to workers and photographers, use surveys, do follow up to families and agencies

### Family Search Specialist:

Need to refer to Nora for training

### Individual State Outreach Child Coordinators:

List kids, check current status, update info in our database, reach out to worker

### Outreach Coordinator:

Reach out to agencies, social workers, photo listing with the goal to list more kids, families and partners

### Targeted Email Outreach:

Design and send targeted outreach

## AFFEC Blog

Our blog is focused on providing support and information about the foster care and adoption system.

We aim to create a community of people invested in the interest of the children who are in the foster care system. Through our blog we want to encourage families who are thinking about becoming adoptive or foster care parents while assisting those who are already a foster or adoptive parent(s).

We hope to provide support by sharing individual stories, advice, and constant information on A Family For Every Child and the foster care/adoption process.

Visit [our blog here!](#)

While you are there, make sure to sign up for the email alerts which will notify you any time we have a new post!

**How can you contact A Family For Every Child?  
Call, email, or visit us online or in person!**

**880 Beltline Rd.  
Springfield Oregon 97477**

**office - 541-343-2856  
toll free - 877-343-2856  
fax - 541-343-2866**



**Executive Director--Christy Obie-Barrett  
[info@afamilyforeverychild.org](mailto:info@afamilyforeverychild.org)**

[Forward email](#)



Try it FREE today.

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