

From: Christy Obie-Barrett [christy@afamilyforeverychild.ccsend.com] on behalf of Christy Obie-Barrett [christy@afamilyforeverychild.org]
Sent: Tuesday, December 11, 2012 12:03 AM
To: scott@afamilyforeverychild.org
Subject: How can you help this giving season?

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During the season of giving

when you are making decisions about how you can make a difference

Think of us and the difference your donation can make to a waiting Foster Child

In the past six years we have helped find forever families for over 700 children. Our focus is on the hardest to place foster children; those are older children, sibling groups, minorities, and children with physical, psychological or developmental challenges.



Despite the best intentions, foster care has devolved from being a temporary arrangement into a permanent "solution" for many of the 500,000 foster children Nationwide. The result of long-term foster care may be seen in the faces of the children who are bounced from one temporary home to another.

Please join hands with us as we work to find a family for every child in foster care. Your donations and support help us to change children's lives forever.

During the months of November and December all donations will be matched dollar for dollar by a special donor. Make your donation stretch twice as far!

[Donate Now](#)

With \$1 We Do the Work of 9 State Dollars

Our communities are already paying the high cost of maintaining the foster care system, but few of us know how high that price is. Just the direct costs of foster care in Oregon are about \$330 million (that's nearly one-third billion dollars) each year. AFFEC has helped save the public over \$17 million since 2006. For each dollar AFFEC spends to operate, we save the public nine dollars. Even if one is unmoved by the emotional plight of foster children, it is difficult to not be moved by the staggering financial weight of the system which allows children to languish in long-term foster care. What we do at AFFEC is good for the children and it is good for our communities. Imagine the better things our communities could do with money saved by foster children joining their forever families. Imagine the vastly improved possibilities for the children finding their forever families.

[Read more about the financial savings we create on society](#)

A Mentor Becomes A Mother A Family For Every Child Success Story

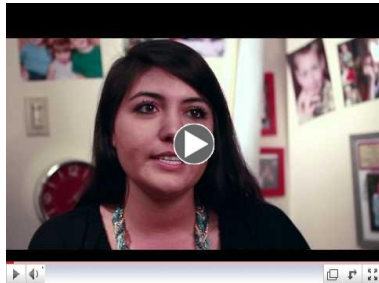
Something was missing from my life. I wanted to get involved volunteering for a program involving children. I have 5 grown children of my own so I had time to devote to a child. I contacted AFFEC with an interest in their mentoring program. The process was easy to get approved. I began mentoring Jessica on February 1st, 2012. I still remember the first day I met her at her foster parent's home. She was on a floor cutting out Hannah Montana pictures for her scrapbook. She was timid and shy. She didn't want to inter-act with me at first until I sat down on her level and

engaged in conversation about how she became interested in scrapbooking. I asked her if she would like to hang out with me and have one on one time. Jessica looked up at me with a big smile and asked if we could do girly things together. A few days later we had our first girls night out. We had dinner together and got to know each other better. She asked about my family and what kind of things I liked to do. She was happy to hear that I enjoyed many of the same things she did.

After three or four visits with Jessica I was hooked. This little girl brightened every day I spent with her. The mentor program requires you to spend at least 10 hours a month with your assigned child. We averaged about 50+ hours a month with Jessica because we enjoyed her so much. My husband and I invited Jessica to a duck basketball game. She was an awe-some cheerleader and we sat there in awe witnessing the excitement in this child's eyes. During the mentoring, I was able to help Jessica with her homework and answer common questions about the teenage years. One evening my husband looked at me and said let's adopt Jessica. My first reaction was what in the world, have you gone mad. After some long discussions we started the necessary steps to become Jessica's pre-adoptive parents. She transitioned to our home in June when the school year ended.



I won't lie and say that we haven't had challenges, but the good days far exceed the rough days. It's the best feeling to see this child grow and develop skills that will make a difference in her life. Jessica's quote: I finally found my forever family and home. I'm beginning to learn to trust that my family truly loves me. Sometimes I wake up from a dream and realize that this isn't a dream at all. *Jessica's Mentor and Proud New Mom!!*



Thank you!

We really can't say it enough - so we'll say it again here. Thank you. We have the best group of community members, volunteers and supporters that we could ask for, and it's because of all of you that we are able to continue serving the kids that we do day after day, year after year.

[Lean on other ways to make a difference](#)

What does A Family For Every Child do?

Since 2006, we have helping find "forever families" for children waiting in foster care. Our focus is on the hardest-to-place children, those with special needs, those who are minorities, those with physical or psychological challenges, and those who are older. We are dedicated to connecting qualified prospective parents with waiting foster children and their caseworkers. We have developed ten programs to address the three basic things we do: We advocate for the plight of foster children, we educate all involved parties about the process of adoption, and we connect qualified prospective parents, foster children and their caseworkers. All of our programs were developed to address cracks in the pavement on the road toward permanency for foster children. [Find out more](#)



How Your Donation Will Help

\$25.00 will help a child reconnect with loved ones they lost when they entered Foster care, through our Family Finding Program,

- If they leave care at 18, they will not be alone, they will have some one to call and some where to go on holidays.

- They will get to see images of them selves as a baby, image not knowing how you looked as a baby.
- They will be connected with the father and grandparents they never met

All for \$25.00

\$50.00 will support a Mentor Match so a child in foster care can have a life long friend

- One the can teach them about college
- One that can take them on Vacation
- One that can teach them to drive, cook, balance a check book, and LOVE themselves.

The best \$50.00 you ever spent

\$100.00 will provide a services to assist in a Child's Family Recruitment

- So at this time next year they will be celebrating the holidays with their own family
- Never again will they be needing a "sponsor" or a new family.
- They will never have to move again.

Image what a gift this 100 dollars will bring, a life long gift.

\$500.00 will cover cost of 5 new heart Gallery Venues which will feature 40 different children

- Where 100 more children will be featured
- Where 100 more families will be found
- Where many, many more people, mentors and partners will join our efforts to save all our children from growing up in foster care.

500.00 will effect 100 children and many, many more families, volunteers, mentors and partners.

\$1,000.00 support one Forever Family match

- Currently we support over 250 families in our Matching Program
- 50 families through our agency
- Maybe you can't adopt, but maybe you can help another family be a forever family

1000 will build many 100 new Families, so much impact for so many!

\$2,500.00 will allow for statewide expansion for our programs

- image all the children we can help if we are not limited by funding
- Currently we have 2500 children in our data base (recruiting families for) and 15,000 families, JUST IMAGE what we can do together!!!

Change the lives of children all over the state for 2500, hard to find a way to help so many children in so many loving ways!

**You can mail checks to 1675 West 11th Eugene, Oregon 97402
or for quick Donations, [Donate online!](#)**

You can also email Info@afamilyforeverychild.org or call 541-343-2856

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Try it FREE today.