

From: Rebecca Rhodes [christy@afamilyforeverychild.ccsend.com] on behalf of Rebecca Rhodes [rebecca@afamilyforeverychild.org]
Sent: Wednesday, March 20, 2013 2:02 AM
To: scott.corcoran@afamilyforeverychild.org
Subject: AFFEC How We Can Help Your Kids & Families March 2013

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A Family For Every Child Child Recruitment

"Too many children in foster care are falling through cracks.
Be a hero, take the time learn about adoption today."

A Family For Every Child

March 2013

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Donate to AFFEC

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



Goodbye!

From Katie Nelson:

Hello! Unfortunately, this is my last day as the Recruitment Coordinator at A Family For Every Child. I am leaving to travel Europe. Although I'm very excited, I'm also very sad to be leaving such a great organization.

I've had a great time working with all of you, and I wish all the best to you and the children on your caseloads. You are all doing wonderful things and changing children's lives.

I would like to introduce my replacement, Rebecca Rhodes. A recent graduate from the University of Oregon, Rebecca is excited to begin working with all of you! Please contact her at rebecca@afamilyforeverychild.org if you would like any additional recruitment efforts for any of your children.

Who We Are:

A Family For Every Child, a nonprofit organization, began with Christy Obie-Barrett and dozens of dedicated, passionate volunteers. Founded in 2006, AFFEC developed into an organization focused on finding permanent and loving adoptive homes for all waiting children. We focus on developing programs that assist special-needs/challenging-to-place foster children in finding their own Forever Families.

Our Mission:

To find loving, permanent families for every waiting foster child.

Social Workers, CASA, Adoption Workers or others that represent Children or Families through Foster care adoption- We would love to help!

A Family For Every Child is a non-profit organization that is dedicated to finding loving, permanent families for every waiting foster child. We are excited to be adding children from all over the country to our photo listing site, and/or help them in other ways. We also work with over 15,000 families that are currently in our database, looking for a match to adopt.

We have many options to assist you with recruitment for any child on your case load!

How A Family For Every Child Can Help Children You Represent:

Child Listing

We would love to list any of your children in our private database, which is password protected. Our private database is great, because we can search for families

your children.

Again, thanks so much. It's been my pleasure to work with you!

Meet the NEW AFFEC Recruitment Specialist

From Rebecca Rhodes:

I graduated from the University of Oregon last year with a Bachelor of Science in Sociology and with a minor in Non-profit Administration. I've worked many jobs since I was 15, and quickly realized that if I didn't have a distinct purpose it was really hard for me to come to work every day. This is what sparked my interest in the non-profit sector.

I am excited and feel extremely blessed to have the opportunity to work for AFFEC. In my free time I am a track and field coach, and I love running, cooking, and hanging out with my dog Mylo.



You can contact Rebecca at rebecca@afamilyforeverychild.org

Online Matching Events

Hosted by A Family For Every Child

A Family For Every Child has partnered with many different social workers and agencies from around the country to provide you with these unique and exciting events.

During our online webinar events you will have private access to many special children, where you can view photos and/or video and hear from people who are actively involved in these children's lives.

based on the child's specific needs. Our database is only accessible to families that have a current home study and are represented by our organization. The database is a valuable tool in helping families, as well as the children that cannot be seen publicly. By entering your children in our database, you will receive current qualified home studies, including a family biography, written by the family. This is particularly useful for children that are a legal risk and cannot be seen on a public site.

We also have a public site, giving your children a chance to be seen by many more families looking to adopt. For this site we also have an automated submittal process and receive approximately 500 submission a month.

There are several ways you can refer a child to one of our recruitment options...

1) If you would like your child on one of our sites, please send us a current bio and any images you may have, and/or any ideas as to what you are looking for in a "successful" family for your child. We are also happy to send you a confirmation email allowing you to check their bio before it goes on the web, if requested.

2) By using [this link](#) you can also list a child on either of our database or public site.

However, we are happy to do it for you, with a simple email permission sent to us. We can take info directly from your state site (that you have previously posted) if this is easiest for you. Our hope is to not create extra work for you, but extra opportunities for your children!

With your approval, a child or sibling group can be online within 24 hours. If a child is able to be photo listed and placed nationally, it opens the door for many more home studies, yet we also have success on the web with in-state placements.

We will help any foster child who needs our help. If you or your agency are interested in partnering with A Family For Every Child's Recruitment Program, we would be more than happy to discuss this with you. We can also arrange Memorandum of Understandings (MOU's) if you'd like to establish a more set agreement! We are here to help YOU!

Professional Photos and Video:

We've noticed that children who have nice, professional photos tend to gain the most attention from adoptive families.

We have connections to photographers nationwide, to allow your children to be seen in the best light. Plus, they have a great time getting their pictures taken!

We also have the ability to produce and post video of your child on our site, as well as audio or a slide show. This helps families connect with children and gain interest in adopting!

Targeted E-mails:

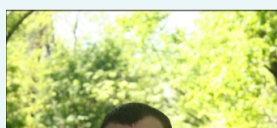
Targeted email outreach goes to "just the right family". This has been a very successful approach to a urgent need. We can pull from our database, the "perfect" family for your child, whether that is two parents, no other children, a certain geographic area or other needs. We can email up to 500 families at a time. The e-mail includes a fun theme, a picture of the child, their name, age and a bio!

Social workers will be on hand to answer your questions and give families feedback and information about the type of families that would be the best match for these children. Once the event has concluded families will be given the opportunity to submit their homestudy on children that they feel would be a good fit for their families.

Our next matching event is scheduled for March 26th. Please visit our website for more information and to register your spot today! Please check out our new [Online Matching Event Page](#).

If you are a social worker and are interested in seeing how these events work, please feel free to attend our next event and see how these events might be helpful for the children you are working with. If you would like to hear more about how these events work and how you can feature your children, please contact: rebecca@afamilyforeverychild.org

Available Children



A Targeted e-mail success story: When the case worker of 13-year-old *Lisa came to A Family For Every Child, she had very specific desires in a family. Lisa was adopted from a foreign country in infancy, and her adoption was disrupted when she turned 12 years old. She was not very enthusiastic about being adopted, but knew she needed a parental and permanent advocate.

Her case worker came to A Family For Every Child and requested that we search for a family who would actively advocate for Lisa and make sure she was successful in school. Lisa wanted to live in Boston and attend a specialty school for gifted children. A targeted e-mail was sent out describing Lisa's desires in a family and in location. Within hours of the targeted e-mail being sent, a family from Boston responded. They adopted children in the past, and had access to local private schools for gifted children. A few months later, Lisa and the family met and her worker reported that she has never seen such a quick connection between an adoptive family and a child. Lisa moved to Boston with the family, and they are as happy as ever.*

*names and locations have been changed in order to preserve the child and family's identity.

Online Matching Events

Sign up to present some of your kids at an Online Child Matching Event! Online Matching Events are a great way to give your child additional exposure to waiting families. All families that attend our Matching Events are home study approved. We recruit and publicize that your child will be featured in an event in hopes of gaining as many attendees as possible, and we also create an appealing powerpoint to go along with your presentation! We've had many successes with these Matching Events

Families love hearing about the kids from the workers own mouth. It helps gain home study submissions on the children, and also helps workers "weed out" families that will not work for the child by being open and honest with the families who are attending. Once the event has concluded, families will be given the opportunity to submit their home study on children that they feel would be a good fit for their families.

If you represent a certain population, we'd love to have a themed matching event just for you! Matching event themes that have been done in the past include sibling groups, children with developmental disabilities, and teenage boys! Please contact us- we'd love to help!

Matching Event Success Story: Jason's* case worker came to A Family For Every Child in need of extra recruitment for 15-year-old Jason. Jason was receiving little home study submissions, did not have good images, and was losing faith that he would ever find a forever family. His worker decided to present him during an Online Child Matching Event in hopes of matching him with the perfect family. Due to his poor image quality, Jason received only a few home studies after the Matching Event. Although he only received a few home study submissions, one was enough. Jason found his forever home and his perfect family through our Online Child Matching Events, and has been happily placed for 3 months now.

Please check out our public site at www.afamilyforeverychild.org and let us know if you have any other questions or how we can help you. Here is a link to our [Online Matching Event Page](#).

If you would like to talk to someone from our organization about one or all of these options, please don't hesitate.



Rebecca Rhodes: Recruitment Coordinator
rebecca@afamilyforeverchild.org
541-343-2856

Christy Obie-Barrett: Executive Director
Christy@afamilyforeverychild.org
541-343-2856

General information
Info@afamilyforeverychild.org
877-343-2856

How We Can Help Adoptive Families You Represent:

Our Matching Assistance Program is Now Free!

Our Matching Assistance Program:

Are the families you represent....

- looking for a child over the age of 6?
- looking for a sibling group of 2 or more?
- Can they parent a child with challenging to difficult behaviors?
- Do they have experience with medical needs?

Does an adoptive family you represent need encouragement to continue adoption or additional help getting started? Our Matching Assistance Program could be perfect for them!

Matching Assistance is a password protected membership program with additional child listings, helping support qualified, current approved home studied families looking for available waiting foster children.

We understand that adoption workers, and caseworkers as well, have very high case loads and many simply do not have the time and resources to recruit for one family day in and day out. That is where AFFEC steps in.

Our Goal:

Our goal is to work alongside families providing them with one on one communication, assurance and assistance in learning how to best represent themselves in their family biography. In addition, helping families by performing national child searches based on information provided within your approved homestudy and family biography.

With the Matching Assistance Program, families now have options!

"We have been super-satisfied with your website and can't believe we were picked so quickly." - N & B Smith

Many families have a difficult time identifying children to inquire on as well as being considered and contacted by the children's caseworkers. We're here to help families through this sometimes long and challenging part of the adoption process.

Children's case workers from all over the United States search for suitable, approved homes for thousands of



Inquire and Submit on Any of Our Kids

Simply [Click Here!](#)

Questions?

Feel free to call at 541-343-2856 or email: info@afamilyforeverychild.org

foster children nationwide.

In this search, they are looking at parenting qualifications such as:

Parent Training and Education / Ability to Accommodate a Special Needs Child

Having your family biography, home study, and family video ready for a searching case worker greatly increases the chance that you will be identified as a potential adoptive family for a waiting foster child.

Your families don't need extraordinary equipment to provide these to us. Pertinent, honest, and entertaining family photos can be taken with an ordinary digital video/camera and uploaded via the Internet to the Matching Assistance website.

We can, depending on the option the families choose, follow up on children they inquire or submit your homestudy on using our "submit on offsite children" button within the Matching Assistance website. Search nationwide on the families behalf and support them through their adoption journey, providing additional online training resources.

We are NOT taking place of the adoption agency or the assigned adoption worker. Adoption agencies and workers are extremely important to you during the adoption process. We work alongside you as part of a team to help identify a child or sibling group available within the foster care system in the United States.

Online Family Matching Events:

Families who register with our Matching Assistance Program also become eligible to be featured in our Online Family Matching Events! Our Online Family Matching Events are similar to our Child Matching Events, except families take turns presenting their lifestyles to an audience of workers with children on their case load! This is a great way for a family to gain additional exposure to children nationwide, and also a great resource for workers! At the end of the webinar, workers have the ability to request home study information on as many families that they would like!

Keep your eye out for the next family matching event April 18!

We're here for the children, the families and YOU!

How to [Sign Up](#) for Matching Assistance

[Learn More](#) about our Matching Assistance Program

Nora Sharp: Matching Assistance Coordinator
880 Beltline Road Springfield OR 97477
Fax: 541-343-2866
Phone: 877-343-2856

So Much to Choose From!

 [Family Finding Referral Form](#)

 [Heart Gallery Mentor Referral Form](#)

 [Targeted Email Outreach](#)

Search for a family for my child



[Project Linus](#)

Providing security through blankets



Sponsor a Child - [Donate Now!](#)



[A photo is worth a thousand words](#)



[Heart Gallery Application](#)

The Heart Gallery exhibits portraits to raise awareness of the needs of waiting children. They wait and hope for their own adoptive family to love and protect them. Professional photographers volunteer to take compelling portraits showcased in the Heart Galleries. These beautifully framed and matted portraits then get displayed along with the children's biographies in various venues. On average, we receive over 50 inquiries per week about these children. DHS foster/adoption orientation class size, adoption inquiries, and general applicants to DHS have more than doubled since the inception of the Heart Gallery.



[What to include in a child's photolisting description](#)



[Preparing a child for photolisting](#)



[Child Interview Form](#)



[Sample Photolisting Descriptions](#)



[Life Book Story Request](#)

Do you need help with a life book? We have scrapbookers ready and willing to help you create memories for your children.

How can you contact A Family For Every Child?

Call, email, or visit us online or in person!

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