

**From:** Katie Nelson and Christina Parra [christy@afamilyforeverychild.ccsend.com] on behalf of Katie Nelson and Christina Parra [katie.nelson@afamilyforeverychild.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 07, 2012 9:04 PM  
**To:** scott.corcoran@afamilyforeverychild.org  
**Subject:** A Family For Every Child's Sponsorship Program Newsletter December 2012

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## Sponsorship Program

"Nobody can do everything, but everyone can do something."



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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!



### Volunteer Needs

**Text Messaging & SMS Marketing Campaign:** Develop, build plan to incorporate text/SMS in all programs.

**Child & Photo Listing Volunteer:** List children in our database and on our sites.

**Follow Up Volunteer:** Update database with info sent in by case workers.

**Family Search Specialist:** Work with families during search and adoption process.

Interested? Contact:  
[nora.sharp@afamilyforeverychild.org](mailto:nora.sharp@afamilyforeverychild.org)

### Princess For A Day 2013

Help make a foster girl in Oregon feel like a princess! With your

## Give the Gift of Hope this Holiday Season and Become a Sponsor Today!

### A Family For Every Child's Sponsorship Program



### Sponsor Bradley this Holiday Season!

The holiday season, to most, is about support, love, loyalty, companionship, new beginnings and hope. People give varying answers when asked what the holidays mean to them. Most children will say, "Presents and candy!" where as adults may say "traditions" or "gratitude and the love of family and friends." When a foster child is asked what the holidays mean to them, some might be at a loss for words. For a child in foster care, the holiday season could mean uncertainty, awkwardness, loneliness and sadness, as they have yet to have a family of their own to celebrate with.



A Family For Every Child is dedicated to finding permanent, loving homes for every waiting child in foster care. Through our Sponsorship Program, we hope to help as many children as we can to their loving, forever families. The mission and vision of the Sponsorship Program is to unite members of the local

volunteer help we can reach hundreds of foster girls to give them the self-confidence, attention and life-long memories that they deserve.

We gladly accept donations year-round for this event. ([Click here](#) to learn more!)

Donations can include princess dresses, tiaras, jewelry, wands, shoes, and all other things "princess." With the help from our community we make it possible for every girl to feel like a princess.

For more information, [click here](#).



[Click Here to Sponsor Michael!](#)

Your sponsorship and money could change a child like Erin or Matthew's life. Many children, especially those who are close to aging out, feel hopeless and that every avenue of recruitment has been touched on. This is not the case. With your help, we can give Erin and Matthew additional recruitment efforts that they yet to be subjected to, and help her find her forever family.

***YOUR sponsorship could give children nationwide the gift of LOVE this holiday season. Help them find their forever families TODAY!***



[Click Here to Sponsor a Teen in Need of a Mentor!](#)

community as well as nationwide to help find children permanent placements in foster care. Our organization relies on donations, grants and sponsors to thrive, and the sponsorship program allows us to expand and exhaust all of our available resources in order to find these children homes. Additionally, the sponsorship program brings awareness to those unfamiliar with the United States foster care system and advocates for children in the system.

Children in foster care have it particularly difficult during the holidays, as it often serves as a reminder to the family that they've lost or never had. This holiday season, you can make a drastic difference in a foster child's life.

You can help give foster children **love**, **new beginnings**, **loyalty**, **companionship**, **support** and **hope** by becoming a sponsor and allowing them to have the most magical of holidays!



Give the gift of **LOVE** this holiday season and sponsor a child in their adoptive journey!

[Click Here to Sponsor Matthew!](#)



This is Matthew, he is currently in the Washington foster care system and is looking for a forever family of his own! Matthew is affectionate, fun-loving, and very energetic. He has made great improvements in his education, and was Student of the Month in 2010, which was a huge honor for Matthew!

Matthew is an inquisitive boy who loves exploring the world around him. He also really loves skateboarding, riding his bike, playing video games and dancing. He also feels a deep connection to music, and recognizes it as a coping mechanism when he gets stressed, sad or worked up. Matthew will be spending this holiday season with his foster family.

Although we are so thankful for this foster families, and foster families like his, Matthew would love to find his forever family so he could spend the holidays with them next year.

Lisa's case was closed per her request when she was 17. The last update from her caseworker is that she sees her every now and then in the community. She never finished school and still struggles with mental health issues. If Lisa would have been matched with a mentor before aging out of the system she would have had a chance of being one of the 52% youth in care that are less likely to skip school. Lisa could have graduated high school and possibly even made it to college.

By matching a teen with a mentor we are giving the teen support and permanency for after they age out of the system. Our program specifically finds mentors for kiddos in care and the mission is to provide a lifetime friend who can be there for them even after they're aged out of care. To provide them with someone they can trust and someone they can turn to for help when needed. The one person that will still be in their lives five years from their eighteenth birthday and someone who they can call to share good news with.

It is imperative that our teens leave care with some sort of support and a mentor is a great resource. A mentor can help them through their transition from care into the real world. We all know that even when we turn 18 and legally become adults; we still need the support of our families to get by. By providing a teen in care with a mentor we are providing them with the support that they desperately need.

This holiday season give the gift of companionship to a teen in foster care. Sponsoring a teen will make sure that extensive recruitment is done so that they have a mentor before aging out of care. Be a part of the solution and help instill some sort of support and ease into our teens lives when that dreaded day finally comes.

***Give the Gift of SUPPORT this holiday season and sponsor a family through their adoption process!***



An adult woman, who spent time in the foster care system, agreed that although foster families can be great, it's very depressing around Christmas time.

*"My first Christmas I was in foster care my brothers and I had already been in our foster home for around six months. We were getting settled in to a routine as far as how everyday life was going to be in foster care, but holidays especially starting out were really awkward. It's hard living in a family-like setting, trying to do family things with people that aren't really your family.*

*Don't get me wrong, I wouldn't ask my foster parents at the time to change anything; it was a feeling that couldn't be helped. I remember when we were told that we could make a Christmas list of things we wanted. I felt really uncomfortable asking for things from people I didn't know.*

*With everything going on in my life in foster care, meeting with my parents, dealing with a loss; I had a lot of built up anger and negative energy. Foster kids have a hard time letting people behind that wall. Christmas time is always tough for foster kids but those around can make it easier. Between foster parents, people's support, and donations, Christmas doesn't have to be a day to hurry up and get over with.*

*Thanks everyone for your support, God bless and Merry Christmas!"*

#### [Christmas in Foster Care](#)

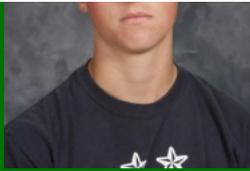


There are over 500,000 children just like Matthew in the United States foster care system today. Children in foster care, especially older children, children with developmental disabilities and minority children, are in desperate need of additional recruitment efforts in order to locate the perfect family for them. Choose from one of our children online and you can make a dramatic impact on their lives!

Your sponsorship will directly go to helping this child find their forever family. This will be achieved by using all of our existing resources, and expanding upon those resources, such as Targeted E-mail Outreach, Matching Event Outreach, professional photographs, professional videos and much more.

Supporting these children in their search for a forever family is extremely important. Sponsoring children is especially important, as it not only gives them additional recruitment efforts, but also lets them know that they are not alone, and that someone out there wants them to find their family. Erin is 15 years old and has been in the foster care system close to her entire life, and has moved placements more times than she can count.

She recently made the decision not to pursue adoption, and instead be put into permanent foster care. Erin figures that if she's been in the system this long, there's no hope in finding a forever family at her age. Erin realizes the risks of being put in permanent foster care, but she also doesn't see what else can be done.



### Click Here to Sponsor the Family Finding Program!

Tyler is a 16-year-old boy who was adopted at the age of 10 months. At the age of four his adoption was disrupted and he re-entered foster care. Tyler has now been in care for 12 years and his case was recently referred to our Family Finding Program. Through the program his maternal grandfather was found (who actually adopted his two younger siblings). Tyler had no idea that he had two younger siblings and the grandfather didn't know about Tyler.

By sponsoring the Family Finding Program you can be a part of the solution. It is imperative that every child's case is referred to Family Finding to help avoid many years in foster care. There is a possibility that if Tyler's grandpa would have known about him when he first entered care he might have adopted him since he adopted his younger siblings. Join us in preventing cases like Tyler's to continue happening.

This holiday season, give the gift of hope and become a sponsor today! Make a donation or become a sponsor in the name of one of your loved ones and A Family For Every Child will send the gifted person a holiday card along with a bio of the program or child that is sponsored, pictures, quarterly updates and yearly updates!

Maybe you can't adopt, foster or mentor a child at the time. However, we can all play a role in making sure our kiddos in care find their forever families. This holiday season make a onetime donation to any of the above mentioned sponsorship opportunities. Take it a step further and make a donation in honor or on behalf of a loved one. It could be someone who mentored you or your sibling. In return, A Family For Every Child will send the gifted person a holiday card along with a bio of the program or child that is sponsored, pictures, quarterly updates and yearly updates!

Your sponsorship and money could change a child like Erin or Matthew's life. Many children, especially those who are close to aging out, feel hopeless and that every avenue of recruitment has been touched on. This is not the case. With your help, we can give Erin and Matthew additional recruitment efforts that they yet to be subjected to, and help her find her forever family.

YOUR sponsorship could give children nationwide the gift of **LOVE** this holiday season. Help them find their forever families TODAY!

### Help provide a foster child with a new beginning!

Start off the new year by contributing to our [Life Skills Program](#)! Be a part of helping teach a child in foster care the necessities of life by providing them with essential tools to do so! Our life skills program allows youth in foster care the opportunity to learn everyday skills that keep them from becoming a statistic.

- Only 3% of former foster children obtain a bachelor's degree or higher
- Employers are less likely to hire a former foster youth who have the similar qualifications than a non-foster youth
- Compared to the 84% of the general population, only 46% of former foster youth complete high school

### Click Here to Sponsor the Life Skills Program



Meet Paul! Paul entered care when he was four years old. Over the past ten years he has been in 21 different placements. His placements have varied from a traditional home to a residential foster home and even a therapeutic foster home. When Paul was a 7th grader his education level was that of a 5th grader. Last year he started attending our Life Skills Classes and there has been improvement. He is now a freshman in high school whose future looks promising with a diploma in four years.

When you sponsor the Life Skills Program, your donation will help provide supplies for the class, such as papers, laptops, computer programs such as Microsoft Word, field trips to local colleges, and much more. Your money will help provide our youth with trainings to the everyday needs that the average person takes for granted. This program teaches children in foster care many life essentials in hopes of decreasing homelessness in youth who age out of care.

### Give the gift of **LOYALTY** this holiday season, and sponsor a Sibling group through their adoption process!

There are many ways to make a difference in a child's life this holiday season. Choose the sponsorship that you feel a connection to the most and become a sponsor! You can help give foster children love, new beginnings, loyalty, companionship, support and hope by becoming a sponsor and allowing them to have the most magical of holidays!

### Questions?

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

## Click Here to Sponsor Daquane, Tiara, Emani, and Nasir!



Meet Daquane, Tiara, Emani and Nasir, a sibling group of four from Ohio who are currently looking to be adopted! This sibling set are very close, and take pride in their bonded relationship. They are quick to praise one another, and also quick to call each other out when warranted. Although each child has their own hobbies and personality, the one common similarity they share is their loyalty and love for one another.

Sponsor a sibling group through their adoption process and ensure that these siblings do not get separated. Often times, sibling groups who are placed in foster care together get separated by the time they are adopted because it's easier to place the children separately than together. We believe that it is vital to keep these siblings together to ensure at least one connection to their biological line. Sponsoring a sibling group would allow the group to be featured in targeted e-mails, matching events, professional photos and videos, and be featured on our public site, thus giving them additional recruitment and a greater chance of getting adopted together.

Similarly to the needs of a hard to place child, sibling groups need extra recruitment efforts in order to ensure that they will be adopted together. Often times, siblings in foster care are split up due to the systems belief that adoptive families do not want to adopt siblings. This, however, is not true. There are many families who would love to adopt a sibling group, they just need to be identified and properly matched.

Your sponsorship will ensure that we exhaust all available resources we have in order to keep sibling groups together. With our recruitment program, we will specifically seek out families who would love to adopt a large sibling group. Your money will go to recruitment efforts for the kids, such as matching events, targeted e-mails, public and private listings, professional photographs and videos and much more.

Daquane, Tiara, Emani and Nasir may have separate Christmas wishes and lists, but they all agree that being placed in an adoptive home together would be the best of all holiday gifts. So this holiday season, ensure that this close knit sibling group stays together and give the gift of loyalty!

**Give the gift of SUPPORT this holiday season and sponsor an adoptive family!**

**Click Here to Sponsor a Family**



Jan and David knew they wanted to adopt before they even got married. They share a love for children, and believe that every child deserves to have a loving family. When they decided to adopt, Jan and David didn't know what to do or who to turn to for support. They said they felt lost, overwhelmed, and heartbroken after several of their adoptions fell through. They were very close to giving up. However, with support from their agency, they persevered and adopted a sibling group last winter. Although Jan and David found their child, many families give up before they get matched with a child.

Support a family through their adoption process and help match children with their forever families! Sponsoring a family through their adoption process will alleviate a lot of stress that is associated with the process. Families are subjected to financial stress, as well as mental distress. With your help, a family will have one less thing to worry about while pursuing adoption.

In order to successfully find homes for children in foster care, we need to also support adoptive families as much as we can. Families often become discouraged from the lack of support they receive while trying to adopt domestically. Not only do they lack support, but they are burdened with financial barriers that include home study costs, and various resources such as therapy that they have to pay for.

If you sponsor an adoptive family, your money will go directly to supporting that family through their adoption process. This means helping them pay for their home study and other fees that are associated with the adoption process. With some of their financial stress out of the way, families will be more encouraged to continue pursuing foster care adoption. To an adoptive family, knowing that they are receiving support throughout this process could be the best gift that they receive this holiday season.

**This holiday season, give the gift of COMPANIONSHIP and sponsor a teen in need of a mentor!**

Growing up can be hard for most kids, but even harder for foster children. As foster children turn into teens, getting closer to the age of maturity, new questions arise. Questions like, "What will I do when I age out of foster care?", "Where will I go?", "How will I get a job?", and "How will I survive?" Turning 18 is a celebration for most teens, but for a foster teen it can be a dread. It is an age that marks the aging out process, when foster care teens become independent and face the world alone. It marks what could be the most challenging times of their lives.



[Click Here to Sponsor a Teen in need of the Mentor!](#)

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### Give the gift of HOPE this holiday season and sponsor the Family Finding Program!

Give the gift of hope to a youth in foster care! Gift them with the hope to one day find their forever family. You can do this by sponsoring our Family Finding Program! Many children who are placed in foster care lose all biological ties and connections. These connections are very important, not only as an adoptive resource but as a simple connection or resource to go to when they have questions about their family lineage. It is important that foster children have as many connections as possible, and the family finding program provides youth with biological connections.



[Click Here to Sponsor the Family Finding Program!](#)

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**A FAMILY FOR EVERY CHILD**

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