



## A Family For Every Child Matching Assistance



*"We should not be asking who this child belongs to,  
but who belongs to this child."*

**February 2015**

**Bullying**



### Matching Assistance Program

If you are a home study approved family seeking to adopt from foster care, consider signing up for our FREE Matching Assistance Program! Some of our site features include suggested matches, the ability to mark children as a favorite, add notes, and see recruitment updates for children as we receive them, to name a few!

Our goal is to work alongside families, providing them with one-on-one communication, assurance, and support during the submission and waiting process. As a member of

Bullying is unfortunately a common problem in our society, and often children who are labeled as "different" by their peers are the targets. Bullying happens in the classroom, on the playground, after school, and online. Children in foster care, many of whom are diagnosed with "special needs" that impact their development, social skills, and learning abilities, are often the targets of bullies, the bullies themselves, or both. There are a few things as the child's parent that you can do to help your child if they are being bullied or possibly prevent it all together.

First, learn more about bullying. Its different forms, the characteristics of the kids who bully, and who their victims typically are. The more you know about bullying and the forms it

Matching Assistance you will have the ability to submit your home study and family profile for over 2,000 waiting children and sibling groups listed on our site, with the assurance that your submission is going directly to a child's caseworker.

Your adoption worker will receive a copy of your submission with information on where to follow up, so they will be kept in the loop. In addition, you will have the opportunity to partake in our very successful recruitment services; receive weekly how to emails containing valuable information and resources about foster care adoption; receive weekly emails featuring recently listed children; have access to knowledgeable and helpful staff, and more!

[Sign up](#) today to take full advantage of our free program!

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## **Additional Resources**

**Adoptive Families Circle -**  
[Negative "Adoption" Experience at School](#)

**C.A.S.E. -** [In the Children's World at School](#)

takes, the better you will be able to help your child.

Second, work with your child on creating a plan to stop the bullying. If they are being teased about being adopted, create a few responses the child can use that will hopefully stop the bullying.

Make sure any verbal responses don't attack the bully personally or escalate the situation. And remember that sometimes the best response is no response. If your child doesn't let the bully get under their skin, there is no more fun in it for the bully. Role-play with your child to practice his/her responses so they become more confident using them. If your child is being bullied to or from school, find an alternate route for your child to take to avoid the perpetrator. If your child is the victim of cyber bullying (on social media, chat groups, via text messages, etc.), limit the amount of time they spend on social media.

Third, take action yourself. Talk privately with your child's teacher, school counselor, and principal. If they are aware of the situation, they can make efforts to stop it if they see it. If you know who the child(ren) is/are that are bullying your child, tell the school so they can contact the parent(s) themselves. It may be tempting to reach out to a bully's parent yourself, but in

**C.A.S.E.** - [WiseUp! Powerbooks](#)

**Kid's Health** - [5 Ways to Bully-Proof Your Kid](#)

**Kid's Health** - [Helping Kids Deal With Bullies](#)

**Kid's Health** - [Teaching Kids Not to Bully](#)

**Local School Directory.com** - [The Impact on Adopted Children at School](#)

**MARC** - [Bullying and GLBT Youth: How You Can Help Your Child](#)

**MARC** - [Cyber Bullying: A guide for parents](#)

**MARC** - [Social Networking: A guide for parents](#)

**MARC** - [Texting Tips for Parents and Kids](#)

**NASP** - [Bullies and Victims: Information for Parents](#)

**NCPC** - [Stop Cyber Bullying Before it Starts](#)

many cases it's better for the school to contact the parent first. Instead, suggest that you all have a conference together so you can speak with mediators present.

Fourth, create positive social experiences for your child. Sign them up for extracurricular activities that interest them. This is especially important if they are avoiding social situations at school, such as lunch or recess. It may be beneficial to connect them with other adopted children. A group of good, close friends is a wonderful protective factor against bullying. It can build your child's self-esteem, as well as giving them people who will stick up for them and help prevent them from feeling isolated.

Finally, be an advocate against bullying. If your child sees you taking a stand, they in turn will feel more confident in standing up for themselves and will know that you are on their side.

If you think or know your child is being bullied, talk to them about it. If your child is unwilling to talk to you, bring up the subject in a covert manner. For example, if you are watching a TV show that portrays a child being bullied, ask your child how that makes them feel, if they have ever seen that at school, or if they have experienced a situation like that themselves. It is so important that

**NRCPFC** - [Bullying and Children in the Child Welfare System](#)

**NRCPFC** - [Sticks and Stones CAN Break Your Bones: The Bio-Psycho-Social Consequences of LGBT Bullying](#)

**Pacer Center** - [What If Your Child Is the Bully?](#)

**Stop Bullying.gov** - [Home Page](#)

you try and talk to your child about bullying even if they are reluctant to say anything, and not ignore the problem. It may be necessary to seek out a therapist to address the issue and some of the effects bullying may have on your child. It is common for a victim of bullying to experience anxiety, low self-esteem, depression, suicidal thoughts, eating disorders, struggles in school, or have health problems.

There are many great resources out there to help your child if they are the victim of bullying or the bully themselves. To view these great resources, check out NRCPFC's guide Bullying and Children in the Child Welfare System. A link to this publication can be found in the Additional Resources section of this newsletter.

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## Recent Matches!

Congratulations to the following families who were matched in January:

- A & J with an out of state child on our site
- N & T with an out of state child on our site
- A & R with an in-state sibling group
- M & C with an in-state sibling group
- J & C with an out of state sibling group

Congratulations to the following families who were placed in January:

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## **Waiting Agency Family**

### **Meet Jay!**



-G & T with an in-state child

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### **Create an Adoption Worker or Social Worker Login**

If you are a family adoption worker or a child's social worker and have not created a login yet, we encourage you to create one today!

Our Adoption Worker Login can offer you:

- Â· Private messaging system between you and a child's caseworker;
- Â· Easily upload a family's home study;
- Â· View a family's submissions;
- Â· Quickly submit a family's home study;
- Â· Send your family potential child matches;
- Â· Recommend a family join our Matching Assistance Program; and,
- Â· Request recruitment services for your families.

Our Social Worker Login can

My name is Jay and I am a second-generation Puerto Rican living in Portland, Oregon. I am a single, experienced dad with 4 grown children. I would like to adopt a child between the ages of 11 and 16 inclusive but would consider older in the right circumstances. I would prefer a single boy that is either Caucasian or Hispanic ethnic backgrounds, but may consider others on a case-by-case situation.

Professionally, I have worked in Human Resources and will probably be doing that for the foreseeable future. I am also the founder of a Christian missions group that does outreach to Africa and we hope to be starting a school of ministry this next year. I enjoy being outside, especially hiking; if the chance presents itself, camping, cross-country skiing or sports like disc golf will get me there, too. I enjoy most sports but I am not a fanatic about any one sport. My other hobby is music. Throw me in a

offer you:

- Â· Private messaging system between you and a family's adoption worker;
- Â· Communicate directly with home study-approved families through our private messaging system;
- Â· Easily list children or change their recruitment status;
- Â· View the families who have submitted for a child;
- Â· Browse through over 300 waiting family profiles;
- Â· Read a family's home study;
- Â· Create an urgent placement email for children who need to be placed quickly; and,
- Â· Request recruitment services for children on your caseload.

Click [here](#) to create a login now!

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## Volunteer Needs

### Family Adoption Specialist

The Matching Assistance Program is seeking motivated volunteers and interns in Eugene to assist with our new Additional Services program! As a Family Adoption Specialist you will work with a small caseload of families, sending them monthly child searches, following up on child submissions, assisting with home study submissions, encouraging participation in

guitar store and I can be happy for hours.

I currently have an apartment but hope to purchase a condo within the next year staying in the same neighborhood. I do not have any pets but am open to them. Activities nearby include hiking, concerts, exploring down at the beach, checking out movies or just going out for pizza. In addition, disc golf, horseback riding or other activities the kid enjoys. There is an aquatics center about the same distance away and an athletic club just down the road.

I have 4 adult kids with whom I have great relationships. In addition, we had several kids informally live with us from a few months to over a year that were generally very good experiences and I maintain relationships with all of them to one degree or another. I am very fortunate in that my pastor is also the Executive Director of Family Services Northwest. Any counseling needs or other support services can be handled either directly by them or by a referral from them. I enjoy having a large family and still have a number of good parenting years before I hit an exclusive grandparent age. They will never hear anything but that they are loved and are a part of this family.

[Learn more about Jay!](#)

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family recruitment services, and providing support and guidance as needed. This position must be done from our Eugene office.

Desired qualifications include:

- Customer service experience
- Computer skills with proficiency in Microsoft Word and the Internet
- Excellent verbal and written skills with the ability to communicate across diverse populations
- The ability to provide support, empathy and resources to adoptive families
- The ability to work with minimal supervision while completing work in a timely manner

Please the Matching Assistance Coordinator:

[matching@afamilyforeverychild.org](mailto:matching@afamilyforeverychild.org)

to learn more about the position.

Training will be provided. A three-month minimum commitment is required.

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## Register for Matching Events

A Family for Every Child offers two different matching events that families and caseworkers may partake in and benefit

## [Waiting Matching Assistance Family](#)

### Meet Shamika and Quinton!



Our names are Shamika and Quinton and we live in Oklahoma. We would like to adopt a child between the ages of 4 and 8 inclusive. We are open to a girl or a sibling group of girls. We feel we can accommodate a sibling group of up to two kids. We prefer to adopt a child of black, biracial or mixed ethnic background.

In general, we would love a child that is caring, affectionate, and has a mild temperament that gets along with other children of similar age. We have two kids still living at home: Quinton and Kyla. They are 15 and 6 years old.

I work full-time for Integris Health as a RN-Clinical Director and have a flexible work schedule. My partner works full-time for ATT mobility as a Customer Service Manager and has a flexible work

from.

The first are **Child Matching Events**. During Child Matching Events, caseworkers may present the biographies of the waiting children on their caseload to home study approved families. In turn, families may ask the caseworker questions about the child, and then submit their home study at the end of the event if they are interested.

The second are **Family Matching Events**. During Family Matching Events, families may present their biographies to caseworkers, allowing caseworkers to ask questions and connect families with children on their caseload that they feel would be a good match for the family. Keep checking the matching event pages to see additional children who will be participating in the event!

You may register for upcoming matching events and view past events all from our [Matching Events home page](#).

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schedule. We are OKC Thunder basketball fans (although our 15-year-old likes whomever LeBron James is playing for at the time). We are a house divided for college football; our 15-year-old son likes OSU and the rest of us like OU. My husband is a New York Giants fan, no matter how terrible they are playing.

I (Shamika) have experience with working with children that have suffered abuse and neglect of all sorts. My medical experience is in caring for people and children with severe medical conditions and mental illness. I have experience dealing with children that are difficult to deal with secondary to the trauma that they have experience. I am well trained in therapeutic communication and I use it daily.

God has blessed us with 3 beautiful children of our own and because we love being parents and there are so many children that would love to just have a mother or father or both to love them and be committed to them. We both feel that we can love and nurture a child or children that we have no blood relation to. We will stay committed to the child and advocate for their best interest. We will encourage, support, and provide a stable environment to show them that we care.

[Learn more about Shamika and Quinton!](#)

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**A Family For Every Child**

**1675 West 11th  
Eugene, Oregon 97402**

**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)**

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A Family For Every Child | 1675 W 11th Avenue | Eugene | OR | 97402