

Happy Thanksgiving!



National Adoption Month

When the majority of people think of adoption, they immediately envision a sweet baby coming home from the hospital with the happy couple and all their family waiting to welcome them into the family. And while infant adoption is an important part of the adoption family, older children, and teens spend countless years in foster care waiting for a family to call their own.

There are thousands of teens in foster care who are waiting for a permanent family to call their own and provide encouragement, love, and support that a family will provide throughout their lives. Older youth who are adopted from foster care are more likely to finish high school, go to college, stay out of prison, and be more emotionally secure in their adult life.

Unfortunately, many families who want to adopt do not consider older or teenage children. Many people have the idea that, because they're teenagers, they're almost grown and don't need to be adopted. The reality is that we are never too old to have a family. We all need the support, guidance, and stability that comes with knowing we are not walking alone. Who do you call when you want to share news or get advice? Likely it's a parent, sibling, or other close family member you trust and respect.

Teenagers who spend years in foster care don't grow up with the same level of guidance and education that those with a family do. They often are not taught life skills such as how to balance a checkbook, or shop for insurance, write a check, or even grocery shopping. These are all skills that each of use, and take for granted, every day.

If you would like more information about adoption from foster care, please visit our website at www.afamilyforeverychild.org or email our agency director at [Kim Esser](mailto:Kim.Esser)

History of National Adoption Month

1976 Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis announced an Adoption Week to promote awareness of the need for adoptive families for children in foster care

1984 President Reagan proclaimed the first National Adoption Week

1995 President Clinton expanded the awareness week to the full month of November.

Over 500,00 children are living in foster care with an average of 112,000 of those children available for adoption across the country. Adopting from foster care is not difficult, expensive, or exclusionary.

Prospective families don't have to have a lot of money or own their home. Single parents accounted for 29% of all adoptions from foster in 2014. A prospective adoptive family must be able to demonstrate that they can provide a permanent home for a child or sibling group, and that they can provide a safe environment supporting a child's physical, mental, and emotional health.

If you're interested in getting more information on adoption, please complete the inquiry form located on our webpage at www.afamilyforeverychild.org.

Information Nights

Are you interested in getting additional information about adoption and our agency? Please join us for one of the following information night sessions:

Eugene, Oregon A Family For Every Child

1675 West 11th Avenue
Eugene, Oregon 97402

Tuesday, November 14, 2017 at 6pm

Tigard, Oregon Colossae Church

12244 SW Garden Place
Tigard, Oregon 97223

Saturday, December 9, 2017 at 11am
Saturday, March 3, 2018 at 11am

To RSVP for these information sessions please email [Kim Esser](mailto:Kim.Esser@afec.org) to register.

Can't attend a session in person? Please join us for our online webinar on December 16, 2017 at 10:30am. [Register here](#) to attend.



A Family For Every Child, a nonprofit organization, was started by Christy Obie-Barrett and dozens of dedicated and passionate volunteers. In 2006, AFFEC was formed and developed into an organization focused on finding permanent and loving adoptive homes for all waiting children. Our intention is to develop programs that assist special-needs/challenging-to-place foster children in finding their own Forever Families.

