

Post Adoption Newsletter
National Adoption Month
November 2024 Special Edition



Children's Network of Southwest Florida is delighted to join the nationwide celebration of adoption this November and every November. Adoption gives children who have experienced abuse, neglect, or abandonment a second chance at a forever family. At CNSWFL, we celebrate the adoptive parents who have opened their hearts to give youth the priceless gift of a forever home.

9 ways you can celebrate National Adoption Month:

(full article available link below)

1. Retell Your Child's Adoption Story to Them
2. Spread Awareness through Social Media
3. Watch Positive Adoption-Related Movies with Your Family
4. Read a book together that promotes the values of adoption
5. Donate Time and Money to a Local Organization that Supports Adoption
6. Write a 'Thank You' Letter to the Case Manager, Attorney, Judge, or other professional who helped you in the adoption process.
7. Celebrate Your Child's Heritage
8. Join Local Events that Encourage Community Participation
9. Educate Yourself and People around You about Adoption

There are so many ways to participate, get involved, and spread awareness about adoption. Celebrate National Adoption Awareness Month with us and many others!

<https://www.adopthelp.com/9-ways-celebrate-national-adoption-awareness-month/>

Adoptive families find unique ways to commemorate their adoption journey on an annual basis. Here are some ways to celebrate being an adoptive family:

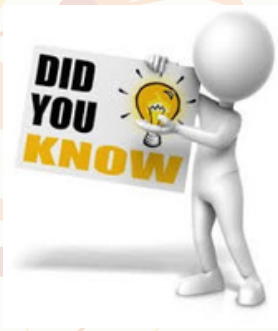
- *Throwing a party* - You can invite family and friends to a party to celebrate your child's adoption annually. You can also include activities like a talent show, open mic night, or dance party.
- *Creating an adoption book* - You can create a book about your adoption journey and read it with your child each year.
- *Planting a tree* - A tree can symbolize family and serve as a visual reminder of the adoption's legacy.
- *Sharing your story on social media* - You can share your family's adoption story on social media to raise awareness about adoption.
- *Celebrating your child's heritage* - You can celebrate your child's birth culture to help them develop a strong sense of self.
- *Giving jewelry as a gift* - You and your child can make/purchase jewelry to be worn by the adoptive family, birth family, and adoptee as a physical symbol of the connection shared amongst them.

Here is your opportunity to shine!!! To have the spotlight focused on your family!!! In each subsequent newsletter we would like to highlight our adoptive families. If you would like to be featured in a future segment, please provide your Post Adoption Case Manager with a photo of your family and narrative of what you would like to share. Your Post Adoption Case Manager can assist you with developing the narrative as needed.



Being a part of community with people of similar experiences can help to strengthen the bond amongst adoptive families. We encourage you to participate in our monthly adoption support group meetings.

Monday 12/9/2024 at 7:00pm EST
Location: Zoom
Meeting ID: 675 249 3649
Passcode: 919744
RSVP to Neil.Purvis@cnswfl.org

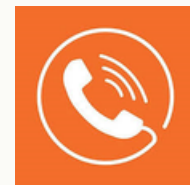


Beginning in this newsletter we will have a featured section that provides information about resources and supports that may be beneficial for your family.

- The maintenance adoption subsidy may be negotiated up to 100% of the current statewide Level II foster care board rate. This request must be submitted in writing. If approved the effective date is the of the written request.
- Requests for an enhanced adoption subsidy must be submitted in writing with supporting documentation. In determining whether to grant the request, the Department shall consider the medical, behavioral, and therapeutic needs of your child at the time of the negotiation, as well as the projected long-term needs based on your child's needs. The maintenance adoption subsidy is not intended to cover services which can be obtained through family insurance, Medicaid, Children's Medical Services, medical subsidy, or through special education plans provided by the public school district.
- If you have any questions or wish to submit a maintenance adoption subsidy enhancement request, please contact your Post Adoption Case Manager.



All families who have adopted a child from Charlotte, Hendry, Glades, Collier, or Lee Counties have an assigned Post Adoption Case Manager. Your Case Manager is assigned at the time of your adoption finalization, and remains available to assist you and your family to navigate community resources until your child reaches 18 years of age. If you are unsure who is your assigned Post Adoption Case Manager, you can contact the Agency at (239) 226-1524, or email us at PostAdopt@cnsfwf.org.



Have you moved? If so please reach out to your Post Adoption Case Manager to ensure that your contact information is updated in our files.

Helpful Resources

The below links provide valuable statewide and national informational material and resources for your adoptive family.

Florida Links

[Adoption Reunion Registry](#)

[Florida Department of Children and Families](#)

[Governor's Office of Adoption and Child Protection](#)

[Florida Adoption Information Center](#)

National Links

[Adoption.com](#)

[AdoptUSKids.org](#)

[Child Welfare League of America](#)

[Children Awaiting Parents, Inc. CAPS](#)

[Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption](#)

[National Adoption Center](#)

[North American Council on Adoptable Children](#)

The Agency periodically receives donations of toys, clothing, and food. If you are ever in need of such donations, contact your Post Adoption Case Manager.

Your Post Adoption Team

Lee County Adoption Team

Kevin Murray

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NOW,
IT'S
YOUR
TURN

Now that you've read the entire newsletter, we want to celebrate the first 25 families who correctly respond to the below questions. You will receive a \$25 Walmart gift card. Please submit your responses to PostAdopt@cnswwfl.org. Remember to include your name and your telephone number. Responses must be received by close of business December 2nd. If 25 responses are received prior to then, we will respond to your email notifying you accordingly.

1. What is the name of the Supervisor for the Lee County Post Adoption Case Managers?
2. What is the email address to use if you don't know how to contact your Post Adoption Case Manager?
3. What is the date of the next post adoption support group meeting?
4. If your family has moved, who do you need to contact to provide your updated address?
5. What month is National Adoption Awareness Month?

