



Adoption Network Newsletter

Feb 2026



Join the Group!

Don't forget to join our PSF Facebook group! This closed group is another way for parents to reach out to us and an easy way to post helpful information or upcoming trainings/activities that you might want to participate in, as well as lend support to one another if needed. To join, please search for PSF's [Post Adoption Network](#) on Facebook.

Foster & Adoptive Parent Association (FAPA)

Did you know there is a Foster and Adoptive Parent Association run by a foster/adoptive parent in the area? The North Florida FAPA is run by Jerrod Pfeffer and offers helpful information on their Facebook page, as well as in-person monthly meetings. If you are interested in joining the group on Facebook search "[North Florida FAPA](#)!"

State Employee Benefit

The state employee benefit is not only open to state employees who have recently adopted but is also open to veterans and servicemembers who adopted after July 1, 2020 and law enforcement officers who adopted after July 1, 2022. In July of 2024, the state added healthcare practitioners earning less than \$150,000 per year and tax collector employees as qualifying for the benefit. Open enrollment begins the first business day in January and goes through the last business day in March. If you believe you qualify for the state employee benefit, contact your employers HR department for the state employee benefit form and send the form with sections 1 and 2 completed to Tricia Braitsch (Patricia.Braitsch@pfsf.org). PSF will complete section 3.

DCF COLA Memo for 2026

The DCF Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) memo for 2026 has come out! The COLA memo is in regard to foster care board rates for children currently in foster care. There is mention in the memo that adoptive parents can request the current foster care board rate amount as their child's adoption subsidy amount. The current rate for 0-5 year olds is \$602.75, 6-12 year olds is \$618.19, and ages 13 and up is \$723.58.

If you are interested in receiving the current foster care board rate amount as your child's adoption subsidy amount, please send an email to patricia.braitsch@pfsf.org requesting the COLA rate with your name, mailing address, phone number, and child/children name(s). Per the state, all requests must be in writing and phone call requests will not be accepted.

February is Children's Dental Health Month

Dental coverage is included in your child's Medicaid benefits; however, the dental benefits are not administered by Sunshine Health. Dental plans are administered through private organizations such as such as DentaQuest or Liberty Dental. It is recommended that your child sees a dentist twice a year for regular cleanings and checkups, as regular visits to a dentist can help keep teeth and gums healthy. Additional information can be found at <https://www.sunshinehealth.com/members/child-welfare-plan/benefits-services/dental.html>.

Children Looking for their Forever Families:

Briana, age 15

Briana is a sociable young lady who is not afraid to speak her mind. For Briana, family is everything. She is very loyal, caring, funny, imaginative, and creative child. While she is intelligent, she does struggle to enjoy everything that school has to offer. Briana is described to be loving and deeply values relationships. Open communication is a must when building a trusting relationship with her. Briana would do best in a female only household.

Briana's Adoption ID is 106873557. For more information on Briana, please contact Keisha Battles at Keisha.Battles@pfsf.org.

London, age 13

London is an incredible 13-year-old young lady with a beaming smile who is ready for adoption. She is a great helper who is passionate about dogs, enjoys eating Haitian food, going to church, and would like to get involved in martial arts. Her favorite color is pink. London wants to attend college and become a police officer when she grows up. She would do well in a single or two parent household, a structured environment, and is comfortable with other children in the home, preferably who are her age or older. London wants to be adopted specifically by an African American or Haitian/Caribbean family.

London's adoption ID is 102823526. For more information on London, please contact Jordan Wood at Jordan.Wood@pfsf.org.

Helpful Info

For post adoption services, tuition waivers, or tax documents please contact Tricia Braitsch, Post Adoption Liaison, at (352) 244-1500 ext. 2106 or Patricia.Braitsch@pfsf.org. For Medicaid needs, change of address (in or out of state), and subsidy payment questions please contact Cheryl Williams, Eligibility Specialist I-ICAMA, at (352) 244-1500 ext. 2039 or Cheryl.Williams@pfsf.org.