Adoption Network Mewsletter



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 inperson monthly meetings. If you are interested in joining the group on Facebook search "North Florida FAPA!"

Adoption Subsidy

Earlier this year DCF put out the Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) memo regarding 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 \$586.90, 6-12 year olds is \$601.94, and ages 13 and up is \$704.56.

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. Per the state, all requests must be in writing and phone call requests will not be accepted.





Sunshine Health Updates

- Did you know Sunshine Health now offers camp scholarships?
 - All kids, ages 4-18, on the Pathway to Shine plan (previously called the Child Welfare Specialty Plan) are eligible for a \$150 voucher to attend camp. An annual wellness exam/physical within the last year is the only requirement. To take advantage of this benefit you need to contact Member Services at 1-855-463-4100 to receive the voucher. Let's help our kids have an awesome summer!
- Don't forget that Sunshine Health offers swim lessons!
 - This year not only do all children on the Pathway to Shine plan get up to 8 free swimming lesson, so do their caregivers. To take advantage of this benefit call Member services at 1-855-463-4100 to be issued a swim voucher. The vouchers are good at your local YMCA for 8 free swimming lessons. If there is not a YMCA that offers swimming lessons in the community, a voucher can be issued for another swimming vendor. To use another swim vendor, you will need to have their contact information and approval from the vendor to use the voucher. Once you receive the voucher for the YMCA, go to the local YMCA to sign up for class and sign safety waivers.

Children looking for their Forever Families:

Jaleaha, 10 years old

Jaleaha is a very talkative and energetic girl with a big imagination. She loves to play outside and explore, and she also enjoys playing pretend. She is very sensitive, empathetic, and helpful to those around her. She is naturally very athletic and excels at any sport or physical activity she tries, including swimming, running, jumping, gymnastics, and biking. Jaleaha's favorite food is vegetables, and she will eat any fruits or vegetables that are made for her. Jaleaha is very social and vocal and can strike up a conversation with just about anyone she meets! Jaleaha would do well placed with a smaller family, preferably with only up to one other child. She would thrive in a family who is willing to assist her with her developmental needs and be a lifelong support for her future!

Jalaeha's Adoption ID is 107470569.

For more information on Jalaeha, please contact Cecelia Buckley at <u>Cecelia.Buckley@pfsf.org</u>.

Helpful Information

For post adoption services, tuition waivers, or tax documents:

Tricia Braitsch, Post Adoption Liaison, at (352) 244-1604 or Patricia.Braitsch@pfsf.org.

For Medicaid needs, changes of address (in or out of state), or subsidy payment questions:

Cheryl Williams, Adoption Subsidy and ICAMA Specialist, at (352) 244-1562 or Cheryl. Williams@pfsf.org.