



# Adoption Network Newsletter

Mar. 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!](#)"

## DCF COLA Memo for 2026

The DCF Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) memo for 2026 come out at the end of January. The COLA memo is in regards 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](mailto: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.

If you already requested the COLA, you do not need to request it again. There are currently over 550 requests, and we are working through them in the order they were submitted. There is no need to resubmit. Once we process and approve your request, you will receive a new subsidy agreement via a DocuSign email to sign and date. The new subsidy agreement is backdated to when you made the request.

We appreciate your patience.

# Sunshine Health Pathway to Shine Benefit

Have you heard about My Health Pays Rewards from Sunshine Health? Earn My Health Pays® rewards when your child completes healthy activities like annual screenings, tests and other ways to protect their health. Use the My Health Pays rewards to help pay for utilities, transportation, telecommunications, childcare services, education, rent or you can use it to shop at Walmart for everyday items.

My Health Pays reward dollars are added to your child's rewards card after Sunshine Health has paid the provider's claim for each activity your child completes. Each time your child completes a qualifying healthy activity, Sunshine Health is notified, and reward dollars will be added to your child's existing card. For more information on the My Health Pays Rewards program, please visit <https://www.sunshinehealth.com/members/child-welfare-plan/benefits-services/rewards-program.html>.

## Children Looking for their Forever Families:

### *Bobby 9 years old, Noah 6 years old, and Faith 4 years old*

Meet Bobby, Noah, and Faith — a bright, spirited sibling trio full of personality and potential.

Bobby is the oldest of the group and a natural thinker with a sharp, intelligent mind. He loves dinosaurs, enjoys drawing and being creative, reading books, and can often be found riding his bike. Bobby is a very bright child who often feels a strong need to succeed and be “right.” When he perceives failure or disappointment, he can have difficulty managing those emotions and may react intensely, particularly when limits are set. He does best with patience, structure, and caregivers who can help him learn healthy ways to manage big feelings.

Noah is a smart and curious little boy who enjoys relaxing with his favorite TV shows and playing with robot toys and Paw Patrol. He has a sweet spirit and a strong desire to be noticed and included. Noah, too, can have loud tantrums when overwhelmed and will benefit from a family that understands trauma, remains calm during emotional moments, and offers reassurance and consistency.

Faith is the youngest and brings a fun blend of sweetness and spunk to the group. She is described by many as a “girly girl” who loves dolls, especially Minnie Mouse, but she's just as happy getting dirty and keeping up with her big brothers. Faith is very bright and eager to learn. She continues to need support with potty training and, like her brothers, may express big emotions through tantrums when she feels frustrated or overstimulated.

Together, these siblings share a strong bond, and each enjoy being the center of attention in their own way. Like many children who have experienced trauma, they struggle when they hear “no” and may have intense emotional reactions. They are looking for a two-parent home that can provide structure, patience, and trauma-informed care, with separate bedrooms for each child. This family will need to be committed to supporting their needs and nurturing each child individually, while also helping strengthen and grow the sibling bond they share.

With the right family, one that is patient, loving, and eager to walk alongside them, Bobby, Noah, and Faith have the potential to thrive, heal, and grow into confident, successful children who know they are safe and deeply loved.

Bobby, Noah, and Faith's adoption ID is #100447. To submit an inquiry on Bobby, Noah, and Faith, please provide a copy of a valid, non-child specific, adoption home study to Julieta Viteri Lemos at [Julieta.Viterilemos@pfsf.org](mailto:Julieta.Viterilemos@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](mailto: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](mailto:Cheryl.Williams@pfsf.org).