



PARTNERSHIP FOR
**STRONG
FAMILIES**

Adoption Network Newsletter

JULY -
SEPTEMBER 2022


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FOLLOW US

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Join our Facebook Group

Connect with parents, share helpful information, learn about upcoming events and support each other. Just search "PSF's Post Adoption Network" on Facebook!

Just a Reminder

Once an adopted child turns 18, unless they were adopted at ages 16 or 17 and are in the EMAS program, the adoption subsidy and adoption Medicaid end.

Tuition Waivers

If you have a child who is a senior this year and graduating high school, please contact Tricia Braitsch once they have graduated for an updated tuition waiver form for college.

Superhero 5K

We are pleased to announce that this year's Superhero 5K in November will be back IN PERSON again! Stay tuned to future newsletters for more information!

YOUR FEEDBACK NEEDED!! ANNUAL BASELINE ASSESSMENT

Each year the Department requests community assistance with the completion of an Annual Baseline Assessment survey regarding adoption processes. As adoptive parents, your feedback is critical to this survey. This year's survey will be available until August 31, 2022 and can be found at https://myflfamilies.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6Wmt1xk6PW1OoTQ.

Thank you in advance for providing your valuable feedback!

COA SURVEY

The Council on Accreditation (COA) is conducting an accreditation review of Partnership for Strong Families and seeks your assistance. COA is seeking information from our staff, Board, individuals served, and community partners to help them gain an understanding of our organization and assess PSF's implementation of COA's standards.

To start the brief survey, follow the link : https://coa.formassembly.com/232187?tf_a_38=a0r1T00000q4F4fQAE

If you would like to speak directly with a member of the COA Review Team, please indicate this on the survey and provide your contact information. The information you provide is confidential and will go directly to COA. PSF will not see your responses to this survey.

ADOPTION SUPPORT GROUPS

In-person adoption support groups are still canceled until further notice. However, virtual support groups are being offered through the local FAPA's (Foster/Adoptive Parent Association).

Information on support groups for Alachua County FAPA can be found at their Facebook page, search Alachua County FAPA! Columbia County FAPA also has a Facebook group! To become a member of their group, search Columbia County FAPA on Facebook.

MEDICAID UPDATES

This is a friendly reminder that if there are questions or issues regarding your child's Medicaid, please contact their Medicaid provider regarding the question or issue first. If they are not able to answer the question, fix the issue, or if they say you as the parent are not an authorized caller, please contact Laura Waxman at laura.waxman@pfsf.org or by phone at 352-244-1580. There are glitches that occur within the Medicaid system that we have no control over, but can help fix if we are made aware. PSF does not make unauthorized changes to your child's Medicaid without the parent's consent and knowledge.

Also, if your child has Sunshine Health as their Medicaid plan, the name of the plan is Child Welfare Specialty Plan. This is the plan for foster AND adopted children. We know this is very confusing, but that is the name of the Sunshine plan.

ADOPTION FINALIZATIONS

This past fiscal year (July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022), Partnership for Strong Families finalized the adoptions of more than 170 children!! Congratulations to all the new adoptive families from this year!

WELL CHILD CHECKS

Don't forget, make sure your child receives their yearly physical before school starts in August. Even if your child is not school aged, it is important that they receive their scheduled Well Child Checks. Please contact their pediatrician to schedule an appointment.

Adoption Spotlights:



CAYDEN, 15 YEARS OLD

Cayden is a very active and energetic boy who enjoys playing football and a variety of other outdoor sports. He also enjoys playing games on computers and tablets. Cayden would benefit from a strong male role model in his life, and his needs would be met by a family who is willing and able to give him individualized attention and commit to his continued therapeutic needs.

Cayden's adoption ID is 100300547. For more information on Cayden, please contact Kim Johnson at kim.johnson@pfsf.org or 352-514-4113.



CHRISTIAN, 17 YEARS OLD

Christian is a smart and sweet teen who enjoys staying active outside. Christian likes school and being part of Future Farmers of America. Christian isn't much of a city girl; she likes the slower pace of small towns where she can go boating, fishing, and exploring out in nature. Like any teen, Christian likes to spend her downtime listening to music and hanging out with her friends. She enjoys being around people who she loves and is sensitive and caring towards others. She excels in settings where she can talk out her feelings and problems. Christian longs for a family who values the connection of family. She wishes to have a family who will accept her for who she is. Christian needs a family who will support contact with her biological siblings.

Christian's adoption ID is 11164550. For more information on Christian, please contact Sarah Aikin at Sarah.Aikin@pfsf.org or 352-240-5409.



ROBERT, 14 YEARS OLD

Robert is an energetic boy who enjoys a variety of outdoor activities. He likes using his vivid imagination to play in his outdoor fort and also likes to play in the sand box with his cars and trucks. Robert also enjoys running outside, riding his bicycle, and listening to music. Robert has a reserved personality and is very loving and affectionate toward his caregivers, as he enjoys lots of hugs. Robert enjoys being the center of attention and prefers the lead role in friendships. Due to his desire to lead, making friends can sometimes be difficult for Robert. Robert's needs would best be met by an individual or family with no younger children in the home and the ability to offer him safety, stability, structure, boundaries, and unconditional love. Robert is in need of a family who is willing and able to give him individualized attention.

Robert's adoption ID is 101866486. For more information on Robert, please contact Kim Johnson at kim.johnson@pfsf.org or 352-514-4113.

I have a question, who do I contact?

Post adoption services, tuition waivers or tax documents? Tricia Braitsch, Post Adoption Liaison, at 352-244-1604 or Patricia.Braitsch@pfsf.org.

Medicaid needs, changes of address (in or out of state) or subsidy payment questions? Laura Waxman, Adoption Subsidy and ICAMA Specialist, at 352-244-1580 or Laura.Waxman@pfsf.org.