



Adoption Network Newsletter

April 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!**"

Post Adoption Family Fun Day



SELFLESS LOVE FOUNDATION
FOSTERING DREAMS FOR FOSTER CHILDREN

PSF has received a generous grant from Selfless Love Foundation that will allow for a post adoption connection family fun day. We will be having our family fun day at Skate Station Funworks (1311 NW 76th Blvd, Gainesville, FL 32606) on Monday, May 18, 2026 from 5 pm to 8 pm. Several activities at Skate Station will be available, such as roller skating, go karts, and mini golf! Food and drinks will also be provided, so come enjoy a family fun day with other adoptive families! We will also have representatives from various local community providers answering questions.

The family fun day will be limited to 200 participants. To RSVP, please email Lora Jamerson at Lora.Jamerson@pfsf.org with adoptive parent's names as well as the children's names who will be attending.

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 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 600 requests, and Tricia Braitsch is the only person processing these requests. Once we get to your request on the list, you will receive a new subsidy agreement via a DocuSign email to sign and date. Some requests will take months to get to due to the sheer number of requests. The new subsidy agreement is backdated to when you made the request.

Sunshine Health Pathway to Shine Information

Just a friendly reminder to ensure your child(ren) are current on their immunizations. Questions about Sunshine Health Pathway to Shine Medicaid plan, check out <https://www.sunshinehealth.com/members/child-welfare-plan.html>!

Children Looking for their Forever Families:

Shya'sia, 15 years old

Shya'sia is a sweet, and gentle teen with a calm spirit and a love for life's simple pleasures. Her easygoing nature and quiet charm make her a joy to be around. Whether she's relaxing with her favorite videos, stacking blocks, or playing with magnets, Shya'sia finds comfort and happiness in familiar routines and sensory play.

Shya'sia enjoys going to school, where she's supported by caring adults who recognize her unique strengths. Shy gets along well with just about everyone, including other children, and she enjoys being part of a social environment where she can observe and engage at her own pace. She thrives with caregivers who are attentive, patient, and open to learning her individual ways of communicating and engaging.

Shya'sia is looking for a forever family that is loving, accepting, and prepared to support her medical and developmental needs with compassion and consistency. In the right home—one filled with warmth, stability, and understanding—Shya'sia will continue to shine in her own special way.

Shya'sia's adoption ID is 102846981. To submit an inquiry on Shya'sia, please provide a copy of a valid, non-child specific, adoption home study to April Kuhn at April.Kuhn@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.