

Montgomery County Job & Family Services Children Services Division

November 2011 National Adoption Month

***Kids
Always
Come
First!***



What is the purpose of National Adoption Awareness Month?

- **Call attention to the need for adoptive homes for children waiting for permanent homes in Montgomery County**
 - ❖ There are approximately 700 children in our community that live in a foster care setting
 - ❖ Many of the children have spent several years of their life in this "temporary" foster care setting
- **To dispel myths about adoption**



What is Adoption?

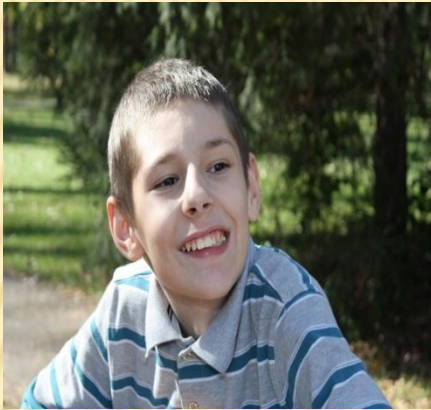
Adoption is the method by which adults become legal parents of children not born to them.

Children available for adoption come into the permanent custody of Children Services when a court determines that their birth parents cannot provide for their needs and will not be able to care for them in the future.

**These children are waiting
for a forever family!**



In Montgomery County...



- There are 171 children legally free for adoption
- 37 children have been adopted so far this year, 12 adoption finalizations scheduled for November 10, 2011 which is National Adoption Day Celebration in Montgomery County.



- More adoptions will happen in the coming months however all of the children we serve need a forever family!

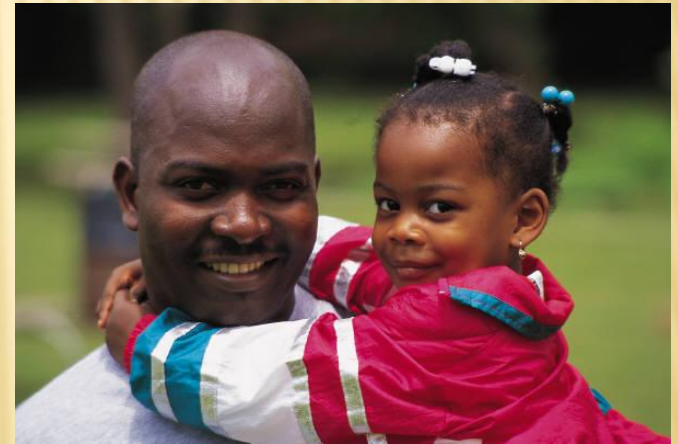
Who are the children waiting for adoption?

- Primarily African American children of all ages and Caucasian children 6 years of age or older
- Children who are a part of a sibling group
- Children with emotional, behavioral or learning challenges
- Children with special needs
- Children who are in need of a nurturing and supportive permanent family



Who can Adopt?

Adopting parents are all kinds of people who have one thing in common. They are adults who will give love and security to a child who needs a family.



Who can Adopt?

Adopting parents are:

- Married or single
- Homeowners or non-homeowners
- With or without children
- Parents who work outside the home or a stay at home parent
- Over the age of 21
- Parents with a stable income
- Parents with any level of education

Children Services staff are here to help!

- Provide training to educate and prepare individuals and families for the adoption experience.
- Arrange meetings with other families who have adopted children.
- Available to talk with people on an individual basis.
- Refer people to other community resources.
- Offer post adoption services.

Our staff will be involved with adoptive families during and after the completion of the adoption process

Every child deserves a loving, nurturing and permanent home!



Kids Always Come First!

Adopt.....Change a Lifetime!

For more information about adoption
please call us at:

224-KIDS (5437)

Or visit our website

www.mcoho.org/childrenservices

