

Local adoption helps Hollywood family grow

Gay Lynn and David Grigas became foster parents through Children's Home Society for the same reason that many people in Broward County do—they wanted to expand their family through adoption.



They saw many couples adopting children from other countries but they knew that there had to be children living in their own backyard in need of a loving family.

The Hollywood couple adopted sisters Keri Ann and Kelsi, now 11 and 7 years old, in January of 2005 and adopted Peter in October of 2008, on his second birthday. Gay Lynn says that they are frequently asked what country they adopted their children from and that people are surprised when she tells them that they adopted them from foster care and that it did not cost them a penny to do so. People are even more amazed when she explains that their children will have Medicaid until they are eighteen years old and can attend any State University or Technical School in

Florida for free.

Gay Lynn would like to encourage others who are considering fostering or adopting to take that risk, open your heart and pray about how you can help. She says that even if they do not stay with you forever, while they are in your home they give

you so much love and joy. "They have a lot of needs but, to see them grow, love and trust again is getting to see a miracle in front of your eyes," said Gay Lynn.

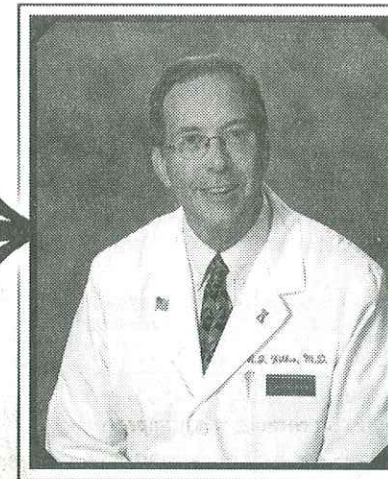
Like the Grigas', approximately 40% of Broward County foster parents end up adopting their foster child. As a result, Broward County is always in need of families to share their hearts and their homes with the abused, abandoned and neglected children that are living in our community.

Whether you ultimately want to adopt or want to nurture a child temporarily during a difficult time in his or her life, please call ChildNet's Foster Home Recruitment Hotline at 954-414-6001.

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