



PRESS RELEASE

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**Contact: Sasheika Eugent
Community & Public Relations Specialist
(954) 288-5161**

CHILDNET CELEBRATES NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH

PLANTATION, FL – For most, the month of November is synonymous with giving thanks and honoring veterans. For some November is equally important because it is National Adoption Month. Throughout the month ChildNet, Broward County's Community Based Care lead agency, will raise awareness about the need to provide permanent loving homes for children in foster care and recognize parents that have answered the call to extend their family through adoption. The local celebrations are part of a nationwide effort to raise awareness about the 129,000 foster care children in the United States waiting for a second chance at a family. In Broward County alone, there are over 1000 children in foster care; of those, 200 children are waiting to be adopted.

Since the start of the new fiscal year in July, 59 children have received a fresh start with a new family. To honor the families who have opened their hearts and homes to our county's abused children and to celebrate National Adoption Month, ChildNet is hosting the Adoption Fall Festival on Saturday, November 1st. The private event sponsored by the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity will include a D.J. and festive fall games. The local chapter of the fraternity has underwritten the event for the past eighteen years. Each family will be presented with a certificate and each child will receive a special gift. "The Fall Festival is our way of expressing appreciation to the devoted individuals and families that have shown so much love to the children in our care and have made the commitment to adopt a foster child," said Theresa Kennedy, ChildNet's Director of Permanency.

To commemorate National Adoption Month, ChildNet encourages the community to get involved by learning how they can adopt or foster a child. For additional information, please call ChildNet at (954) 414-6000 or visit www.BrowardAdopt.org.

ChildNet is the private, not for profit organization selected by the state through a competitive process to serve as the local Community Based Care lead agency. As the lead agency, ChildNet manages the local system of services and supports for Broward's abused, abandoned and neglected children and their caregivers. This system of care was developed by the community and its success depends upon the community's continued support. For more information on ChildNet visit the Web site at www.ChildNet.us or call (954) 414-6000.

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