



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
February, February 1, 2008

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MIRAMAR FAMILY DEDICATES 19 YEARS TO FOSTERING OVER A HUNDRED BROWARD YOUTH

PLANTATION, FL – Janet and Peter Hendricks have dedicated almost two decades to fostering Broward County’s most vulnerable children. After seeing a heartfelt televised public service announcement on the need for foster and adoptive parents, Janet and Peter knew that they had to get involved. The couple opened the doors of their home in 1989 to their first foster child. Initially the couple wanted to adopt but were advised to foster until they decided who they wanted to adopt.

Fast forward nineteen years and the size of the Hendricks household has multiplied beyond their wildest dreams. Over the past nineteen years, Peter, a landscaper and musician, and Janet, a stay-at-home mom, have fostered more than a hundred children and adopted four in addition to their two now adult biological children. Today the Hendricks’ home in Miramar is far from an empty nest. With three foster children between the ages of 8 months and 3 years and two adoptive children ages 12 and 18, Janet and Peter are not closing their hearts and homes anytime soon. What makes this couple even more amazing is that the family cares for children with serious medical issues such as Shaken Baby Syndrome, Trisomy 8 Syndrome and paraplegia. “Over the years I have had many children that doctors said will never walk or talk,” Janet remembers. “It is so fulfilling to see that same child utter their first word or take their first step.” Throughout her 19 years of fostering, the Hendricks have witnessed many foster children overcome a doctor’s diagnosis of an early death or paralysis to blossom into healthy kids. They credit the child’s progress to the warmth and stability of being in a home with a caring family.

Most of their foster children generally stay about a year with the Hendricks. However, the couple has also had many children that have lived with them for as much as five years or more. For the past few years, Janet and Peter have taken their entire family on road trips across the country. “Our kids come with us on every family vacation” Janet said. When asked about her drive and dedication to fostering, Janet says that she knew that if she wanted to see a difference in the lives of the children in the community that it would have to start with her. The Hendricks note, “Many times we foster so that we can inspire and encourage a child but the inspiration and hope that they give us is immeasurable

If you are interested in becoming a foster parent, please contact our Foster Care Recruitment Hotline at (954) 414-6001. For more information about fostering in Broward County visit our website at www.browardfostercare.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 with extensive input from local stakeholders and its effective implementation depends upon their continued support. For more information on ChildNet visit the Web site at www.ChildNet.us or call (954) 414-6000.

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