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National Adoption Center®

There are no unwanted children, just unfound families®

E-Newsletter

January 2013



Dear Friends,

Anyone who has been through a divorce or is close to someone who has divorced is aware of how often children become the unwitting pawns in their parents' marital conflicts. Now, in a painful demonstration of how the personal has become political, orphaned children in Russia have become the new victims, this time in the international political arena. In adoption, the paramount goal is doing what is in the best interest of the child. Imagine the effect on a child who has seen pictures of his or her future parents or may have even met them and is waiting to become part of their family...when that doesn't happen.

Fortunately the situation in Russia has been modified so that American families already in the process of adopting will be able to do so. However, the future of other Russian children who don't have permanent families remains uncertain.

We must remember, too, that there are more than 100,000 children in this country-1600 in the Delaware Valley-who wait for the families they want so much. These children are school age and some are siblings who need homes together. They live in foster care, but their goal is to be adopted because their birth parents cannot care for them. They long for the permanent, loving

parents that all children deserve so they may grow up as happy and productive adults. Contact us for more information.

Ken Mullner
Executive Director

EVENTS

Coming up.....

Match Parties

The Adoption Center hosts matching parties several times each year. Center parties are designed for specific kinds of children - teens, siblings or for children of all ages. Families who are approved for adoption have an opportunity to meet children and teens who want to be adopted. Match parties can be an incredibly enjoyable and rewarding experience for both prospective adoptive families and for the children.

March 2, 2013

SWAN Older Youth Match Party

Philadelphia, PA

(You must be homestudied to attend this party.)

To register online [click here](#) or contact Julie Marks at 267-443-1875 or pateen@adopt.org

March 16, 2013

Older Youth Match Party

New Milford, New Jersey

(You must be homestudied to attend this party.)

For more informaton contact Crystal Allen at 267-443-1867 or callen@adopt.org

April 20, 2013

Special Needs Adoption Cafe

New Brunswick, New Jersey

This unique adoption event will feature medically fragile and autistic children who are available for adoption. A medically fragile child is one who, because of an accident, illness, congenital disorder, abuse or neglect, is in a stable condition, but is dependent on life sustaining medications, treatments, equipment, and needs assistance with activities of daily living. Families without a medical background will be considered and can be trained to care for the children's medical needs. Social workers will be on hand to talk with prospective adoptive parents about the children. We welcome both studied and unstudied families to this event.

For more informaton contact Crystal Allen at 267-443-1867 or callen@adopt.org

SAVE THE DATE

June 22, 2013

SWAN Older Youth Match Party - Pennsylvania

New Castle, PA

(You must be homestudied to attend this party.)

For more information contact Crystal at 267-443-1867 or callen@adopt.org

FEATURED YOUTH



Megan is a sweet and beautiful 15-year-old originally from Guatemala. While Spanish is her first language, she has made great strides in learning to speak English. She enjoys art, computers, listening to Spanish music, and basketball. In school, she gets along well with her peers and teachers. She hopes to one day work in a hair salon.

Megan was featured on [Wednesday's Child](#) this past December and had a fantastic time being pampered by the staff at Louis Christian Wayne Robert Salon and Spa in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. To see behind-the-scene clips from the feature, click [here](#).

Megan is actively involved in her recruitment process for a family. She would like to be adopted by a family that will love her unconditionally. All families will be considered. To learn more about Megan, contact Sheina Martinez at 267-443-1872 or smartinez@adopt.org

GIVING BACK

Wendy's generous staff partner with NAC and deliver some joy!



Keith, 11, Jahnai, 10 and Zakiyyah, 16 are all smiles as they open their gifts!

Annually, staff from local Wendy's franchises partners with NAC to provide gifts to children living in foster care who wait to be adopted. This year, each youth received between 5 to 7 unique gifts including a new bike, brand new lap top, ipod touch and gift cards! Delivering these gifts and sharing in the children's joy is a highlight that our staff cherishes.

We thank Wendy's for its continued support and unsurpassed generosity!



BOARD SPOTLIGHT

House Party Benefits the Center



Ken Mullner talking about the Center's mission to a rapt audience.

There were meatballs, two friendly goldendoodles and lots of good cheer! NAC Board Member Seth Goldblum and his wife, Dana, hosted a holiday party to benefit the Center on December 8th.

The festive evening took place at their Audubon, PA, home where two dozen of the Goldblum's friends, colleagues and neighbors gathered to hear about the [Center's work](#), meet Executive Director Ken Mullner, and get involved. Seth talked about his connection to the Center as a board member, then cued up the DVD player to showcase the Center's 40th anniversary documentary.

In lieu of a hostess gift, party guests brought exciting items to be auctioned off at the Center's [fundraising gala April 25th](#), including an HP laptop and a case of fine wines!

"This was a great way to let my friends know about a charity close to my heart and to drum up some support at the same time," Seth said. "NAC's mission is so important, and it felt good to take my commitment to the next level."

BLOG CORNER

NAC's [Blog Center](#) highlights the work we do, national adoption trends, advocacy alerts and anything else that we think you'd like to know or share. The [Blog Center](#) is a result of the efforts from NAC's staff, interns and occasional guest bloggers. [Visit us often.](#)



[We thank Jeremy Maclin!](#)

Jeremy Maclin, a wide receiver for the Philadelphia Eagles, grew up in an emotionally chaotic family until, as a sophomore in high school he went to live with the family he says "made me what I am today." But he hasn't forgotten what it was like before he had a loving, secure family. Jeremy has, therefore, declared himself a spokesman for the National Adoption Center: for each Eagles home...»

KEEP IN TOUCH!



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www.adopt.org

Join the conversation!

www.adoptspeak.org

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[The National Adoption Center](#) expands adoption opportunities for children living in foster care throughout the United States, and is a resource to families and to agencies who seek the permanency of caring homes for children.

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