

Media Release



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Youthville Hosts Adoption Day Celebration *during National Adoption Month*

(Wichita, Kan., Nov. 16, 2009) – Hundreds of families who have adopted children this year through Youthville will gather on Saturday, Nov. 21 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Exploration Place, 300 N. McLean Blvd., to celebrate National Adoption Day. There are more than 40 children who will finalize their adoption at the event, changing their lives forever as they become a part of an adoptive family.

“It is interesting to watch the reactions of kids on National Adoption Day,” said Judge James Burgess. “Some really understand that the adoption represents a big change in their life and are excited and others come in very calm. They are part of this family, they are where they are supposed to be, they are loved, and that’s all they need to know.”

There are more than 850 children in Kansas awaiting adoption with more than 350 of those children from the Wichita area in Youthville’s care. With so many children in need of permanent loving homes in Kansas, Youthville serves as a resource for families preparing to become adoptive parents. The agency conducts home studies required for all adoptions and offers the 10-week Partnering for Safety and Permanence - Model Approach to Partnerships in Parenting (PS-MAPP) training classes throughout the state. Youthville also provides in-home, direct care services to meet the needs of the agency’s families through its Aftercare program.

“We celebrate National Adoption Day to say thank you to those that enrich a child’s life through adoption,” said Shelley Duncan, Youthville’s President and CEO. “It is also a chance to raise awareness regarding the hundreds of children still waiting to be adopted.”

Youthville’s vision is to provide the best sources of help to children who have been abused, abandoned, or neglected with its mission of ***Giving Children Back Their Childhood.*** There are more than 7,000 children and adults who utilize Youthville’s services, which include counseling, residential treatment, foster care and adoption. To learn more or to get involved with Youthville visit www.youthville.org.

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