

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Roselle's Naisha Andrews Honored With Top DYFS Staff Award**

*Andrews credited with helping to keep sibling groups together in foster care*

Monmouth Junction, NJ, May 1, 2009 – Foster and Adoptive Family Services (FAFS), along with the New Jersey Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS), presented Naisha Andrews with the Outstanding DYFS Staff Award at the annual Resource Family Recognition Dinner on May 1.

The event, which took place at the Sheraton-Eatontown Hotel in Eatontown, NJ, coincides with May's National Foster Care month. Andrews is a Resource Family Support Worker. She has consistently been the best at making sure foster and adoptive families are aware of their rights and responsibilities as well as where they need to go for much-needed services.

Andrews has played a big role in DYFS' Siblings In Best Settings (SIBS) program, which promotes the recruitment and retention of families willing and able to accommodate sibling groups of five or more children. SIBS families receive comprehensive support services and increased financial assistance.

The Union County resident recently helped an Essex County family, caring for five siblings, become accepted and licensed as a SIBS family.

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Andrews helped to guide the family through this very complicated process. It's through her continued support and advocacy that these five siblings were given the gift of remaining together during a difficult situation.

FAFS is a nonprofit organization dedicated to meeting the special needs of the more than 5,000 foster, adoptive and kinship families in New Jersey, who provide care for more than 9,000 children. FAFS advocates for improved foster care and adoption services, provides support to foster, adoptive, and kinship parents, and promotes an enhanced understanding of foster care and the adoption of children from foster care.

The new FAFS Foundation is a nonprofit that provides the parent organization with financial support for many of its privately-funded programs. For more information about the Foundation please call 609-977-4880 or visit the Web site, [www.fafsfoundation.org](http://www.fafsfoundation.org).

For more information about FAFS or its services please contact Mary Jane Awrachow, Executive Director, at 609.520.1500.