

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mercer County Youths Spread Holiday Cheer in Ocean County

Girl Scouts honored for helping Ocean County children 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 Abby Stern and Nikita Barde with the Outstanding Youth of the Year 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. The teens are members of the Girl Scouts of Central and Southern New Jersey. They each faced the enormous task of providing games and crafts for the children who attended the FAFS Ocean County Volunteer Committee breakfast with Santa.

This was a challenging assignment because the children ranged in age from infants to young teens. However, Abby and Nikita provided all types of crafts that were fun and age appropriate. They also assembled more than 200 "goodie" bags for Santa to distribute to the children.

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.

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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.

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