

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**FAFS Celebrates 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary by Honoring Parlin's Edward Ciak**

*Ciak has served as treasurer on the FAFS board of directors for 18 years*

Monmouth Junction, NJ, May 1, 2009 – Foster and Adoptive Family Services (FAFS) presented Edward Ciak with the first FAFS Founders' 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. Ciak, who received this special award along with Morris County's Janet Farrand, was acknowledged by FAFS co-founder, Sue Dondiego, at the end of the evening.

Ciak, treasurer on FAFS' board of directors for 18 years, has proven to be an energetic individual who has shown great skill in preparing budgets and other accounting practices.

The long-time Middlesex County resident also is treasurer of the newly-formed FAFS Foundation, which was created in December 2008 to help support the parent organization's privately-funded programs and services.

Ciak and his wife, Carol, were foster parents for more than 15 years. In that time they cared for 30 to 40 children, many of whom were infants. They have adopted three children, and they have two biological children.

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Besides his charitable endeavors with FAFS, and the foster care community, Ciak is known for his work at Carol's Printing and Typing, a family-owned business in Sayreville that has served the area for 34 years.

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.