

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**FAFS Selected as State Project by the NJ State Federation of Women's Clubs  
– Junior Membership**

Monmouth Junction, NJ, May 17, 2008 – Foster and Adoptive Family Services (FAFS) was recently selected as the 2008-2010 state project of the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs – Junior Membership. The official designation came on May 17 after several months of deliberation by numerous members of the NJSFWC and Junior Membership chapter.

FAFS, which received the winning bid with 36 of the 69 casted votes, was one of three finalists for the state project. Through the Junior Membership's volunteer and fundraising efforts, this new affiliation is expected to aid several of FAFS' programs that do not receive funding from the state. This includes FAFS' backpack and private scholarship programs as well as Fostering Wishes for Children, which is a mini-grant program designed to provide children in foster care with things that many foster parents are unable to supply (i.e. art/music lessons, camp registration, etc.).

Carol Frisby, the NJSFWC-JM state project chair, said she believes her organization will fit well with FAFS' overall mission of meeting the special needs of foster and adoptive families.

"What it comes down to is how well we can fit into FAFS' organization," Frisby said. "The way their programs are designed we can help. We are good at gathering things and collecting. All of this is right up our alley."

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The NJSFWC – Junior Membership is a statewide organization that consists of a wide range of women. It provides education, training and interaction opportunities for volunteers who are committed to enriching lives all through New Jersey. According to Frisby, there are 45 Junior Membership clubs throughout the state of New Jersey, which accounts for a membership of 1,009 people.

“(The Juniors) are a whole range of women who just want to improve the lives of the people around us,” Frisby said. “We are excited to work with FAFS for the next two years because we really believe that our organization can make a tremendous difference in the lives of the families FAFS is currently taking care of.”

The possibility of making such a difference for foster and adoptive families is something that excites FAFS’ executive director, Mary Jane Awrachow.

“We are honored to partner with the Juniors,” Awrachow said. “We are impressed by their exuberance, dedication, and commitment to children in foster care and the foster and adoptive families who care for them.”

Foster and Adoptive Family Services is a non-profit organization that provides training and support services to foster and adoptive parents statewide. Its mission is to meet the special needs of foster and adoptive families and to advocate for improved foster care and adoption services.

Anyone interested in receiving more information about FAFS or its services can contact Mary Jane Awrachow, Executive Director, at 609.520.1500.

Additional information on the NJSFWC – Junior Membership can be found on its Web site, [www.jerseyjuniors.com](http://www.jerseyjuniors.com).