

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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WISHES COME TRUE FOR CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE

FAFS announces 1000th wish granted to NJ children in foster care

Monmouth Junction, NJ, December 1, 2009 – *Fostering Wishes for Children*, a service of Foster and Adoptive Family Services (FAFS), recently granted its 1,000th wish to a New Jersey child in foster care, which was a therapy toy to help strengthen a developmentally delayed infant. Since its inception in 2000, *Fostering Wishes for Children* has given New Jersey's children in foster care the chance to take advantage of opportunities that enrich their lives, boost their self-esteem and promote feelings of belonging.

Fostering Wishes for Children grants modest wishes from New Jersey's children in foster care for special activities or items that, due to financial constraints, the state and their foster parents are unable to provide. Wishes have been granted for art, music and dance lessons, scouting fees, sports registration fees, prom bids, and more.

The experience of having a wish granted has an overwhelmingly positive effect on these children, who have been removed from their homes due to abuse or neglect and placed in foster care. The impact of the *Fostering Wishes for Children* program extends far beyond a one-time gift or event.

"Besides granting wishes for children in care, *Fostering Wishes for Children* shows foster parents that their communities support them, and that knowledge helps them continue to foster year after year," explains Janet Farrand, FAFS 1st Vice President. "Retaining foster parents gives children in foster care a chance for greater stability."

Children in foster care are the community's children, with the same hopes and dreams of all youngsters. With the support of their donors, FAFS continues to make those dreams come true with *Fostering Wishes for Children*.

Foster and Adoptive Family Services is a nonprofit, 501(c)3 organization, dedicated to providing support, training and advocacy to meet the special needs of foster, adoptive and kinship families, who provide safe, stable and nurturing homes for children in foster care.

To receive more information about *Fostering Wishes for Children*, or FAFS' other services, contact Nicky Goodwine-Samuels, Director of Development and Communications, at 1.800.222.0047.

Foster and Adoptive Family Services: The Voice of Foster, Adoptive and Kinship Families in NJ