



NEWS RELEASE

The 26th Judicial District of North Carolina

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Foster Care Adoptions Finalized as Part of Mecklenburg County

16th Annual National Adoption Day Event

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — On Saturday, November 23, 2019, beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the Mecklenburg County Courthouse (832 East Fourth Street, Charlotte, NC 28202) children and their families are scheduled to be recognized for their adoption on National Adoption Day. Light refreshments will be available.

National Adoption Day is free and open to the public. Mecklenburg County Juvenile Court, the Mecklenburg County Clerk of Superior Court's Office, Trial Court Administrator's Office, Mecklenburg County Department of Social Services, and the Judicial District 26 Guardian Ad Litem Program are co-sponsoring this event. District Court Judge Elizabeth Thornton-Trosch will preside over the certificate presentation in the courtroom. Families who attend this joyous celebration can participate in games and activities for children. Entertainment will feature face painting, photo booth, The Bouncing Bulldogs Jump Rope Team from Chapel Hill-Durham, North Carolina, and various children's characters from Illusions and Confusions.

This year, the court will recognize a total of 90 youth who have received adoption decrees between October 2018 and September 2019 to a total of 87 adoptive families. 44 of these youth were adopted through Mecklenburg County DSS/Youth & Family Service Adoptions, 13 were adopted through Mecklenburg County DSS Interstate Compact for Placement of Children (ICPC), 32 were adopted through Christian Adoption Services, and 1 was adopted through Caswell County Department of Social Services.

National Adoption Day seeks to bring awareness of the more than 125,000 children in the United States that are waiting in foster care for an adoptive family. The average wait for a child in foster care to be adopted is nearly three years. More than 20,000 children age out of the foster care system every year with no family or permanent home.

Sponsors of this year's National Adoption Day in Mecklenburg County include the local non-profit Justice Initiatives Inc., Mecklenburg County Department of Social Services-Youth and Family Services, Judicial District 26 Guardian ad Litem Program, and Kappa Alpha Theta. Special thanks to Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office, Meridian Management Corporation, Events.Com, Illusions and Confusions, ShutterBooth, and the social work students from UNC Charlotte.

If you are a member of the media and would like to attend, please contact Pamela Escobar about filling out an electronic media request form.

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