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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Indiana DCS highlights adoptive parents during awareness month

*Agency collaborates with Hoosier courts to make proceedings public*

**INDIANAPOLIS (Nov. 1, 2018)** – The Indiana Adoption Program and the Department of Child Services are partnering with the Indiana Supreme Court to share stories of children who have found loving and permanent homes across the state.

Each November, in honor of National Adoption Month, state agencies work to spread the word about children waiting to find their forever homes. Again this year, the Indiana Supreme Court has authorized judges across the state to open their courtroom doors to cameras to allow the public to witness and celebrate adoptions being finalized. Most of these special events will take place on or around national adoption day on Nov. 17, 2018.

“The month of November is an important time to recognize those who provide a loving and permanent family to Hoosier children who need it most,” DCS director Terry Stigdon said. “This month is also crucial to remind parents considered giving this gift that there are still children out there seeking a home to call their own.”

In Indiana, there are currently more than 1,500 children up for adoption.

Seeing dozens of them go home to loving families is heart-warming for all involved, officials agreed.

“Adoption Day is the happiest day in court,” Chief Justice Loretta Rush said. “The Judicial Branch is immensely proud to do our part in making Indiana one of the most adoption-friendly states in the country. The Supreme Court allows cameras in court for Adoption Day proceedings because we want to share the hope-filled faces of everyone involved in the special day.”



*Indiana children will live in safe, healthy and supportive families and communities.*

For more information on family friendly adoption events in your area, click [here](#). For more information about adoption opportunities and to meet some of Indiana's waiting children, click [here](#).

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**About Indiana DCS:** *The Indiana Department of Child Services engages with families and collaborates with state, local and community partners to protect children from abuse and neglect and to provide child support services. Indiana Child Abuse/Neglect Hotline: 800.800.5556. Child Support Customer Service Kidsline: 800.840.8757 or 317.233.5437. [www.in.gov/dcs](http://www.in.gov/dcs)*



*Protecting our children, families and future*