



Eric J. Holcomb, Governor  
Terry J. Stigdon, MSN, RN, Director  
**Indiana Department of Child Services**  
Room E306 – MS47  
302 W. Washington Street  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2738  
317-234-KIDS  
FAX: 317-234-4497

[www.in.gov/dcs](http://www.in.gov/dcs)

**Child Support Hotline: 800-840-8757**  
**Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline: 800-800-5556**

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Media Contact:

Noelle Russell  
Department of Child Services  
Cell: 317-756-1827  
Email: [Noelle.Russell@dcs.in.gov](mailto:Noelle.Russell@dcs.in.gov)

## Indiana DCS highlights adoptions during awareness month

*Agency collaborates with Hoosier courts to broadcast proceedings*

**INDIANAPOLIS (Nov. 2, 2020)** – The Indiana Adoption Program and the Department of Child Services are once again partnering with the Indiana Supreme Court to share stories of children who have found permanent loving 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 families. This year, efforts include a series of updates to the [Stories of DCS](#) website, with multiple blog posts and a podcast chronicling the stories of several adoptive families. DCS will also spread awareness about the importance of adoption through a social media campaign on Twitter ([@IndianaDCS](#)) and Instagram ([@VoicesofDCS](#)).

“November is always a special month,” DCS director Terry Stigdon said. “It’s a time for us all to appreciate and recognize those who support Hoosier children by providing a loving, permanent family and a stable home. It’s also a time to remind everyone there are still so many children out there awaiting their forever homes.”

There are currently more than 1,500 children eligible for adoption in Indiana with almost 300 still looking for an adoptive family. Recently, [Indiana was recognized as the top state in the nation](#) for matching the most foster children in need of a permanent home with an adoptive family. Being a part of adoptions throughout the month, and especially National Adoption Day on Nov. 21, is memorable for all involved, officials agreed.

“Adoption proceedings are the happiest days in court for the children, families, caseworkers and for the judges who are overjoyed for the newly minted families,” Chief Justice Loretta Rush



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said. “National Adoption Day celebrations allow us to showcase the positive role courts play helping families unite.”

The Indiana Supreme Court recently signed an order permanently authorizing media to broadcast uncontested adoption proceedings, which allows the public to witness and celebrate the happy moments for families as adoptions are finalized across the state.

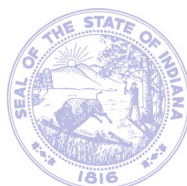
Local adoptive parent Amy Jo Fox knows the joy of those moments firsthand, having welcomed two children into her family.

“Adoption has increased our vision and impacted our purpose forever. It is the very place where brokenness and beauty reside, together, forever,” she said. “Our sons' adoptions were not rescue missions, us saving them from their story. Rather, their story became ours. We feel deeply connected with their biological family, and we try to honor them well. Adoption is where hope, sorrow, joy, pain, grief and love are kin.”

For more information about adoption and some of Indiana’s waiting children, click [here](#).

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***About Indiana DCS:*** *The Indiana Department of Child Services protects children from abuse and neglect and works to ensure their financial support. 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)*



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