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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## 343 foster kids now in forever homes

Events see 23 percent increase in adoptions finalized

**INDIANAPOLIS (Dec. 21, 2018)** – Hundreds of Hoosier children have now found their forever families thanks to dozens of successful National Adoption Month events across Indiana.

343 kids were adopted in November, a more than 23 percent increase from last year during the same annual celebration.

"Hundreds of Indiana children now have place to call home, just in time for the holidays," DCS director Terry Stigdon said. "Adoption has an incredible impact on everyone involved, and we're always happy when a child finds stability and permanency in a safe and loving home."

Each November, in honor of National Adoption Month, state agencies work to spread the word about children waiting to find a family to call their own. Again this year on National Adoption Day, the Indiana Supreme Court authorized judges across the state to open their courtroom doors to cameras to allow the public to witness and celebrate adoptions being finalized.

"We are immensely proud to have had so many trial court judges participate in National Adoption Day," Chief Justice Loretta Rush said. "Judges will tell you, Adoption Day is the happiest day in court, and the reason is the bright smiles of the kids and their forever families."

There are still children in the foster care system who are up for adoption. For more information about adoption opportunities and to meet some of Indiana's waiting children, click here.



**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

