



MAY IS NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH

IDEAS FOR FOSTER FAMILY RECOGNITION EVENTS OR ACTIVITIES

These ideas have been used successfully by foster care agencies in all parts of the country.

- Hold a press conference for the signing of proclamations by governors/mayors recognizing community service provided by foster families (see the Proclamation insert in this kit).
- Send a copy of the proclamation to all foster families.
- Send “thank you” letters from agency directors to foster families
- Issue news releases and photographs to local media.
- Host a Foster Family Recognition/Awards Banquet with dining and dancing.
- Involve youth in care and alumni in sponsoring foster family recognition events.
- Involve the business community in supporting foster families by donating awards, door prizes, discounts, complimentary services (manicures, massages, lawn mowing).
- Arrange a “Capitol Day” for foster families to educate lawmakers about foster care issues.
- Host a candlelight vigil to bring attention to the supports needed by foster families.
- Plan a “Step Out for Kids Walk-a-Thon” to raise money for supports and services for families and children; this is also a way to educate the public and recruit foster families.
- Invite all foster families to a “Zoo Day” or “Museum Day” with the support of the local zoo and children’s museums.
- Enlist civic organizations to plan programs to recognize the contribution of foster families.
- Post foster care information on billboards.
- Encourage pageant contestants to choose foster care and foster family recognition as their service platform.
- Develop a “Ribbon Campaign” by asking community members to support foster families by wearing a ribbon bow.