



# FOREVER FAMILIES INSIDER

Committed to Connection. Focused on Family.

## NEW YEAR, SAME MISSION

Forever Families has had a busy last few weeks! In November, we had our 4<sup>th</sup> annual vendor show. Thank you all for making it a success! We had over 90 vendors, 400 shoppers, and raised \_\_\_\_money for our children in care. We also had our holiday shop, where our birth parents could shop for free Christmas presents for their children. Additionally, we had Operation Good Cheer where over presents were distributed to all of our children in care thanks to donors.\*\*\* SANTA DAY\*\*\*. Thank you for your support and fundraising to make it a magical Christmas for all of our youth!

Catch us at the Michigan Shadow hockey game on 01/10/2026 at 7:15pm at Big Boy Arena in Fraser!

## SENSORY PLAY OF THE MONTH

- Make an edible sandbox!
- Fill a kid size plastic pool with a few boxes of crushed up cherrios, graham crackers, or corn starch. Lay towels near and underneath! This might get messy.
- Pretend you're at the beach with a shovel and pail and ocean themed toys. Use jelly beans for edible rocks or edible sea shells.
- Pretend to be a palentologist. Bury dinosaurs or other items for the child to dig up.
- Pretend you're at a Monster Truck Rally. Use toy trucks and cars. Have a cup of water handy for "car washes".
- Use measuring cups, plastic eggs, spoons, or funnels to work on scooping and pouring.

## COMMUNITY RESOURCE OF THE MONTH:

### -FOSTER CLOSETS-

- Foster closets allow families to shop for free if they have placement of a child who is in foster care, adopted a child from the welfare system, or have guardianship of a child who was in foster care.
- They offer clothes, diapers, hygiene products, toys, bikes, school supplies, baby equipment, games, and more!
- They accept donations of new and gently used items.
- Sign your child up for their birthday club! Depending on location, registered children will receive a birthday cake, party supplies, and a new toy for their birthday.
- They also host events for families and children.
- Google "foster closet near me" to find one local to your home!



60-70% of children who are in foster care have sibling who is also in the welfare system and of that, about 53-80% of children are separated from at least one of their siblings while in care.

## YOUTH OF THE MONTH!



Jasper is 3 years old and looking for his forever family. He is severely disabled caused by trauma that occurred when he was an infant. It is recommended that he remain in contact with his sister and current relative caregiver. Jasper's forever family should have medical experience or be willing to obtain medical training to meet Jasper's needs. The family must be willing and prepared to adapt their lifestyle to accommodate Jasper's mobility issues and his inability to see.

Jasper is very loving. He enjoys cuddling, snuggling, his body pillow, and music. Jasper is in need of a loving family who will seek out and utilize resources, services, and medical providers to best meet his needs on a permanent basis. To learn more email his adoption worker, Amanda, at [apolinski@forever-families.org](mailto:apolinski@forever-families.org)

## WE WERE BUSY IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER!

**Licensed Foster Homes Opened: 2**

**Adoptions Finalized: 2, both on National Adoption Day!**

**Reunifications/Children Returned Home: 3**



## SWEATER WEATHER

**The cold season is upon us once again. Make sure your child remains safe in their car seat. Heavy coats can create extra room in the harness causing a loose fit putting the child at risk for injury in the event of a crash. Instead, choose lightweight layers and add a blanket on top of them for warmth or put a coat on backwards AFTER strapping them in their harness.**

**Keep pets warm this season, they're part of the family too! Put sweaters on them, be mindful of how much time they spend outside, and make a cozy spot for them to lay inside the house.**

## FEELING GENEROUS?

Shop our Amazon Wish List or use QR Code:

<https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlists/ls/REPLACE-LINK>

Venmo: @Forever-FamiliesInc

CashApp: #FFamilies

PayPal: [paypal.me/ForeverFamiliesMI](https://www.paypal.me/ForeverFamiliesMI)



*Congratulations* ★

**Rebrecca Preweda**

**Our Employee of the Month!**

Thank you for all your hard and consistent work to get our new parent-child visit rooms completed! You worked many long days and stayed in communication with lots of different parties to get this years long project fulfilled. Our new rooms look fabulous and provide our families with a bright, creative, and safe place to visit with one another. We appreciate you being a part of the Forever Families team!

## GET CONNECTED

Give us a Like on Facebook and follow us on Instagram at @foreverfamiliesmi to stay connected on the most up to date information and learn fun facts!

☎ (734) 762-0909

✉ [info@forever-families.org](mailto:info@forever-families.org)

f @ForeverFamiliesLivonia

🌐 [www.forever-families.org](http://www.forever-families.org)

## Media of the Month:

**The Primal Wound: Understanding the Adopted Child by Nancy Verrier**

**Learn how the mother-child separation affects an adoptee, including those adopted at birth.**

