

FOREVER FAMILIES INSIDER

Committed to Connection. Focused on Family.

WELCOME!

Welcome to the first edition of the Forever Families Insider! We are so happy to have you here to learn about exciting updates from our agency, ways to support our agency, media recommendations, activities to do with your children and so much more! For 2025 you can expect this newsletter to be released in September, November, and December. Once we roll into 2026 this newsletter will be sent out every month. If you have any suggestions for topics to cover or any feedback please reach out to Melissa Butkovich-Carraway at MButkovich-Carraway@Forever-Families.org

WE WERE BUSY IN JULY AND AUGUST!

Domestic Adoptions: 4 safe surrender placements!

State Ward Adoptions: 2 finalized adoptions!

FALL THINGS TO DO

- Agency bowling fundraiser
 - Saturday 10/25/2025 from 12pm-3pm
 - Plaza Lanes 42001 Ann Arbor Rd, Plymouth, MI 48170
 - \$30 a person includes 2 hours of bowling, pizza, shoes, and non-alcohol drinks
- Soak up the fresh fall air by going to a cider mill / apple orchard, playing with your children in the leaves, carving pumpkins, on a family bike ride, or roasting marshmallows over a bonfire

JOIN US AT....

The MARE Heart Gallery

Where: Emagine Theater

200 N Main St, Royal Oak, MI 48067

When: Saturday 09/13/2025

from 10:30am-02:00pm

Why: The MARE Heart Gallery is a traveling photographic exhibit that features youth in foster care currently waiting to be matched with their adoptive families. This year, they are featuring 57 Michigan children. It's an opportunity to learn how you can support older children and teens in foster care and celebrate their stories. The event is free to attend. Meet other pre-adoptive families, waiting children, and adoption professionals.

Did you know.....?

About 34% of children who are in foster care are placed with a relative and roughly the same percentage of children are adopted from the foster care system by a relative.

YOUTH OF THE MONTH!



MARE photo listing #C010628

If you are interested please
contact her adoption
caseworker, Deirdre
Walker at
dwalker@forever-families.org

Dannielynn (Dannie) is 15 years old and enjoys reading, writing, drawing, dancing, fashion, giving makeovers, celebrating holidays with her family, and sleepovers with her friends. She is a member of her school's cheerleading squad and marching band. She is described as outgoing, silly, and helpful. She would do best in a home with a single female parent, two female parents or a mom and dad who are experienced and trauma informed. She would enjoy a home with pets and a family who allows her to keep in contact with her siblings.



CONGRADULATIONS TO OUR STAFFS OF THE MONTH!

Amber Burmeister
&
Daleatha King

TELL YOUR FRIENDS ABOUT US!

Our domestic adoption department is looking for more adoptive families! We like to have our pool at 15 families and right now we have openings. Please send our information to anyone you know who is interested in adopting an infant through our program! We are also always open to working with and assessing pregnant women who want to consider adoption for their baby. If you know anyone who has questions about or wants to place their infant for adoption please send them our way. We're here to help!

Our licensing department is looking for more foster families. We can never have too many! If you know anyone who wants to be a foster parent please have them reach out to our agency.

FEELING GENEROUS?

- Toy Drive now through November 1st, 2025.
 - We are collecting new, unwrapped toys for youth in foster care and adoptive homes. Suggestions: art kits, board games, sensory toys, teen essentials, room décor, and books.
 - Shop our Amazon Wish List (must be logged into Amazon to view): <https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/REPLACE-LINK>
- Venmo: @Forever-FamiliesInc
- CashApp: #FFamilies

WE LOVE OUR FANS!

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!

Media of the Month:

Book: The Connected Child by David R. Cross, Karyn B. Purvis, and Wendy Lyons Sunshine.

Learn about parenting strategies to build bond and trust with your adopted child, effectively deal with learning or behavioral issues, discipline your child lovingly, and support their growth and well-being.