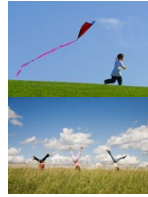


POSSIBILITIES are endless...



Hope For Kids
Therapeutic Foster Care
& Adoption



Kidz Rainbow Center
Daycare & Early Learning



TRAININGS & EVENTS

New Foster Parent Orientation

Apr. 10 and 17

Agency Picnic

July 16

Understanding Children's Sensory Integration

Issues

Aug. 7

Helping Kids in a Sensory Filled World

Aug. 24

Benner Township Fall Festival

Sept. 18

Foster Parent Annual Training

Oct. 2

Hope For 5Kids Run

October 16

Visit our website for time and location

It Should Not Hurt To Be A Child



Child Abuse & Neglect Statistics

- ♥ At any time there are 22,000 children and youth in the foster care system in Pennsylvania.
 - ♥ In 2009, ChildLine received 25,342 reports of suspected child abuse.
 - ♥ Of those reports, 3,943 were substantiated child abuse reports.
 - ♥ 51% of all substantiated reports involved sexual abuse.
 - ♥ 61% of all perpetrators of substantiated abuse had a parental relationship to the victim child
 - ♥ In 2009, **43 children died** as a result of abuse in Pennsylvania.
 - ♥ In 2009, 90% of the children who died as a result of child abuse were four or younger – 40% of all deaths claimed the lives of children under the age of one.
 - ♥ More than 1 in 5 children who are never adopted will become homeless after age 18.
 - ♥ Without a family, 1 in 4 foster children will be incarcerated within 2 years of leaving the system.
- Will you help us mend these broken children?***



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Statistics Sources: The Mandated Reporting of Child Abuse, Centre County Children and Youth Services; Protect our Children Committee, The PCAR Pinnacle Website; National Foster Care Coalition, May 2010 News Release

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www.hopeforkidsinc.org

Hope For Kids ♦ Kidz Rainbow Center
1400 Fox Hill Rd, State College, PA 16803
Between Toftrees and University Park Airport
1.2 miles from PSU

(814) 353-7777
www.kidzrainbowcenter.org



No Unwanted Children...Only Unfound Families

By Judge Bradley P. Lunsford



Judge Bradley P. Lunsford

If you see me wearing my blue tie with pink storks, you know that there is an adoption on my court docket. I will confess that adoptions are my favorite court duty. A formality I do not take lightly. I also find great joy in being a part of the post proceeding photos. I enjoy smiling for the numerous family photographs while I sit behind my bench. Before handing the child back to the joyful parents, I welcome the child to the family. I invite older adopted children to take my gavel and sit in the big chair behind my bench. Perhaps they will be inspired one day to wear the robe. The most gratifying part of these proceedings, however, is the role I play in formalizing the bond between a child and his or her forever family. As a Common Pleas judge, the vast portion of my duties can be somewhat negative. But on this day, I have helped to create a family. A child leaves the courtroom as a member of a caring, loving and stable family. What I find most inspiring however, is the parents. More specifically, foster parents who choose to adopt the child who had been previously and "temporarily" placed in their care.

Foster care is meant to be a temporary shelter for a child whose birthparents are unable to care for them. Foster care can be informal or arranged through the courts or a social service agency. Generally, the plan is for reunification with the birth family when they become able to provide care. This goal may be changed to adoption when this is determined to be in the best interest of the child. While foster care is temporary, adoption is permanent.

Foster families serve as a safety net for children who often times live in horrendous conditions. Perhaps the children have been neglected or the parents have a physical or mental impairment that prevents them from providing adequate care for their child. There is no greater service to the court than the services provided by our foster families. They provide loving care, stability and safety. There is no requirement that the foster family adopts the child but often, when the child needs more permanent living arrangements, the foster family steps in.

Foster parents may be able to adopt the child in their care if the child becomes available through a foster-adopt program with their agency such as Hope For Kids. In fact, most adoptions in the United States are by the children's foster parents. There are an estimated 500,000 children being served by the foster care system nationally with approximately 52,000 being adopted by their foster families.

My wife and I are blessed to be the parents of two wonderful children through the process of adoption. I remember vividly the day that we became our son's foster parents, the first step to becoming his adoptive parents. His birthmother was young, single and unable to meet his needs. Her love of this little guy convinced her that adoption was in his best interest. I will forever admire, respect and thank her for making that decision.

My first memory of my daughter occurred when I entered the family room of her foster parents' home. My soon to be "forever daughter" melted my heart for the first time with her big green eyes. Her foster parents were an older couple that had given numerous children a loving, temporary home over the years. Having raised a family of their own and now grandparents, they warmly welcomed infants and toddlers into their home while the court worked to terminate parental rights to allow the adoptive family to take over. We are forever grateful to them for nurturing our daughter while she waited for us to come into her life.

For me, respect and admiration of foster families and the adoption process goes way beyond my professional experiences. My family has been blessed twice as have many other families in our community. With each adoption story it becomes clear that there are no unwanted children, only unfound families.

Judge Lunsford and Hope For Kids Foster Parents Floyd and Emily Deterline at their adoption of Kasen. Pictured are Kasen Deterline, Judge Lunsford, Emily Deterline, (Back row) Floyd, Stephanie, Jomar and Daniel Deterline. This is the Deterline's 5th adoption and they are working on their 6th and 7th!





2010 Pre-K Rainbow Graduates



Upcoming Trainings & Events

- Staff In-Service Trainings
July 23, Oct. 15
- Parent Educational Support
Aug. 10, Aug. 17
- Agency Picnic
July 16
- Sensory Integration Training
Aug. 7
- Helping Kids in a Sensory Filled World
Aug. 24
- Early Childhood Summit Conference
Oct. 14, 15, 16
- Benner Township Fall Festival
Sept. 18
- 5K Race
October 16



A Better Tomorrow for Today's Children

Did you know that each of us influences at least 10,000 other people during our lifetime? So the question is not whether you will influence someone, but how you will use your influence.

A child's first years of Early Education is critical to his/her development and lifelong learning. The quality of their learning experience will effect their readiness and future success in school and life.

KRC partners and shares the responsibility with families in our community to help influence their children to have a strong sense of confidence, self-worth and good character. "A Rainbow is a reflection of light, character is a reflection of our children."

Congratulations to our little RAINBOWS!

KRC Wish List

- Van or Mini-Bus
 - Outdoor Riding Toys
- Please call us at (814) 353-7777



American Association of University Women Supports Early Childcare

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research. Keeping in line with that mission, the State College Branch has awarded Kidz Rainbow Center with \$7,000 to support the professional development initiative, "A Better Tomorrow for Today's Children."

Thank you AAUW!!!



Parent Testimonial

The decision to put Abi in daycare first of all, was a tough one. We looked at several center before a friend of our suggested KRC—now we refer everyone. Thank you for taking such good care of Abi.

~ Rob, Karie & Abigail Starnes

How You Can Help



PRINT Full Name _____ Business Name (For Donations Only) _____
 Street/Address/Apt # _____ City/State/Zip _____
 Contact Phone Number _____ Email Address _____

- I would like to make a tax-deductible donation of \$_____.
- Please contact me about making a planned gift or bequest.
- I am interested in supporting scholarship funding.
- I would like to sponsor the publishing of this newsletter with a donation of \$_____.

*To make a gift online, please visit our websites for safe, [PayPal](#) donation.

*All personal data is kept confidential.

Hope For Kids
POSSIBILITIES
 Kidz Rainbow Center

1400 Fox Hill Rd,
 State College, PA 16803

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LIMITED SEATING AVAILABLE!!
Upcoming Workshop

Hope For Kids is sponsoring an important introductory training conducted by Melissa Gett, OTR/L, for parents and professionals on Helping Kids in a Sensory Filled World.

Not everyone interprets and processes sensory input equally. For some children, typical sights and sounds are overstimulating and agitating; for other children they are understimulated by common experiences which may be dangerous.

When: Tuesday, August 24, 2010
 Time: 9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
 Where: Patton Township Building
 Fee: \$15.00
 RSVP: pmenges@hopeforkidsinc.org

Never Deprive a Child of Hope
 It Might Be All They Have



For more information or questions regarding this newsletter, please contact the Newsletter Editor: Patti A. Menges at pmenges@hopeforkidsinc.org

BIACC Business After Hours Pig Roast

Hope For Kids and Kidz Rainbow Center hosted a BIACC Business After Hours Pig Roast on June 16, 2010. *Special Thanks to our sponsors, Fiore Fedeli Snyder Carothers, Mary Jane Mattern, Nittany Bank, Jersey Shore State Bank, Karen Galambos, and Barry Hafer Insurance!* Many thanks to Gary Hoover, BIACC Executive Director for all his help and rolling up his sleeves and pitching in! Winners of the door prizes were: Grand Prize Winner, Brett Lucas, Nittany Bank (Spikes Suite for 20), Diana Blazina, Jersey Shore State Bank, (Deluxe Picnic Basket), Ginny McAdoo, Nittany Bank, (Usborne Children's Books Gift Basket) and Holly Reigh, Reigh Services, (Deluxe Arm Camp Chair).

Congratulations!



Brett Lucas of Nittany Bank pictured with Brenda Goldman, President & CEO of HFK & KRC accepting his prize of a Spikes Suite for 20! Brett said, "I just would like to say that the pig roast was very nice and the food was great. I am glad that I finally understand the services that Hope For Kids and Kidz Rainbow Center provides."