



# News Release

The 26<sup>th</sup> Judicial District of North Carolina

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**For Immediate Release:**

Friday, November 22, 2013

## **Foster Care Adoptions Finalized as Part of 10<sup>th</sup> Annual National Adoption Day Event**

**Charlotte, NC-** On Saturday, November 23rd beginning at 9:00 a.m. in Courtroom 5370 of the Mecklenburg County Courthouse, children from five different agencies (Mecklenburg County Department of Social Services, Christian Adoption Services, Lutheran Family Services, Another Choice for Black Children, and Children's Homes Society) are scheduled to be adopted on Adoption Day. Nearly all are currently in Mecklenburg County's foster care system. The adoptions will be finalized during a special session of court. Light refreshments are available for families.

The event, part of National Adoption Day, is free and open to the public. Mecklenburg County Juvenile Court, the Mecklenburg County Clerk of Superior Court's Office, Mecklenburg County Department of Social Services, and the Guardian Ad Litem program are co-sponsoring this event. The court session will be presided over by District Court Judge Louis A. Trosch, Jr. and is part of a larger event taking place at the courthouse that includes games and activities for children. Representatives from various adoption agencies will also be on hand to answer questions regarding adoption.

National Adoption Day is a collective national effort to raise awareness of the over 100,000 children in foster care waiting to find permanent, loving families. For the last 13 years, National Adoption Day has made the dreams of thousands of children come true by working with courts, judges, attorneys, adoption professionals, child welfare agencies and advocates to finalize adoptions and find permanent, loving homes for children in foster care.

Celebrated in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico since 2000, National Adoption Day has grown from nine events in its first year to more than 400 events in 2011 with nearly 4,800 adoptions finalized across the United States. Between 2000 and 2012, more than 44,500 children were joined together with their forever families as part of National Adoption Day activities. Communities across the county celebrate the Saturday before every Thanksgiving. This year the National Adoption Day Coalition expects 4,500 foster care children to be adopted on National Adoption Day, on November 23, 2012.

The official sponsor of this year's Adoption Day in Mecklenburg County is Justice Initiatives Inc.

For more information regarding this news release, please contact: Charles Keller, Community Access and Outreach Administrator, at 704-686-0269 or email [charles.w.keller@nccourts.org](mailto:charles.w.keller@nccourts.org).