



## COMMUNITY AND FAITH BASED INITIATIVE NOVEMBER 2008 UPDATE

**NOVEMBER IS NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH!**



### **NEW HAMPSHIRE HOSTS FIRST ADOPTION PARTY**

Saturday November 15<sup>th</sup> may have been raw and cold outside, but the atmosphere inside the Londonderry YMCA was warm and inviting as waiting children and potential adoptive parents met and mingled. The event, sponsored by Wendy's Wonderful Kids, The Division for Children, Youth, and Families, and Orchard Christian Fellowship was the first of this type of event to be hosted in New Hampshire. The initial tension on the part of the invitees dissipated as the children and families created craft projects, played games, and were entertained by Mr. Phil's magic tricks. At the end of the event each child and family went home with a gift bag as well as a t-shirt from the "Life is Good" company. Thanks to all of the volunteers as well as each person who attended. We are hopeful that some connections were made at the event that will lead to a child or children finding their "forever family" and we are thankful for all the hard work that went into making this first adoption party memorable and fun.

### **OPERATION CHRISTMAS JOY**

Each year we are asked to share the need for Christmas gifts for the children in foster or residential care who will not otherwise receive gifts. If you are able to help, please e-mail Beth Bascom at [blessings@metrocast.net](mailto: blessings@metrocast.net). We have asked to have all requests to us by December 12<sup>th</sup>, however sometimes children come into care just before Christmas, so if you are able to possibly fill last minute requests, please let Beth know that. The Division for Children, Youth, and Families has requested that the gifts be unwrapped. Donations of wrapping paper are also needed and would be most appreciated.

### **UShareNH**

If you are a community or faith leader wanting your organization to make a greater impact in the life of your community, UShareNH can help connect you to needs and volunteer opportunities. UShareNH is a web-based tool created to connect the needs of the community with those who are able to meet those needs. To become part of the UShareNH Network, register at [UShareNH.org](http://UShareNH.org).

### **THANKS FOR HELPING OUR TEENS**

In the last e-mail update we asked for assistance for hockey expenses for a teen whose family wanted him to be able to play, but could not financially cover the full cost of participation. Special thanks to Ardie Lee and her husband for their help in making sure this young man will be able to play.

Thanks also to Ted Gardner from LaHoute's Country Clothing and Ski Store in Littleton who agreed to provide a full package of cross country ski equipment at a significant discount for a 16 year old girl who wanted to

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Website: [www.bethany.org/faithfullyonebyone](http://www.bethany.org/faithfullyonebyone)

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**Kelly Smith** (Concord), Tel: 491-9244, E-mail: [Kellylynsmith@comcast.net](mailto:Kellylynsmith@comcast.net)

**Scott St. Louis**, Wendy's Wonderful Kids (Manchester region) Tel: 401-8303, E-mail: [sstlouis@bethany.org](mailto:sstlouis@bethany.org)

begin cross country skiing again as a way to reconnect with a positive part of her past. Thanks also to the Littleton First Congregational Church for donating the money to pay for the ski package.

## NH WAITING CHILD/CHILDREN

**Collin**, age 10

“I would like a family who will be nice to me”



Photo by Dennis Spaziano

Collin is a very handsome, healthy boy with light brown hair and brown eyes. He has very long eyelashes and is told this by most people who meet him. Collin likes to climb trees, play games and draw. He is a very engaging little boy who gets along well with adults.

Collin is ten years old and going into the 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Predictability is very important to him so a family who has structure in their lives would be beneficial.

Collin will do best in a home with an older sibling as a positive role model or as an only child in the home. He is proud to have a little sister with whom he has some contact. Her adoptive family indicates they are open to continuing some contact between the siblings.

Please contact us if you believe you might be the family for Collin: **Nancy Dubois** at 603-524-4485 or **Scott St. Louis** at 603-401-8303.

**BULLETIN INSERTS FOR NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH** are available on our web site to be downloaded.

Just go to: <http://www.bethany.org/A55798/bethanyWWW.nsf/0/644F1726BB514B8D852571C300636C23>

Wishing you all a blessed Thanksgiving,  
Jan Lessard and the Community and Faith Based Initiative team

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