

COMMUNITY AND FAITH BASED INITIATIVE MARCH 2009 UPDATE



Please Join Us on Sunday April 5th at 2:00 PM in Manchester for a Benefit Performance

Robyn Goulette, foster/adoptive mother and a gifted dancer asked to meet with our staff last fall about an idea she had to raise funds for foster children involved in arts and sports programs. "When Love Takes You In" is the benefit performance that is the culmination of Robyn's vision and labor of love. This performance is scheduled for 2:00PM on April 5th at Shiloh Community Church located at 55 Edmund Street in Manchester, NH (the zip code is 03102 for those of you checking via map quest for directions).

The program will include dance and drama performances as well as a talk about the importance of sports, and testimonials by Mrs. New Hampshire and Keith Marsh, foster parent and adoptive father. There will also be a reception following the performance. Admission is free. A free will offering will be taken at the event with the proceeds to go to NH foster and adoptive children involved in the arts and sports programs in their local communities. If you would like more information, please call Bethany Christian Services at 483-2886.

Help Needed For the 3RD Annual Foster & Adoptive Family Celebration

This May 16th we will hold our 3rd annual celebration for foster/adoptive families in NH. The event is moving to Manchester and will be held at Shiloh Community Church. The theme this year is "Around the World Block Party" and our plan is to have a number of tents set up for the families to visit where they can try different ethnic foods, learn a new skill, play a game etc. The possibilities are endless, we are basically just asking that you come to help the children and their families have a good time. If your church or community group would like to host a booth, please contact the office at Bethany Christian Services at 483-2886 or e-mail JLessard@Bethany.org One goal of the event is that each child/family receives a gift bag, thus donations/ideas for the gift bags would be welcome as well. If you are considering hosting a booth or helping out in some other way and are free this Friday (03.27.09), there is a meeting at 9:30AM at Shiloh Community Church located at 55 Edmund Street Manchester, please join us to help make this the best event ever for our families.

Musical Instruments Donated

Bethany Christian Services has received a slightly used electric keyboard with the request that it go to a child in foster care. Please contact our office if you know of a child who would appreciate this gift. Also, we have an electric guitar (without the amplifier) that we would also like to pass on to a foster or adoptive child. Please call the Bethany office at 483-2886 for more information.

UShareNH

If you are a community or faith leader desiring to know how your organization can make a greater impact in your community and across the state, UShareNH can help connect you to needs and volunteer opportunities. UShareNH is a web-based site created to connect the needs of the community with those who are able to meet the needs. To become part of the UShareNH network, register at UShareNH.org

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Website: www.bethany.org/faithfullyonebyone

Jan Lessard at Bethany Christian Services, Tel: 483-2886, E-mail: faithfullyonebyone@bethany.org

Keith Marsh CFBI Advisory Board, Chairperson, Tel: 738-7759, E-mail: keith@cybergrace.org

Beth Bascom (Claremont, Keene, Laconia, Nashua, Portsmouth, Rochester, Salem), Tel: 401-8309 E-mail: blessings@metrocast.net

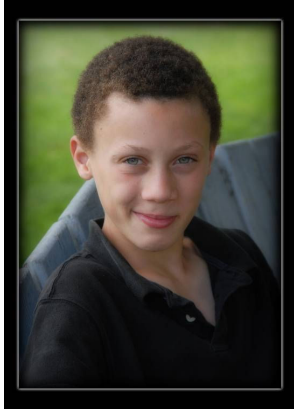
Kelly Smith (Concord), Tel: 491-9244, E-mail: Kellylynsmith@comcast.net

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

Foster Parent's Share Their Mission

The staff at the Division for Children, Youth, and Families is currently putting together informational packets for foster families to share with their friends and families about providing a home for children in need in New Hampshire. If you are a current foster or adoptive family and would like assistance in hosting an information meeting or if you would like some packets to have on hand to give out as you share your fostering experiences with others informally, please contact Catherine Meister at Catherine.L.Meister@dhhs.state.nh.us or 271-8382.

NH Waiting Child



Travon, 11

Hi! My name is Travon.

“I like doing lots of fun outdoor activities.”

Let me tell you more about myself...

Science is my favorite subject in school.

Photograph by Nylora Bruleigh

And here's what others say...

Travon is a soft-spoken, but an engaging eleven year old youngster of Latino and African American heritage. Currently, he lives in a group home where he is doing well and takes pride in his accomplishments. Travon enjoys staying active and is a competitive athlete. He has participated on basketball and baseball teams in the past and is also an excellent swimmer. During quieter moments, Travon likes watching movies and playing video games.

Travon is going into the sixth grade next year. He is now reading close to grade level and has the potential to continue making academic strides. Travon is well-liked by his teachers and gets along well with his peers. Travon says he might like to become a gym teacher when he gets older. Due to issues from his past, Travon participates in weekly therapy and is learning to accept limits and expectations. He needs structure and consistency both at home and in school. Travon is learning to be a leader, and he would benefit from having a positive male role model in his life. He hopes to find a peaceful and loving family who will support him in maintaining his connection to his siblings who have already been adopted. Legally free for adoption, Travon will surely thrive once he has a committed family by his side.

If I could have my own special wish...

I would have a family that spends time with me doing some of the activities I love.

For more information...

Contact Joanna Cote at: 603-883-7726 or jcote@dhhs.state.nh.us

With appreciation for all you do for the children and wishes for a blessed Spring,
Jan Lessard for the Community and Faith Based Initiative.

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