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## **Wisconsin Celebrates the Joys of Adoption for Parents and Children**

Governor Doyle understands the true value of adoption and the incredible role that adoptive parents play in the life of a child. To celebrate adoptive parents the Governor issued a proclamation recognizing November as Adoption Month in Wisconsin.

The Department of Children and Families (DCF) joins Governor Doyle and First Lady Jessica Doyle in recognizing adoptive families and encouraging people to consider adoption. Later this month, the Governor and First Lady will honor adoptive families from around the State by awarding the 2009 Governor's Outstanding Adoptive Parent Awards. These awards recognize and thank adoptive parents for opening their hearts and homes to children. DCF Secretary Reggie Bicha will also participate in the Milwaukee County National Adoption Day celebration on November 20, 2009 where 25 children will be adopted into their forever families.

"As we look around our communities, we see the changes made in the life of a child due to the love and commitment from parents. National Adoption Month celebrates this and is a reminder that more children are waiting to be welcomed into a caring family," stated DCF Secretary Reggie Bicha.

Every year about 100 children are waiting to be adopted in Wisconsin.

"The rewards of adoption are priceless. Parents have the unmatched joy of raising these children who without them may not have a home to call their own. You do not need to be a perfect person to provide a loving home for a child who needs one," said Bicha. "Adopting a child will change your life – and a child's – forever."

For more information about adoption, please visit the DCF or Adoption Resources of Wisconsin websites at [www.wifostercareandadoption.org](http://www.wifostercareandadoption.org) and [www.dcf.wisconsin.gov](http://www.dcf.wisconsin.gov).

### **ABOUT DCF**

The Department of Children and Families, created last year, is dedicated to protecting children, strengthening families and building communities. Since the formation of the Department 15 months ago, DCF has made improvements to better serve the changing needs of Wisconsin's families and to ensure a better future for parents and children.

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