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## ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES CELEBRATES 2019 NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH WITH CITYWIDE EVENTS

*Throughout November, the Administration for Children's Services Will Recognize Adoptive Families & Remind New Yorkers that There are Children & Teens in Foster Care Who Need Loving Forever Families*

New York, NY – Throughout the month of November, the New York City Administration for Children's Services (ACS) will celebrate National Adoption Month by celebrating New Yorkers who have adopted and professionals who work to support the adoption process. National Adoption Month is celebrated every November across the country to remind everyone that there are children and teens in foster care who cannot return home and who need loving forever families.

"Adoption is not about finding children for families, it's about finding families for children," **said ACS Commissioner David A. Hansell.** "While the number of young people in foster care remains at a historic low in New York City, all young people deserve loving homes and a forever family. Throughout National Adoption Month, ACS is proud to celebrate the adoptive families who represent the diversity of our great city, who have opened their hearts to provide safe and loving homes for our most vulnerable young people. ACS is committed to making sure that every child, no matter his or her background or age, has a forever family."

"All children should have a safe and supportive family to call their own," **said Jim Purcell, President and CEO of the Council of Family and Child Caring Agencies.** "New York City's foster care agencies work throughout the year to build strong families for the children and youth in care and are grateful to those adults who take the time and effort to join in this important mission. We offer our congratulations to all the children and adults who have made these connections and have decided to form families and futures together."

New York City's foster care system is undergoing significant transformation and the number of young people in the City's foster care is at a historic, 25-year low of approximately 8,300 children. Youth in foster care are among the nation's most vulnerable young people as many have experienced abuse or neglect as well as other traumas.

ACS is aggressively implementing its [Foster Care Strategic Blueprint FY19 – FY23](#) to improve permanency outcomes, continue to reduce the number of youth that age out of care and help youth transition successfully to adulthood.

Research shows that children benefit greatly from the stability of a permanent family, and young adults need lasting family connections and support as they transition into adulthood. Most children in foster care return home to their families, but when that is not possible, adoption or kinship guardianship (relatives or close friends who become permanent caretakers) are the desirable outcomes.

For information about becoming an adoptive parent, please  
visit: <http://www1.nyc.gov/site/acs/child-welfare/foster-adopt.page>

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