

# Press Release

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*For more information contact:*

*Heather Sharb, Public Information Specialist at 740-687-6706*

## **JFS Celebrates Foster and Adoptive Parents at Recognition Event**

Each year, during the month of May, Fairfield County Job & Family Services recognizes Foster and Adoptive Parents with a recognition event as part of National Foster Care Month. “ This is always an exciting month for us as we take the opportunity to recognize and share appreciation with those foster and adoptive parents who have made the decision to change a life forever by fostering a future for children.” said Rich Bowlen, Director of Child Protective Services. “As a parent, I recognize how much children need role models. Especially children who are searching for safe harbor from the trauma and horrific events they’ve already experienced in their young lives. They need the homes of caring adults who can offer safety, security and love. Making a positive impact in the life of a child, to me, is the most meaningful motivator in life. As one foster parent told me, ‘The love we share with a child is the greatest gift we can give. The difference we make in a child's life is the greatest gift we can receive.’”

Fostering is important because it helps to stabilize a child who has been removed from the home due to abuse or neglect. Foster parents provide a secure place to live until the child can either return home or establish a lifelong connection to another nurturing adult. National Foster Care Month provides Fairfield County Job & Family services with an opportunity to build awareness about the need for foster parents, volunteers, mentors and employers to get involved in this community need. If you are interested in learning more about becoming a foster parent, call the Child Protective Services Division of Fairfield County Job & Family Services at 740-653-4060.