



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Jacqueline Morris
Adoption Unit Social Work Supervisor
Telephone: 910-677-2046
Email: jacquelinemorris@ccdssnc.com

Court Ceremony Unites Children, Adoptive Parents

FAYETTEVILLE – The Cumberland County Clerk of Court’s Office united 42 children with permanent families in a Forever Family Celebration presided over by Clerk of Court Judge Kim Tucker Nov. 18 in the Courthouse. The Clerk of Court hosted a reception for the new families following the ceremony.

“This is the happiest court session of the year,” Tucker said. “It is so appropriate that National Adoption Day and Thanksgiving Day both occur in the month of November.”

The ceremony was held one day after the Department of Social Services Adoption Conference at the Crown Complex. The day-long Teaming Up To Adopt conference on Nov. 17 drew 250 attendees from departments of social services and adoption organizations from all over the state. They attended professional development workshops and heard guest speakers.

The conference featured keynote speaker Sean Tuohy, whose family’s story was featured in the film “The Blind Side.” Tuohy and his wife adopted an older child, professional football player Michael Oher. Other speakers included Ashley Rhodes-Courter and Willie Moore Jr, who relayed stories about being adopted and living in foster care.

There are more than 900 children in foster care in Cumberland County. The Department of Social Services is seeking families and individuals to provide a loving foster or adoptive home for these children. Foster parents must be:

- At least 21 years of age
- Cumberland County residents
- Financially stable and have sufficient room in their home

Information sessions are held on the third Thursday of each month at noon and 6:30 p.m. at the DSS building, 1225 Ramsey St. However, no more sessions will be held this year. Sessions start again Jan. 19. Call 910-677-2541 or go to ccdssnc.com for more information.

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