

## DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

## CHILDREN'S DIVISION

P. O. BOX 88

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

June 23, 2009

## M E M O R A N D U M

TO: REGIONAL EXECUTIVE STAFF, CIRCUIT MANAGERS, AND  
CHILDREN'S DIVISION STAFF

FROM: PAULA NEESE, DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: LINKING HEARTS COMMUNITY ADOPTION EVENT

DISCUSSION:

**What's Inside:**

Information about  
the Linking Hearts  
Adoption Event in  
Rolla, MO

We are pleased to announce and encourage your participation in the Linking Hearts Community Adoption Event 2009. This event allows the Children's Division, The Phelps County Community Partnership, the InterFraternity Council and Pan-Hellenic Council of the Missouri University of Science and Technology to offer an opportunity for prospective adoptive families and children to meet and interact with each other in a fun and relaxed environment. The Linking Hearts event has been successful over the years in creating forever families for waiting children. In addition, the event increases awareness of the need for adoptive homes for children from foster care.

This year's event will be held on Friday, September 25, 2009 at Lion's Club Park in Rolla, Missouri. Sign-in for children will begin at 1:00 p.m. at The Centre. Activities will include games, crafts, swimming, volleyball and basketball. Prospective adoptive parents are invited to join the festivities at 5:00 p.m. and will continue until the closing ceremony at 7:00 p.m. There will be evening activities available for participants to engage in with the children as well as a BBQ for all prospective adoptive parents, children and case workers in attendance.

Counties are encouraged to participate in the event by registering children and inviting prospective adoptive parents to attend. Please use the attached flyer to invite families to this recruitment activity.

This has proven to be an enjoyable and informative adoption recruitment event for prospective families and adoption workers over the years. We strongly encourage your participation and support of this activity.

If you have questions about Linking Hearts or need directions to the Lion's Club Park and The Centre, please contact the 25<sup>th</sup> Circuit Adoption Unit at 573-774-6121, 573-368-2340 or 417-967-4551.

**NECESSARY ACTION**

1. Review this memorandum with all Children’s Division staff.
2. Review revised Child Welfare Manual chapters as indicated below.
3. All questions should be cleared through normal supervisory channels and directed to:

**PDS CONTACT**

Crystal Wilson  
573-751-1354  
[Crystal.L.Wilson@dss.mo.gov](mailto:Crystal.L.Wilson@dss.mo.gov)

**PROGRAM MANAGER**

Amy Martin  
573-751-2981  
[Amy.L.Martin@dss.mo.gov](mailto:Amy.L.Martin@dss.mo.gov)

**CHILD WELFARE MANUAL REVISIONS**

N/A

**FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS**

[Adult Registration](#)  
[Child Registration](#)  
[Agenda '09](#)  
[Linking Hearts Flyer '09](#)

**REFERENCE DOCUMENTS AND RESOURCES**

N/A

**RELATED STATUTE**

N/A

**ADMINISTRATIVE RULE**

N/A

**COUNCIL ON ACCREDITATION (COA) STANDARDS**

N/A

**CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES REVIEW (CFSR)**

N/A

**PROTECTIVE FACTORS N/A**

Parental Resilience  
Social Connections  
Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development  
Concrete Support in Times of Need  
Social and Emotional Competence of Children

**FACES REQUIREMENTS**

N/A