

The Growing Need for Fostering Children with Special Needs

Adriel serves children — from newborns to teens — by helping them find loving and caring foster homes, enabling them to grow and thrive. Many of the children within our care have special needs, such as being part of a sibling group, being an older child, or having physical, mental or emotional disabilities. These children are sometimes harder to place in foster homes due to these circumstances, making them more at risk to staying in the custody of children services. Foster parents who are able and willing to take these children into their homes are in great demand.

Fostering Siblings

Since children in foster care experience more losses of significant relationships, siblings are often their only source for continuity of important attachments. Keeping siblings together in foster care has shown to be extremely beneficial for the children, including promoting resilience, and a sense of safety and well-being. This stability enables the children to have greater success in thriving in the future. Foster parents have

NEED FOR FOSTER PARENTS... Children served by Adriel through respite care and foster care in Fiscal Year 2018 Percent increase in the number of children in custody in Ohio on any given day since 2010 Percentage of youth in custody for reasons other than abuse 63 or neglect - such as to secore treatment or to avoid juwenile incarceration WILLING TO TAKE SIBLING GROUPS Approximate percentage of foster parents who believed that 45 children placed with siblings were easier to foster because they felt more secure having their siblings with them WILLING TO TAKE OLDER TEENS 6 Adriel's current average age In June 2018, the average age of a child referred to Adriel was Ӌ 33 percent of children in custody in Ohio are ages 12-17 This is almost equal to the % of children under s: while infants (up to 1 year) make up only 8% WILLING TO TAKE CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES is the amount of children in foster care that studies suggest have disabilities - ranging from minor developmental delays to significant mental and physical disabilities Youth with disabilities in the U.S.: may be less likely to have reunification or placement with relatives as a priority in their permanency plan are more likely to be placed in group homes or residential treatment facilities than family foster care, decreasing their opportunities for permanency or adoption I henski & Madry, acog; Schor, 1984; Simme, Dub iskog & Hadren, acoz. r elder youth with disabilities in out-of-home pla

also reported that children placed with siblings are easier to foster because they felt more secure having their siblings with them.¹

Fostering Older Children

Fostering children, no matter the age of the child, can bring both unique challenges and great rewards. Teenagers, unlike younger children, are more independent and don't always need undivided attention and supervision. However, they still very much need parental advice and guidance.

Many teens in the foster care system have trouble building trust due to some of the difficult experiences they have had in the past. By taking the time to bond with foster teens, parents can provided them with a life where they feel both safe and comfortable enough to confide in others which can be extremely satisfying as a parent.

Fostering Children with Disabilities

Some children come to the foster care system with serious medical conditions, emotional and behavioral disorders, and developmental delays or intellectual disabilities. Foster parents need to be willing to advocate for the child, which includes learning about the child's medical needs and treatment, attending frequent meetings and therapies, and working with the school system.

Adriel provides strong support to help foster parents of children with special needs, so you don't have to go it alone.

- Teaching Family Model Training and Certification
- Respite Services
- Outpatient Mental Health Services
- 24/7 On-Call Support

1: https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubPDFs/siblingissues.pdf



Join Us for the Adriel Fall Harvest Benefit



This year, we invite you to our new Adriel Fall Harvest Benefit in Archbold, Saturday, October 20. This exclusive event provides an opportunity to share in an afternoon of fun and fellowship in our new office in Archbold, and to deepen awareness of Adriel's mission and impact. Your participation supports Adriel's mission of serving children in the spirit of Christian love and our vision to make sure every child has a safe and loving home.

The 2018 Fall Harnest Benefit includes:

Harvest of Fellowship Luncheon

Share a meal and learn more about how Adriel helps children from foster parents, Adriel staff and volunteers.

Harvest of Love Giving Tree

Renew your commitment of giving your love freely in support of our mission. The tree includes fall leaves, each with a dollar amount and description of what those dollars support, from treatment and therapy services for children to comfort totes and much-needed Independent Living catalog items.

Harvest of Hope Live Auction

Participate in our one-hour auction event where you can bid on a variety of quilts, handmade pieces, gift items and entertainment items, antiques and more.

Harvest of Joy Silent Auction

Bid on gift baskets, entertainment packages, local treats and more throughout the event. Even though this auction is silent you are invited to make a joyful noise as you bid to win.

Harvest of Goodness Baked Goods Sale

Enjoy homemade, delicious baked treats, both sweet and savory. These goodies will feed your soul.

Seating is limited and there is a \$40 per-person suggested donation for the luncheon and preview. We ask that you RSVP by filling out the inserted Registration Form and including your donation.

You can also reserve your seats by calling Paul Forrey at 937-465-0010, ext. 1118 or Kyrstin Marshall at 614-761-0010, ext 2206. They can take your credit card information over the phone or you can give us a check the day of the event.

If you are unable to attend the luncheon, but would like to attend the live auction, doors will open at 12:00.

We thank you for supporting this year's benefit, and empowering us to plant the seeds that enable the children we serve to harvest brighter and happier futures. We look forward to seeing you there!



Event Schedule:

10:00 a.m. Silent Auction Begins and Live Auction Preview
10:45 a.m. Welcome and Adriel Success Stories
11:00 a.m. Fellowship Luncheon
11:45 a.m. Guided Tours of Archbold Facility
12:30 p.m. Live Auction

Support Children on #GivingTuesday

Started in 2012, #GivingTuesday follows the biggest shopping events of the year, and invites people to support their favorite organizations and encourage friends, family, coworkers, neighbors and everyone they know to donate too.

This year, Everence, a faith-based financial services organization and Adriel partner, is hosting **#GivingTuesdayNWO** at Northwest State Community College in Archbold on **November 27 at 5:00 p.m.**

During this event, Adriel donors can double their donation dollars thanks to Everence's matching funds!

The evening also includes the Difference Makers Expo where attendees can learn more about local nonprofit organizations while enjoying appetizers, a catered dinner and a panel discussion with different charities sharing their missions, needs and stories of how they are changing lives in Northwest Ohio.

Registration is \$20 per ticket. You can register at https://www.everence.com/givingtuesdaynwo.

- If you're unable to attend the event, you can still participate:
- Contact the Archbold Everence office at 419-446-4618
 - before the event with your donation
- Spread the word through your social media with #GivingTuesdayNWO
- Take an #Unselfie of you with a sign of why you donated
- Share your #MyGivingStory by telling others why and how you support Adriel



The Teaching Family Model Fosters Happier Families

To help foster and adoptive families be more effective parents and caregivers, Adriel provides in-depth training in the Teaching Family Model. The Teaching Family Model was developed by the Teaching Family Association and provides a practical, teachable structure to working with youth, families, consumers, and employees.

The Teaching Family Model is focused on helping youth recognize the need to adapt and change, and to correct behavior in ways that provide learning opportunities, as opposed to using punishment or negative consequences. This kind of cognitive behavioral change enables youth to develop habits that are positively influenced and effective.

"Using the Teaching Family Model helps children coming from a variety of situations successfully adapt to their new foster care environment," says Todd Hanes, Adriel President and CEO. "The model is a practical, teachable, humane and structured approach that empowers parents and youth to develop skills and give feedback in a positive and constructive way."

As an accredited agency in the Model, Adriel encourages parents to become certified in order to show that they have an understanding of, and an ability to implement, the various aspects of the teaching model. Certification includes 60 hours of classes, written and oral tests, and roleplay activities to get a more thorough idea of how to use the approach practically. Certification also includes interviews with therapists involved in each case and the biological family members if available.

We spoke with three Teaching Family Model certified Adriel families about their experience learning and using the Model with the children in their care.

Chris and Jeff Whitsett exchanged the ease of retirement for changing diapers, following their calling to help children in need.

"At this age, we have so much to offer. We have greater patience, wisdom and are more financially stable than when we started our family years ago," says Chris.

And with choosing to go the adoption path and foster more children, the Whitsetts wanted to expand their knowledge of how to best help youth and provide a more stable home environment, especially for those youngsters who have come from difficult circumstances. That's where certification in the Teaching Family Model came in.

"It ties everything together in a very universal way for helping children make better choices," adds Chris. "We have learned skills that have worked with our grandchildren."

Latosha and Lamar Davis have also committed their lives to helping children in need and became certified in the Model this year. The Davis family began fostering one-yearold twins two years ago. As newlyweds, this was a challenge, but Lamar was familiar with fostering since he had fostered teenage boys while the couple was dating.

"The Model is very intuitive and positive," explains Latosha. "We get to practice using the tools and roleplaying which is the best thing to being successful with the Model. Encouraging positive behaviors in our children, even at such a young age, helps us understand the day-to-day interaction with the children and meet their goals."

Kori and Ryan Stoller have worked with Adriel for five years fostering children in their home in addition to raising their biological children. At the time of their certification, they were parenting nine children, which gave them plenty of practice using the Teaching Family Model.

"Children, in our opinion, respond so much better to this non-threatening parenting style," says Kori. "We also like how the children are given a 'why' as to the reason behind the action. This helps to equip them with success prior to the next circumstance."

The training for certification are intense and involve quite a commitment on the part of parents already doing more than expected by opening their homes to children in need. But Kori speaks for many foster parents using the Model, "I'm thrilled to have this knowledge to help with the challenges of foster care and to help all of our children live happier and healthier lives."





#GivingTuesdayNWO

Date: Tuesday, November 27, 2018

Time: 5:00 p.m.

Where: Northwest State Community College Atrium Building 22600 State Route 34 Archbold, OH 43502

Registration: \$20 per ticket

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Welcome New Adriel Staff

A warm welcome to our new Adriel staff.



April McKenzie

April is a new therapist at Adriel. With more than 10 years of experience as a case manager working with various populations, she most recently served in helping women, children and families overcome trauma from family violence at a domestic violence safe house. April has an associate's degree

in Human Services from Northwest State Community College, a B.A. of Psychology from Lourdes College and a B.S. in Social Work from Defiance College.



Sarah Carder

Sarah has a passion for the child welfare field and previously worked as a Children Services Investigator. She is looking forward to working on the foster care side of the field more. She is a Licensed Social Worker with a bachelor's degree in Social Work and an associate's degree in Criminal Justice.



Taylor Burroughs

Taylor has a passion for helping those in need and a background in working with adolescents in crisis situations. She has a B.A. in psychology and sociology from Lourdes University.



Robert Smith

Robert is Adriel's new HR and Training Manager. Previously he served as the Employee Development Coordinator and HR Onboarding Specialist at SAFY, another foster care agency. Robert is pursuing a Master's degree in HR from the American Public University (APUS).



Rachel Borell

Rachel previously worked as a therapist for children with severe behavior issues and traumatic backgrounds. She has a bachelor's degree in Social Work from Lourdes University and a Master's in Social Work from Spring Arbor University.



Six Ways Subscribing to Adriel Action Through Email Helps Children

When you share your email with Adriel, it helps us to turn the dollars we spend on printing and shipping *Adriel Action* into:

1. Support for more children and families through foster care, adoption and family preservation

2. Mental health services for children who are struggling with difficult past experiences so they can have brighter futures

3. Independent Living education and household items for children soon to be emancipated

4. Training and certification in the Teaching Family Model for foster and adoptive parents who want to be the best caregivers and role models

5. Space and resources for Family Preservation Services to help families work toward reconciliation

6. Experienced staff to work with these children and families, in our offices and in the family homes

So please sign up for email delivery of the *Adriel Action* newsletter today and help us help more children and families throughout Ohio.

You can use this address to sign up: http://www.adriel.org/ contact-us/newsletter-signup

amazonsmile

You shop. Amazon gives.

Adriel's Amazon Wish List Makes it Easy to Give

From children's therapy books and games to first aid and personal hygiene items, Adriel's Amazon Wish List makes it easy for you to support us and the children we serve. Just visit the link provided below, check out our list, choose the items you want to donate and purchase them right on Amazon. No shipping costs, no hassle, no problems.

You can even double your support by using AmazonSmile.

Haven't signed up for AmazonSmile yet? It's easy. On your first visit to smile.amazon.com, select Adriel as your charitable organization. Amazon will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation to Adriel.

To access the Adriel Amazon Wish List, go to: https://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist/ISKNXGHD2YEI.

To sign up for AmazonSmile and make Adriel your charitable organization choice, go to: https://smile.amazon.com/.



Adriel serves 44 counties throughout Ohio. Visit our website at Adriel.org and keep up to date with us on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/Adriel.Inc.

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Adriel Action is published by Adriel, Inc., Post Office Box 188, West Liberty, Ohio 43357. Adriel serves abused and neglected children, troubled by learning, emotional and behavioral problems, without regard to race, national origin, sex, creed or religion. Adriel is a donor-supported affiliate of the Mennonite Church. Please direct questions or concerns to Rev. Paul Forrey, Director of Development, at (937) 465-0010, ext. 1118.



Adriel Fall Harvest Benefit Registration Form

We look forward to seeing you on Saturday, October 20 at 10 a.m. for the premiere Adriel Fall Harvest Benefit at the Adriel Archbold Office — 22897 US 20A, Archbold, OH 43502 (3.5 miles north of Archbold off OH-66N).

Event Schedule:

10:00 a.m. Silent Auction Begins and Live Auction Preview
10:45 a.m. Welcome and Adriel Success Stories
11:00 a.m. Fellowship Luncheon
11:45 a.m. Guided Tours of Archbold Facility
12:30 p.m. Live Auction

Suggested Donation: \$40 per person (check or credit card)

Deadline for Registration: Wednesday, October 3rd

Please mail completed form to:

Rev. Paul Forrey Adriel P.O. Box 188 West Liberty, OH 43357

Name:		
Address:		
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Name on the Credit Card:		

Thank you for supporting Adriel's mission of serving children in the spirit of Christian love and our vision of ensuring every child has a safe and loving home.