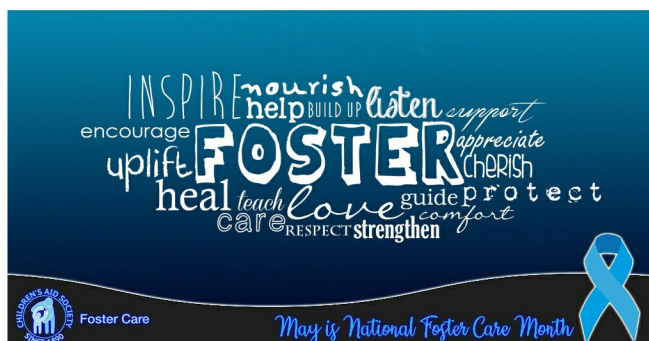


## MAY IS . . .

## NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH

*Jennifer Teats - Foster Care Program Manager*

**M**AY IS NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH! Not only in May, but every day during the year, Children's Aid Society strives to help children who are in need find a family that can provide them with nurturance, security, and compassion. In addition, our agency strives to ensure that the children who are entrusted into the care of our foster families have their physical, mental, medical, and emotional needs met. Even though foster care may be temporary, the love, support, and guidance that foster parents provide to a child can last a lifetime. During National Foster Care Month, we want to recognize all of our foster care families and let them know we appreciate all they do, so a big **THANK YOU** goes out to all of our foster parents. If you believe, as our current foster families do, that every child has a right to be cared for, loved, valued, and respected and you are able to provide a safe and secure family environment for a child, we would love for you to attend our information event on May 15, 2021 from 10 am until noon at Parker Dam State Park (Pavilion #4) in Penfield, PA. There will be information available along with food and giveaways. If you are unable to attend and would like more information, please feel free to contact us at (814) 765-2686 ext. 249 or at [fostercare@childaid.org](mailto:fostercare@childaid.org).



## A MOST GENEROUS GIFT

*Bonnie Floro - Executive Director*

**I**n this day and age of endless demands for our attention it can be difficult to decide what takes priority. Work, family, hobbies, sports, posting on social media, etc. all top the list things competing for our time. But a select few have prioritized a special activity that is in high demand and greatly appreciated by many. The giving of time.

Children's Aid Society was started in 1890 by a caring group of volunteers who saw a need and formed our first board of directors. Although the faces have changed, that group remains the guiding light of our agency today. In May, we recognize these special people, some who have dedicated years to our agency, and honor their selfless gift of time.



**Barb Conaway** - new member

**William Beauseigneur** - new member

**Heather Bozovich** - new member

**Paula DuBois** - new member

**Julie Daquilante** - 2 years

**Eric White** - 2 years

**Adrienne Sipes** - 2 years

**Becky Dotts** - 2 years

**Barb Fawns** - 3 years

**Mary Ann Conaway** - 4 years

**Donna Lykens** - 11 years! ★

**Ruth Lytle** - 11 years! ★

**Barb Beish** - 15 years! ★★

**Lisa Soult** - 24 years! ★★★

**Gigi Gearhart** - 25 years! ★★★★

**Joyce Falger** - 27 years! ★★★★★

**Ann Wood** - 45 years!! ★★★★★★

*Thank You  
for all you do!*



# BUILDING STRONGER RELATIONSHIPS AND STRONGER FAMILIES . . . TOGETHER

◆ Leighanne Hutton - Together Project Manager

**S**eptember 30, 2020 marked an exciting beginning with a new grant award for Healthy Marriage and Relationship Education at Children's Aid Society. The grant, issued by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Family Assistance amounts to over \$577,000 each year for five years!

Together, a community-centered, Marriage and Relationship Education/Skills (MRES) project, focuses on implementing programs throughout Central Pennsylvania. This includes Clearfield County in addition to the eight surrounding counties. All adult couples are welcome to attend. Through a Family Support Coordinator, services will aim to reduce barriers for engagement in workshops, as well as sustain families through parenting, financial, and positive behavioral support education.

Together will provide the following workshop opportunities:

Marriage and Relationship Education/Skills (MRES) - Serving 60 couples per year, the PREP 8.0 curriculum will engage adult couples in a nine week, 2.5 hour session, journey towards *Nine Weeks to a Better Together*.

Upon completion of MRES:

## **Nurturing Parenting Program**

Through the use of the Nurturing Parenting Program, participants have the opportunity to acquire child development education over the course of 16, 2.5 hour sessions, serving 20 individuals per year.

## **Triple-P Positive Parenting Program**

Through the use of the Triple-P Positive Parenting Program (PPP), participants will learn positive behavioral supports to address disciplinary concerns over the course of five, two hour in-person sessions, and three personalized phone consults, serving 48 individuals per year.

## **Foundations in Personal Finance**

Developed by Dave Ramsey of Financial Peace University, individuals can take control of their financial well-being through six, two-hour sessions, serving 30 individuals per year.

*Nine weeks to a better Together.*

Over the five-year grant period we will provide services to over 540 participants.

Classes and workshops are scheduled to begin in April 2021! For more information about Together or to be added to our mailing list, please call (814) 765-2686!

There are several ways to help **Children's Aid Society** serve children and families

- You may donate to a specific program, remember us in your will, or decide to offer an annual gift.
- Consider making a donation through the Clearfield County Charitable Foundation. Call (814) 765-7682 or visit [www.clearfieldcharitablefoundation.org](http://www.clearfieldcharitablefoundation.org) for more information.
- Businesses can donate through the EITC tax credit program by calling 1-866-466-3972.

- ☐ I have enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ to assist in Covid-19 related expenses
- ☐ I have enclosed \$1,000 as a one-time Youth Mentoring match sponsor
- ☐ I would like to sponsor a Youth Mentoring match annually
- ☐ I have enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ as a one-time gift
- ☐ Please contact me about naming Children's Aid Society in my will
- ☐ I would like the funds to specifically benefit the \_\_\_\_\_ program
- ☐ I would like more information on volunteering

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: **Children's Aid Society**  
1008 South Second Street | Clearfield, PA 16830

The official registration and financial information of Children's Aid Society in Clearfield County may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999.

**You can also donate online at [www.childdaid.org](http://www.childdaid.org)**

Shannon Kelly - Adoption Manager

**D**id you know that there are approximately 2,500 children in Pennsylvania who are waiting for adoption? Many of the children waiting for adoption are considered to have special needs, which is commonly used to refer to children that are older, of minority heritage, part of a sibling group or have a medical condition or physical, mental or emotional disabilities. The Pennsylvania Adoption Exchange (PAE) was established in 1979 by the Department of Human Services to help county children and youth agencies find adoptive families for Pennsylvania's waiting children. PAE is not an adoption agency, but serves to connect families who want to adopt with children waiting for a permanent home. By visiting the Photo Album on the PAE website ([adoptpakids.org](http://adoptpakids.org)) families can learn more about these waiting children. If you feel like your family could be the family to accept, nurture, and help a child reach his or her fullest potential through adoption, please contact Shannon at (814) 765-2686 ext. 205 or [adoption@childaid.org](mailto:adoption@childaid.org) to receive more information or start the process to become an approved adoptive family.

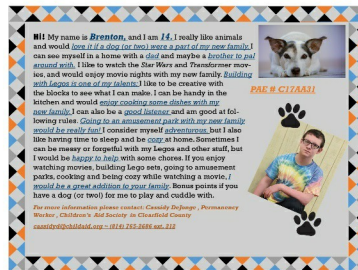
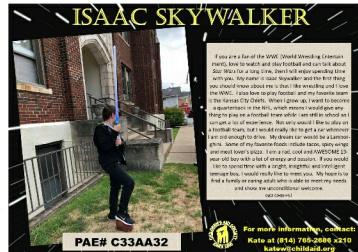
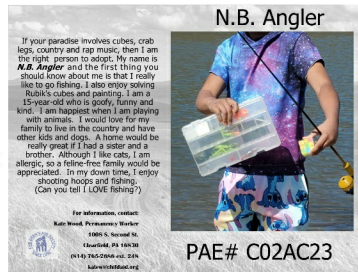
In most cases, there is little or no cost to adopting families as the Statewide Adoption and Permanency Network (SWAN) program largely subsidizes the adoption of children in the Pennsylvania foster care system. Don't forget to check out these fantastic youth our agency is currently working with that are looking for their perfect match!



## SPRING IS IN THE AIR

Christina Woodel - Family Support Services Manager

**H**appy Spring from Family Support Services. It's been a busy time for us as many families have seen changes due to COVID-19. In Home Services has been working to keep families seeing their children while observing the COVID-19 regulations and being as safe as possible. Staff have been providing in-home supports like house cleaning help, job search skills, and apartment hunting. In November, Kristina McCracken was hired for the parent educator position for Parents as Teachers. We can currently serve families with children prenatal to kindergarten in Clearfield and Jefferson counties. With Grant funds we have been able to help our PAT families with needed essentials. Lisa Buchwitz has been working hard to serve families in Centre County with the Triple-P Positive Parenting Program. She has been holding classes through Schlow Library and Philipsburg Library, as well as individual sessions through ZOOM and in person. Dan Kennard was recently trained in Group Triple P and we are planning a Dad's Group at the YMCA in Philipsburg. If you or anyone you know could benefit from Triple-P or Parents as Teachers or you just want some information on either program, give Christina a call at 814-765-2686 ext 239.

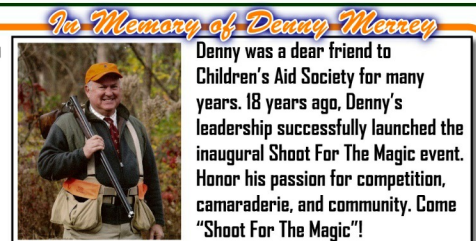


**Bring a Team** Includes practice, lunch, 100 target competition, ammo (12 gauge) appetizers, and prime rib dinner

**Become a Sponsor** Several opportunities available  
call to learn more at 814-765-2686 ext 202

**Show your Support** Purchase a meal ticket and enjoy the awards, prime rib dinner, and silent action or purchase a \$10 gun raffle ticket

**Donate a Prize** Donate a prize for our silent auction



**CONTACT US**

Children's Aid Society  
814-765-2686 x202  
mentoring@childaid.org  
www.childaid.org

## PROVIDER APPRECIATION DAY

*Teresa Guaglianone - Assistant Director*

Children's Aid Society will join community organizations across the country in observing Provider Appreciation Day on May 7, 2021 to celebrate the efforts of child care providers in what has been a year of tremendous challenge for child care. *"Child care providers were 'essential' long before the pandemic, and the past year has highlighted the lengths to which they are willing to go to keep their doors open, keep children safe and nurtured, support and engage families, and play a critical role in communities,"* said Lynette M. Fraga, Ph.D., CEO of Child Care Aware® of America. *"Provider Appreciation Day® is a great opportunity to recognize the heroic efforts of providers and to say 'thank you.'"* Children's Aid Society offered resources and supports to families during an often traumatic time - a global pandemic and an economic crisis. Families were provided with safe, healthy, nurturing spaces where children can feel safe, eat healthy meals, grow and learn. Additionally, providers often stepped in to support children in remote learning situations, doing all they could to provide space and supports for school-aged children. Provider Appreciation Day is celebrated each year on the Friday before Mother's Day and was started in 1996 by a group of volunteers in New Jersey who wanted to recognize the tireless efforts of providers who care for children of working parents. Support for this event has grown each year and it is now recognized by individuals and local governments throughout the U.S. Children's Aid Society is blessed to have a dedicated group of child care providers that have gone above and beyond during the pandemic. Join us in thanking them for their commitment to the children and families we serve. Children's Aid Society's child care staff includes: Cindy Babcock, Janet Biss, Brittany Graham, Sarah Hale, Cortney Hildebrand, Jasmine Klett, Tara Lansberry, Jordan Luzier, Alyssa Palmer, Carole Posanskey, Tonya Richards, Aleah Schwiderske, Jynell Smeal, Monica Smeal, Nancy Stone, Rachel Dunlap, Lori Baronak, Rhonda Carfley, and Tracy Thacik.



### SIGN UP TO RECEIVE OUR NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL

Call us at 814-765-2686 or email us at [marketing@childaid.org](mailto:marketing@childaid.org)



Children's Aid Society  
1004-1008 South Second Street  
Clearfield, PA 16830



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