

National Adoption Day highlights success stories

Written by

Wednesday, 08 December 2010 17:13



Last month the Ramsey County Community Human Services Department observed National Adoption Day with an event featuring the formalized adoptions of 12 waiting children into permanent families. On November 20th, Michael Lehan former U of M and NFL (Miami Dolphins and Cleveland Browns) football player, adopted by the parents of one of his best friends, was one of several guest speakers at the adoption ceremony. Also speaking were Ramsey County Commissioners Rebecca Reinhart and Toni Carter and James Terrell, a 21-year-old and former foster care youth who spoke on the importance of creating permanency for children.

Currently, there are approximately 80 waiting children seeking adoption in Ramsey County every day. While this is an urgent need, many adults are stepping forward to provide permanent families.

The ceremony served as an opportunity to learn more about adoption, the adoption process.

The Ramsey County National Adoption Day event was part of the larger movement of courts and communities in all 50 states, as well as Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico, coming together to finalize adoptions of thousands of children. Since 2000, more than 30,000 children have had their adoptions finalized on National Adoption Day. For more information, visit www.nationaladoptionday.org.

For more information, visit <http://www.co.ramsey.mn.us/hs/adoption/index.htm> or call 651-266-KIDS.

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