

## MAC Charitable Society - Making a Difference in the Community

### Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition

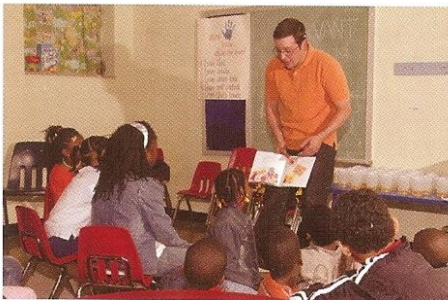
**F**oster & Adoptive Care Coalition is one of three charities financially supported by the MAC Charitable Society this year. FACC was founded in 1991 with the support of United Way of Greater St. Louis. The mission of the organization is to create permanency in every foster child's life by recruiting and supporting foster/adoptive homes in the St. Louis community.

"At FACC, we believe that every child needs and deserves a 'forever' family- a home that is safe and nurturing where they can begin to heal," says Debbie Genung, Director of Development for the FACC.

Genung and the rest of the staff at Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition work around the clock to locate homes for the children in their programs. There are currently several recruitment programs to help find families. Project Teen Plus works with children ages 12-17 who have been in foster care for years. These children are found homes and prepared to become a member of a family. Wendy's Wonderful Kids works with a group of 20 children to find homes. Finally, the FACC has partnered with KSDK Channel 5 to feature children on a tri-weekly segment called "A Place to Call Home."

"The very best thing is when a child is matched with an adoptive family," says Genung. "Everyone in the office cheers and claps when we get that good news."

The FACC launched a new program in September, which they say has the potential to change foster care in Metro St. Louis. Family Finding, the new program, uses the latest technologies



*Junior Board Member David Singer teaches a Fostering Financial Literacy Class to children in the FACC program.*



*Children showing off their brand new backpacks that they received in a training program. Each backpack had age-appropriate school supplies.*

and best practice methods to locate and permanently place foster children with their relatives.

The FACC says that this method is revolutionary because even a "failure" can have a great impact. In the event that a child is not actually placed to live with the family, more times than not, this child stays in contact with the relatives that have been found.

Help the FACC by donating to the MAC Charitable Society. At the end of the year, donations will equally be divided among the three charities chosen by the MAC. This year's charities are: Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition, Places for People and Dream for a Day. You can donate by joining the Charitable Society, which takes a donation from you once a month. If you would like to make a one time donation to the Charitable Society it is greatly appreciated as well. To donate, print off a donation form from the Club's Web site [www.mac-stl.org](http://www.mac-stl.org), or contact Sam Hopmeier at 314-434-5266.

### Spread Some Magic This Holiday Season

You can bring Holiday magic to a child in foster care by sponsoring Family Ties, a sparkle children's theatre performance on Saturday, Nov. 24. The event is called Family Ties because it is a time for foster and adoptive families to come together to celebrate their uniqueness. All proceeds will support the Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition's important work to find "forever" families for children in foster care.

Brought to St. Louis by the Junior League's Family Theatre Series and the highly acclaimed New York Production company, Theatreworks/USA, 600 foster children and families will enjoy the experience of Family Ties. This year's production is a children's favorite, the "Max and Ruby Show," based on the Fox TV series and books.

There are several levels of sponsorship. You may also sponsor a child or family attending Family Ties for \$10 a ticket. For more information on sponsorship, please contact Debbie Genung, Director of Development, at 314-367-8373, or at [debbiegenung@foster-adopt.org](mailto:debbiegenung@foster-adopt.org). Visit the FACC Web site at [www.foster-adopt.org](http://www.foster-adopt.org) to find more opportunities to volunteer. You can also contact the volunteer coordinator, Shelley Thomas Benke at 314-367-8373.

MAC Employees will be donating to the three charities chosen by the Charitable Society throughout the month of October. Join with the employees and make a one-time contribution, or join the Charitable Society and give each month. Together as one, the MAC can make a difference to children and adults in St. Louis.

Nominations will be taken until Thursday, Nov. 1 for the 2008 charities to be chosen for the Charitable Society to support. If you have a charity you would like to nominate, please send a cover letter officially nominating the charity to Sam Hopmeier at [hopmeier@aol.com](mailto:hopmeier@aol.com) or at his home address:

Sam Hopmeier  
13225 Fairfield Sq. Dr.  
Chesterfield, MO 63017

All suggestions are welcome. The three charities chosen by the Charitable Society will receive financial support from the Club, as the money raised will be split among the three charities.