LETTER FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

At the end of the day, what decides a child's chances of finding their forever family is simple. It's you.

I'm delighted to say you exceeded every expectation. We could never truly capture everything you have done for our community's most vulnerable children in 2016, but we hope the following reflections in this annual report inspire you with the same hope and wonder they inspire in us.

Together we kept our promise to every child's potential and their innate capacity for love. You believe that a family can empower our children to do amazing things. That belief moved us to find more families for more children in 2016 than ever before.

In hundreds of homes all around our community, there are birthday candles blown out, Mother's Day breakfasts, and siblings' bike adventures made possible by you. How can we ever truly express our pride and gratitude? We hope that after viewing this brief snapshot of 2016 accomplishments, you will take a moment to celebrate the world we're building together for foster and adoptive families.

With gratitude,

John Phillips President, Board of Directors



TOGETHER WE...





"I volunteer with the Coalition because no child on this earth should ever feel they are not wanted or loved, and that's what I see the Coalition do for every child; they treat them as if they are their own." -Angela Wakefield Wells Fargo Volunteer of the Year, 2016 Volunteers and donors granted more than 3,700

Little Wishes in 2016.



EDUCATIONAL ADVOCACY

"Our Educational Advocate listened, supported and provided us with resources when we needed them. The Advocate attended school meetings to help our children get their 504/IEP updated, and she has gone the extra mile for our family in showing support during a difficult time." - Foster parent

90% of the students served met their educational goals and 85% had improved school performance.

TRAINING

"The trauma training actually explained why my oldest daughter reacts to things the way she does...the class gave me the tools on how to help her." - Foster parent

406 parents and 1,483 professionals received training from the Coalition.

DONORS

"We feel that the Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition serves a higher purpose for our community. Providing financial support makes us feel that we are doing a small part to help give these children a chance in the world. Our support shows caring and provides balance in our lives." - Mark & Julie Kiehl

Every child placed with a family saves taxpayers an average of \$10,218.



EXTREME RECRUITMENT®

162 CHILDREN MATCHED SINCE 2010

84% OF KIDS MATCHED WITH A FAMILY IN 2016

AVERAGE OF 138 RELATIVES IDENTIFIED PER CHILD



ANNUAL REPORT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS*

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Selena was adopted by her forever family in 2016







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A PLACE TO CALL HOME

In 2013, 1¹/₂ year old Trenton and newborn Henry were removed from their home due to severe physical abuse. That year they became two of the 17,154 children in foster care in the state of Missouri.

There was no one left to take the boys, and finding them a forever family seemed to be impossible. After two years in foster care, they were referred to Heather and Amanda, Extreme Recruiters for the Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition.

KSDK aired the boys on "A Place to Call Home" where their story and smiles were broadcast to thousands of people. The Extreme Recruiters created profiles for the boys on several online databases and scoured their family tree, hoping someone could see Trenton and Henry as part of their family. One day, seemingly out of nowhere, someone emailed the Recruiters. They wanted to meet Trenton and Henry.

"The minute we saw their picture we knew they were our boys."

When they adopted Trenton and Henry, Ashley and her husband Ben knew it wouldn't be easy. But they saw who the boys could become if they were part of their family, joining their two biological children, Madeleine and Zachariah. "Henry works so hard to do everything with his sister and brothers. Trenton's just so compassionate and complimentary now. Every dinner I make he says it's 'the best dinner ever, Mama.' I could list all their accomplishments, but it's so much more than that. It's just who they are now that they have a home. All they needed was love and security."

And what advice would they give future foster parents?

"If you're nervous, start small, but get involved somehow because there are kids out there right now who need you. All kids really need is a family to change their lives."

THE FOSTER & ADOPTIVE CARE COALITION STRIVES TO CREATE PERMANENCY IN EVERY FOSTER CHILD'S LIFE BY RECRUITING AND SUPPORTING FOSTER AND ADOPTIVE FAMILIES IN THE ST. LOUIS METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY. FOR EVERY CHILD ... A PLACE TO CALL HOME