

DECEMBER 21 , 2020

DC CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES AGENCY

# FOSTERING CONNECTIONS

A monthly newsletter for CFSA's resource  
parents in the District of Columbia



GOVERNMENT OF THE  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
DC MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR



## December 2020 at a Glance

- CFSA Celebrated National Adoption Month: A Recap
- Safely Celebrate the Holidays
- News You Can Use
- Fostering Spotlight: Antonio

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## Feature Stories

### CFSA Celebrated National Adoption Month: A Recap

Throughout November, CFSA recognized the importance of "Changing Lives with Love." In honor of the 34th Annual Adoption Day celebration, longtime adoption advocate Barbara Harrison hosted and produced [this heartwarming profile](#) of the families who finalized their adoptions in 2020.

The Permanency Administration invited the CFSA community to watch *Closure*, a documentary about one transracial adoptee's journey to find her birth family. Access the documentary for free via [Vimeo](#), password: **dcyf2020**.

The Executive Office of the Mayor spotlighted the [Miller](#) and [Ray-Dubra](#) families for welcoming new children into their homes. Did you **catch Mayor Bowser's [special video message](#)**?



## Safely Celebrate the Holidays

Try a new tradition this holiday season! Things look different, but we all have an opportunity to get creative and find new ways to connect with loved ones. Instead of the traditional in-person gatherings, opt for one of these contactless get-togethers:

- Host a virtual dinner/celebration on [Zoom](#) or [Google Duo](#).
- Stay home and watch a movie with loved ones virtually through a free tool like [Teleparty](#).
- Enjoy a virtual game night using a free app like [Houseparty](#).
- Set up your group video chat for a [kid-friendly holiday crafting project](#).



View [DC's official holiday guidance](#) for more information and safety tips.

## News You Can Use

### Foster Parent Recruitment Session

**Jan 9, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. | [RSVP](#) required**

Know someone interested in fostering or adopting? The CFSA Recruitment Team is hosting an online information session on Saturday, January 9, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Attendees will connect with CFSA representatives and learn whether fostering or child-specific adoption is right for them. Presenters will discuss DC's foster care system, children who are currently in care, and the supports that CFSA provides foster parents. RSVP is required. Register online via [Eventbrite](#).

## Fostering Spotlight

### Meet Antonio, or "AJ"

Antonio, or "AJ," is an energetic and compassionate twelve-year-old who loves exploring parks, riding his bike, and helping care for others. He is humorous and

engages quickly with adults, children, and pets. AJ especially loves cats and dogs and is always happy to help take care of them. AJ never shies away from asking questions about topics he finds interesting—making him an inquisitive and engaged sixth grader.

AJ is looking for a patient and loving family that is committed to his growth, active in their community, and can provide a consistent structure. If you can envision AJ as a part of your forever family, please email [kim.walk@dc.gov](mailto:kim.walk@dc.gov).



## Have feedback, a tip, or a story?

We want to hear from you! Please send all inquiries, suggestions, or story ideas to [cfsa.opi@dc.gov](mailto:cfsa.opi@dc.gov).

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