



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Medford Family Presented Statewide Award

May 21, 2013, Monmouth Junction, NJ - For over 20 years Foster and Adoptive Family Services (FAFS), in cooperation with the New Jersey Division of Child Protection and Permanency (DCP&P) has recognized individuals, families and organizations for outstanding achievement in the area of supporting children in foster care. On Saturday morning, May 4, 2013 the tradition continued with the Annual Recognition Brunch held at the Sheraton Eatontown. The 2013 Award Recipients for Outstanding Adoptive Family of the Year are Howard and Elizabeth Hickey of Medford, New Jersey. The award criteria include heightening awareness of foster care, extraordinary commitment to children in care, positive impact on the foster, adoptive and kinship community, increasing foster care or adoption recruitment, and improving community outreach for the benefit of children in adoptive care. The Hickeys have fostered over seventy children over the years and adopted six children. Elizabeth has also mentored a number of newer foster parents in New Jersey. Howard and Elizabeth were approved by a select committee from Foster and Adoptive Family Services. Along with the Hickeys, eleven other awards were presented at the annual recognition event.

FAFS CEO, Mary Jane Awrachow commented, "Every year, these presentations highlight the efforts of hundreds of families and concerned citizens across our state. They are inspirational and focus on the good that people do, each and every day."

The mission of Foster and Adoptive Family Services is to provide support, training and advocacy to meet the special needs of the 7,000 foster, adoptive and kinship families, who provide safe, stable, and nurturing homes for children in foster care in New Jersey. FAFS is a federal 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization, with headquarters on Route 1 in Monmouth Junction. The organization serves as a catalyst for positive advances in the child welfare system. Simply stated, FAFS is the VOICE of foster, adoptive and kinship families in New Jersey.

For further information about the mission or programs of Foster and Adoptive Family Services, please call 1.800.222.0047, email development@fafsonline.org or visit fafsonline.org.