

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 9, 2013

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## Lakewood Residents Presented Statewide Award

May 9, 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 FAFS Outstanding Youth of the Year Award recipients are Heather Ann Loughran and Joshua Loughran of Lakewood, New Jersey.

The criteria for the award include; character, community involvement and contributing to a positive impact on the foster, adoptive, and kinship community in New Jersey. Along with Heather and Joshua, 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.