



For Immediate Release
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**MIDDLESEX COUNTY FOSTER AND ADOPTIVE FAMILY SERVICES
SELECTED AS LOCAL FOSTER PARENT ASSOCIATION OF THE YEAR
BY THE NATIONAL FOSTER PARENT ASSOCIATION**

***Led by Piscataway resident Mary Engelmeyer, Volunteer Committee focuses on
“loving, cherishing and nurturing” abused and neglected children***

Monmouth Junction, NJ, May 16, 2012 – “I’ve volunteered for many nonprofits over the past 35 years who have strived to do good in the world,” says Middlesex County Foster and Adoptive Family Services (FAFS) Volunteer Committee Chair Mary Engelmeyer, “but many times, people’s egos got in the way of the mission. When I started volunteering with FAFS in Middlesex County, I was struck by the difference. When it comes down to it, everyone is able to put their own ideas and egos aside and is willing to do what’s best for the kids. “As a testament to the volunteers’ ongoing successful efforts on behalf of children in foster care and the families who care for them, the National Foster Parent Association (NFPA) has selected Middlesex County FAFS as their 2012 Local Foster Parent Association of the Year. FAFS founder Sue Dondiego will accept the award to be presented at the NFPA’s 2012 Conference in Chicago, IL on Saturday, June 16th.

While Engelmeyer, as the Volunteer Committee Chair, is thrilled to receive this recognition, she is quick to share that her committee’s success is the result of years of dedication on the part of many people. “I stand on the shoulders of many, “ she says, “and I am fortunate to volunteer with an amazing group of people whose only interest is in loving, cherishing and nurturing abused and neglected children . They are a fabulous group to work with, and I’m glad the NFPA is honoring our efforts.”

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About NFPA: The National Foster Parent Association is a 501(c)3 nonprofit that supports foster parents in achieving safety, permanence and well-being for the children and youth in their care.

About FAFS: Foster and Adoptive Family Services is a 501(c)3 New Jersey nonprofit providing support, training and advocacy to meet the special needs of foster adoptive and kinship families, who provide safe, stable and nurturing homes for children in foster care. For more information, please visit www.fafsonline.org or contact Mary Jane Awrachow at (609) 520-1500.

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