

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Nicky Goodwine-Samuels, FAFS Director of Development and Communications

Telephone Number: 1.800.222.0047

Fax Number: 609.520.1515

www.fafsonline.org

**Theodora Komar Once Again Named
Ambassador for Children in Foster Care**

*Foster and Adoptive Family Services continues to give a voice
to New Jersey's abused and neglected children*

Monmouth Junction, NJ, December 29, 2011 – For the second year in a row, Foster and Adoptive Family Services (FAFS) named Theodora Komar as Ambassador for Children in Foster Care. Komar continues to be the public face of FAFS, serving as the keynote speaker at events, such as FAFS' Foster Parent Recognition Awards Brunch on May 12, 2012 at the Sheraton in Eatontown, NJ.

“During her first year as Ambassador for Children in Foster Care, Thea spoke eloquently of the obstacles she overcame with the guidance and love of her foster family, the Fredericks,” said Mary Jane Awrachow, FAFS Executive Director. “Her enthusiasm and love of life is truly encouraging for all children in foster care, and we are honored that she has agreed to serve another term as Ambassador. Thea is an inspiration to us all.”

Komar was in foster care since she was nine-years-old until she aged out of the system at age twenty-one. She has been an outspoken advocate for foster care and for FAFS, and has been a Premium member of the organization since 2007. Komar's belief in FAFS' mission, her experience as a beneficiary of many of FAFS' programs that positively impact the lives of children in foster care, and her appreciation and enthusiasm for foster families made her a natural choice for this volunteer position.

“I like to tell people how important foster care is, and how it can change children's lives for the better,” says Komar. “My foster family was there when my birth family wasn't. They never gave up on me, even though I was difficult and complicated. They looked at what I could do, and not what I couldn't.”

“My foster family believed in me,” continues Komar. “They helped me be the best that I could be, and nothing less. They got me all the help I needed, including about nine different specialist doctors and lots of surgeries. They stand by me through thick and thin, and now are my forever family. I am the best I can be today thanks to them.”

Foster and Adoptive Family Services is a non-profit, 501(c)3 organization, dedicated to meeting the special needs of foster, adoptive and kinship families, who provide safe, stable and nurturing homes for children in foster care in New Jersey.

Anyone interested in having Theodora Komar speak at an event, or in receiving more information about FAFS or its services, can contact Nicky Goodwine-Samuels, Director of Development and Communications, at 1.800.222.0047.