

CFSF Family Connection

Fall 2023



Community & Family
Services Foundation
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Dear Foster Parents,

As we close the door to another Summer chapter, it's a great time to look ahead while remembering the season we have just been through.

As Summer began, the Covid restrictions & requirements largely came to an end. The days quickly heated up and so did the challenges related to the new law originating from House Bill 1227. I think we can all agree that we want families to be strong and intact. We want services to allow families to thrive, and children to be nurtured and loved. Although this is what HB 1227 hoped to achieve, many foster parents and community members felt the new law moved too fast and put children at risk. Thank you for your prayers, unconditional love, and patience.

This Summer I was happy to connect with many foster parents around the state, during the 8 events organized by our wonderful Training & Activities Coordinator, Celeste DiFlaviano. I was fortunate to attend most of the events with her. Here are some of the locations, activities, and goodies put together for foster parents and children:

Water Park · Lake Days · BBQs · Splash parks · Church event · Farm Days · Bingo

Shoes & clothing · Backpacks & school supplies · Face painting · Crafts · Deli trays · Fruit & veggies · Desserts

Thank you, Celeste and Staff for all your help – you are amazing! Thank you foster parents for being God's angels for His kids – love you all 😊

As we move into Fall with more changes ahead – we are confident that children in need of foster care will be cared for thanks to wonderful people like you.

May God Bless you for all you are doing for children.

Sincerely,

Mark Fullington



Mateo is a month shy from turning 3 years old. He has been diagnosed with Level 3 autism. If you had spent much time with Mateo a year ago, you would have quickly learned he had little to no vocabulary, nor any interest in using sign language. Over the last year, with the continuous support of his caregivers, speech and occupational therapists, Mateo's speech and sign language skills have tremendously increased! Not only has the amount of words he knows increased, but also how clearly he can say them! During a recent home visit, foster parents reported that Mateo now knows all of his colors, but also all of the planets! They have a giant chart of the solar system, and when pointed to and asked, Mateo can correctly name them all! He also learned a song with all of the planets in the correct order from the sun!

WAY TO GO MATEO, THE SKY'S THE LIMIT!

Donors & Grants

- Dave Ness Foundation** - Monetary support
- Ticket To Dream** - Back-to-school supplies & essentials
- Gig Harbor Quilters** - Quilts
- John L Scott Port Orchard-** Backpacks
- Lions Club Vancouver** - School supplies & clothing
- Pacific Mobile Structures** - Backpacks & school supplies
- Haggen's Ferndale** - Monetary support

Remember to check our Facebook & Calendar for upcoming Trainings & Events in your area!

FALL FUN

H A R V E S T E I S E T
 R S L O E C D D E C H A
 A E U O L I A V A A S S
 E A U N R L A A N R C N
 E E P Y F E A K R E O R
 O L A P L L S B A C R O
 R H M E L G O U T R N C
 A E E D I E T W L O A A
 N R E V E U S O E W O R
 G L I E M R M A A R R F
 E N E N P U M P K I N R
 G Y E L L O W I D S A R

pumpkin yellow scarecrow autumn
 leaves acorns harvest apples
 hayride football orange red



If you are in need of School Supplies or Back-to-School essentials, please contact your Case Manager!

One way in which donations benefit foster children is by funding the extra support they often need when it comes to education. A great example is Walt. Walt has been enrolled in tutoring classes as he needed to catch up to his age appropriate grade level. He was academically behind due to the lack of nurturing and educational support he received early on. The tutoring utilizes card games and lessons which Walt enjoys. He is learning addition and subtraction as well as developing better reading skills. His family has already seen improvements with Walt and are thankful for the tutor who has built a good rapport with him. Without such funding this would be a huge hurdle for the foster parents. Thank you to all who give to make such things like this happen! Please know your generosity has made a difference for this family and so many others!

Staff Departures:

- WESTERN WA FSS DIRECTOR *April Richardson*
- PORT ORCHARD CASE MANAGER *Hailie Signor*
- € WA CLINICAL DIRECTOR *Danielle Hofstetter*
- SPOKANE FSS COORD/FSS *Brandy Johnston*
- MOSES LAKE FSS *Alexandria Brown*
- MOSES LAKE FSS *Emily Duwall*
- SPOKANE CM/€ WA RESPITE COORD *Janae Kaldhusdal*

Changes & New Welcomes:

- FSS TO FSS DIRECTOR/FISCAL ASST *Cassie Crover*
- FIFE LICENSOR *Madison Barr*
- SPOKANE CM TO HOME STUDY SPC *Cassie Crosswhite*
- VANCOUVER CM/FSS *Jaime Brooks*
- SPOKANE FSS *Ashley Baxter*
- SPOKANE CASE MANAGER/FSS COORD *Anna Ward*
- PO CASE MANAGER *Karesse Sisemore*
- FIFE CM TO CLINICAL DIRECTOR *Craig Fullington*
- € WA LISC SUPV TO LISC SUPV/CPA PLCMNT COORD *Cory Chism*
- ML CM TO CM/€ WA RESPITE COORD *Adriana Robledo*