

# NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH

November is National Adoption Month. It is a time to celebrate:

- Permanence for children who are blessed to find loving and caring families to provide a home for them.
- To recognize and thank parents who are willing to open their heart, soul, and home to accept children into their families, who need love, care, understanding, stability and a “forever” family.

We salute Rowan County parents who have opened their hearts and lives to our children, from the Rowan County Department of Social Services Foster Care System.

One of the missions of the Rowan One Church One Child (ROCO) Ministry is to find families in churches, and in the community, who are willing to open their homes to children who need temporary care in foster care, or a “forever family”, through the adoption of a child in the custody of RCDSS.

Over fifty percent of Rowan County children in foster care are placed in foster and group homes outside of Rowan County because there are not enough foster families in Rowan County to care for our children. **Rowan County Department of Social Services** (RCDSS) is joining with agencies around the country to spread the word and raise awareness about this great need, seeking to increase the number of foster and adoptive parents in our community and nation.

To see the smile on a child’s face and a family’s warm embrace of that child when they meet for the first time is one of the greatest blessings of being a social worker. To see a former adoptive family in the community together and to know that you are

part of the team who helped to make the child’s and family’s dreams come true reminds us of how important our mission really is.

Rowan County citizens and employees have a responsibility to make a difference in the life of a child in this community.

As we celebrate National Adoption Month, let us raise our voices on behalf of children in this community.

Make a difference in the life of one Rowan County child by:

- Helping RCDSS to spread the word about the great need for foster parents in this community.
- Donating gently used or new: clothes and shoes for all ages, sheets, towels, wash cloths, dishes, cookware, flatware, toys, baby items, and coats. Also needed are new: diapers, pull-ups, baby wipes, baby bottles, formula, baby shampoo and powder, soap, shampoo, deodorant, tooth brushes and tooth paste, lotion, body wash, socks and underwear. These items are given to children, teens and birth families receiving Child Protective or Foster Care Services.

To make a difference in the life of a Rowan County child, contact Jon Hunter, Rowan One Church One Child and Placement Support Coordinator for RCDSS at [jon.hunter@rowancountync.gov](mailto:jon.hunter@rowancountync.gov) or 704-267-7996.

Raise your voice of support for Rowan County families who are providing foster and adoptive homes for Rowan County children.

Written by Jon Hunter, ROCOC Ministry Coordinator/Placement Support Coordinator for RCDSS