

## **FFTA News You Can Use!**

As we welcome the Holiday Season and the New Year and look ahead to 2015, we are excited to share a few highlights from 2014:

We have had a wonderful year and helped many children find their forever homes!!! We also had great success with our new "Family of the Month" Facebook/website promotion program and are happy to share information with you if you are considering this as an additional option. We have expanded our outreach to include additional adoption service providers, advertised in new publications and locations, and continued to connect with colleagues across the country to collaborate and exchange resources.

FFTA has recently been approved by the Irish Central Authority as one of the Hague Accredited Entities in the USA to work alongside Shane Downer from Arc Adoptions to assist Irish families to adopt "harder to place" American born children. This is an exciting new collaboration and we look forward to adding more smiling faces to our success stories!!

Although the "wait," particularly a longer-than-anticipated wait, can be filled with frustration and uncertainty, we encourage you to work alongside us, in partnership, in the coming year. With patience, persistence and a positive approach you *will* achieve your goal of adopting.

Check out our ideas below for some innovative ways to reach those who may be considering their options or who may know someone who is considering adoption.

**For those waiting to adopt:** *Be proactive! Write a networking letter and send an "adoption" card. Share it with your dentist... your hairdresser... your cousin... your clergy... your colleagues... you never know which path may lead to your success. Post your Birth Parent Profile on a NYS approved profile sight such as Adoptimism.com, Adopting.com, Adoptimist.com or Adoption.net. Be bold! Post a free advertisement on Craigslist. Create an adoption Facebook page or even post a video on YouTube and don't forget "Family of The Month"!!*

**For those who have already adopted:** *Send us photos to brighten up our days and to share on Facebook or our website, and don't forget our annual holiday book. While you are sitting around the Christmas tree or having a cup of hot chocolate with your child thinking back to the time you were waiting to become parents and worried it would never happen, consider being a **mentor** for a prospective adoptive parent waiting to adopt – what a wonderful way to give back ~ let us know and we will gladly pass your name along!!!*

**To ALL:** *Remember to **like** us on Facebook, follow us on twitter, send us a story for our blog and enjoy every day as it is a gift!!!*

We wish you all the best for a joyous Holiday season. May 2015 be a year filled with peace and may it be one in which your greatest wishes are fulfilled. We would love to hear from you and welcome you to contact us anytime!

From all of us at FFTA,

*Joy, Debbie, Jenna, Kate, Stephanie, Jackie, Amanda, Sacha, and Devin*