



**REACH**

Rural Expansion of Adoptive  
Communities and Homes  
A PATH, INC. INITIATIVE

# AMBASSADOR CONNECTION

*Finding Forever Families*

## HELLO ADOPTION AMBASSADORS!

### AMBASSADOR OPPORTUNITIES ARE EVERYWHERE!

I carry my Ambassador Kit in my car with me where ever I go. I also keep a supply of the things I think I am going to use the most. For example I always have Table Tents in my trunk so when I am lucky enough to go out to eat with my family I speak with the manager of the restaurant about placing some on the tables. Nine times out of ten they are excited about the REACH Project and place them for me.

I also have fliers with me at all times so when I see a

bulletin board with cars, pets, motorcycles etc. for sale I can hang one there for all the public to see. Grocery stores are a great place to hang fliers. These are two small things that take only minutes out of my day. Yet they can make an impact by getting adoption information to those who otherwise would not have it. Last spring I called our local radio station KTOE and talked with them about the REACH Project. They were very interested and wanted to learn more. I ended up

having a twenty-minute interview on the air the following week. It surprised me how easy it was. We did the interview off air first, just the two of us, so when we did it live it was just repeating the conversation we just had. Try a couple of these ideas and see how easily they work for you. The next waiting child to be adopted from foster care could be because of you.

Tim Lorentz  
REACH Project Coordinator



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#### WHAT'S NEW?

**December is  
Human Rights  
Month**

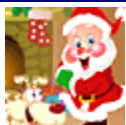
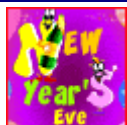
**National  
Adoption Day is  
November 18**

**REACHing out  
to Faith  
Communities**



## DECEMBER IS HUMAN RIGHTS MONTH

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**It's a right for a child to have a family but it's a privilege to be a parent.** There are so many joyous reasons for celebration. In December; above are only a few. As we carry out our traditions with friends and family I ask you to remember the children who are still looking for a family to celebrate with. I give my sincere thanks to all of you who have opened your hearts and homes to some of these children so they have a new reason to smile this holiday season. I know from experience it's not always the easiest thing to do at the time. But when it's all said and done and we sit back in our easy chairs in our warm homes with our stomachs full, perhaps we realize the best gift we received again this year is the ability to give to a child. Have a happy holiday season, and may your homes be blessed with the warm smiles of children.

### IN THE NEWS

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#### NATIONAL ADOPTION DAY 2006 – NOVEMBER 18

National Adoption Day is a collective national effort to raise awareness of the 114,000 children in foster care waiting to find permanent, loving families. For the last six years, National Adoption Day has made the dreams of thousands of children come true by working with courts, judges, attorneys, and advocates to finalize adoptions and find permanent, loving homes for children in foster care.

National Adoption Day is celebrated every year on the Saturday before Thanksgiving. In 2005, judges, attorneys, adoption professionals, child welfare agencies and advocates in 45 states and the District of Columbia helped to finalize the adoptions of more than 3,100 children from foster care. That year, 227 events were held throughout the country to finalize adoptions and to celebrate all families who adopt

As of September 15, 2006, the state reported that 1,625 Minnesota children were under state guardianship. Of that number, 636 needed adoptive families immediately and that's just one of our REACH states.

#### REACHING OUT TO FAITH COMMUNITIES

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One of REACH's goals is to spread the word about the need for adoptive parents to churches and faith-based communities. In November, we made our first effort to do that, mailing over 2100 letters and fliers to faith-based organizations in the REACH Year 4 target area: western North Dakota, the Arrowhead region in Minnesota, and east central Wisconsin. The letter asked leaders to post the flier on the bulletin board and suggested making an announcement during worship services about the need for foster and adoptive families.

We strongly encourage you as an adoption ambassador to contact churches and faith communities in your own area. Ask to hang a flier or put an announcement in the church bulletin. Offer to speak during an adult education session, or put some information brochures in a literature rack. Churches can be a wonderful resource for finding adoptive homes. We are aware of a church in Wisconsin where members have adopted over 50 kids!



**For more information  
on adopting a child from foster care  
call 1-866-79-REACH or  
log on to [www.adoptinfo.org](http://www.adoptinfo.org).**



# For The Kids

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

Can you find the hidden words?

HANUKAH	SANTA	JINGLEBELLS	CHILDREN
SNOW	KWANZA	SLED	JOY
CHRISTMAS	WREATH	FAMILY	PEACE

