



NEWS RELEASE

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Arapahoe and Jefferson counties launch joint foster/adoption web site *Collaborativefostercare.com offers honest look at foster, adoption commitment*

Littleton, Colo. – Residents in the Denver metro-area now have a new online hub where they can learn about becoming a foster or adoptive parent for children and youth in the child welfare system.

The Collaborative Foster Care Program of Arapahoe and Jefferson counties has launched a new, shared web site at www.collaborativefostercare.com to address the need for foster and adoptive homes for children and youth in both counties.

The Collaborative decided to enhance its online presence as part of ongoing efforts to streamline both counties' resources to recruit and support families. The program always seeks individuals and couples who can provide temporary homes for foster children and youth until they can return home, be adopted or live independently, as well as provide permanent homes for children and youth who are available for adoption.

The web site offers candid information about the children in out-of-home care, the roles of foster and adoptive parents, qualifications, training and application requirements to foster or adopt through the program, support for families and much more. It also discusses important aspects of working with the child welfare system and caring for children who have suffered grief and trauma.

The site links to the profiles of children awaiting adoption in each county. It also offers an online registration feature for interested members of the public to reserve a space in the program's free monthly information nights, where they can interact with staff and ask questions.

On average, there are more than 1,000 children in out-of-home care and 60 children awaiting adoption combined in Arapahoe and Jefferson County at any given time. Most of the children in out-of-home care are over age 12, and the majority will return home to their parents or relatives once safety concerns have been resolved.

For more information, please visit the new web site at www.collaborativefostercare.com or call 303-636-1KID.