

## Florida's National Adoption Month Events 2012

As additional events are submitted, they will be added to the Explore Adoption calendar at [www.adoptflorida.org](http://www.adoptflorida.org)

### Florida Adoption Month Kick-off

**When:** Thursday, November 1, 1:00pm – 3:30pm

**Where:** The 15th Judicial Courthouse, 205 North Dixie Hwy., West Palm Beach FL 33401

**Description:** November is National Adoption Month and this year the Governor's Office of Adoption and Child Protection and the Department of Children and Families are hosting an event on November 1st in West Palm Beach to celebrate and finalize several adoptions. If you would like more information please call 850-717-9261.

### Bay County Adoption Celebration

**When:** Friday, November 2, 11am – 1pm

**Where:** Bay County Juvenile Courthouse, 533 East Eleventh Street, Panama City, FL and First Baptist Church, 32 W. Sixth St., Panama City, FL

**Description:** With the theme of "Picture Perfect Family", Adoption Services will be having 6 finalizations followed by a luncheon celebrating with the adoptive families, Judges, Children's Legal Services, Dependency staff members, GAL and other community partners. If you would like more information, please contact Valerie Proctor at 850-522-4485, Ext. 8359.

**Finalizations Expected:** 6

**Attendees Expected:** 65

**Special Guests:** Judge Brantley Clark

### St. Johns County Adoption Day Celebration

**When:** Friday, November 2, 6pm – 8pm

**Where:** 1300 Duval Street, St. Augustine, FL 32084

**Description:** We will be utilizing a very nice (2 year old) County Recreation Department gymnasium (the Solomon Calhoun Center). Anticipate approximately 20+ Relative, Foster and Adoptive families in attendance, as well as local County Administrators, Dependency Judges, the Circuit and Regional DCF Administrators, and most of our CBC Administrators and staff. If you would like more information, please contact Richard Zicht at 904-209-6127.

### Escambia County - Footprints to a Forever Family Fun Walk and Adoption Celebration

**When:** Saturday, November 3, 9:30am – 1:00pm

**Where:** University of West Florida, 11000 University Blvd., Pensacola, FL

**Description:** Community-wide 1.5 Mile Adoption Walk and Fun Day. Event is to celebrate all families who have adopted children, whether from foster care, independently or internationally and to raise awareness of the need for more adoptive families for children in foster care. Zumba warm up prior to walk. After walk, a brief Adoption Month ceremony, free picnic lunch, entertainment and other activities. If you would like more information, please contact Peggy Custred at 850-543-7766.

**Finalizations Expected:** None

**Attendees Expected:** 400

**Special Guests:** Judge Edward Nickinson

### **Pinellas County Adoption Picnic**

**When:** Saturday, November 3, 10am – 2pm

**Where:** John Chestnut Park, 2200 East Lake Road, Palm Harbor, FL 34685

**Description:** For more information, please contact Connie Going at [cgoing@eckerd-eca.org](mailto:cgoing@eckerd-eca.org) or 727-456-0600.

### **Broward County 2012 Family Fall Festival**

**When:** Saturday, November 3, 10am – 1pm

**Where:** Carl Weaver Park, Pompano Beach, FL

**Description:** Food, DJ and bounce house will be provided by Omega Psi Phi Fraternity - Eta Nu Chapter. There will also be sports activities, games, arts and crafts, and face painting for the adoptive families to enjoy. If you would like more information, please contact Yasmin Mendoza 954-414-6000, Ext. 2026.

**Attendees Expected:** 150-200

### **Jackson/Calhoun Counties National Adoption Month Event**

**When:** Wednesday, November 7, 11am – 1pm

**Where:** Citizen's Lodge Park, 4577 Lodge Drive, Marianna, FL 32466

**Description:** With the theme of "Picture Perfect Family", four finalizations and luncheon following to celebrate with adoptive families, Judges, Children's Legal Services, Dependency staff members, GAL and other community partners. If you would like more information, please contact Valerie Proctor at 850-522-4485, Ext. 8359.

**Finalizations Expected:** 4

**Attendees Expected:** 45

**Special Guests:** Judge William Wright

### **Washington/Holmes Counties National Adoption Month Event**

**When:** Friday, November 9, 11am – 1pm

**Where:** Blue Lake Community Center, 1865 Highway 77, Chipley, FL 32428

**Description:** With the theme of "Picture Perfect Family" six adoption finalizations and a luncheon to celebrate with the adoptive families, Judges, Children's Legal Services, Dependency staff members, GAL and other community leaders. If you would like more information, please contact Valerie Proctor at 850-522-4485, Ext. 8359.

**Finalizations Expected:** 6

**Attendees Expected:** 45

**Special Guests:** Judge Christopher Patterson

### **Columbia County National Adoption Month Event**

**When:** Saturday, November 10, 6pm – 8pm

**Where:** Skate Palace, 375 NW Hall of Fame Dr., Lake City, FL

**Description:** For more information, please contact Morgan Rockey at 352-955-5010 or 352-258-4030.

**Attendees Expected:** 60

### **Brevard County Adoption Finalization Ceremony**

**When:** Tuesday, November 13, 11am – 1pm

**Where:** Brevard County Courthouse, 2825 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Viera, FL

**Description:** "Celebration of Adoption" adoption finalization ceremony for 8 children. If you would like more information, please contact LaChrista Jones at 321-752-4650, Ext. 3053.

**Finalizations Expected:** 8

**Attendees Expected:** 100

### **Alachua County National Adoption Month Event**

**When:** Tuesday, November 13, 5pm – 7pm

**Where:** Skate Station, 1311 NW 76th Blvd., Gainesville, FL

**Description:** For more information, please contact Morgan Rockey at 352-955-5010 or 352-258-4030.

**Attendees Expected:** 75-100

### **Leon County National Adoption Day Event**

**When:** Wednesday, November 14, 2pm

**Where:** Leon County Courthouse, Courtroom 3-G, 301 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, FL

**Description:** Finalization Ceremony and Reception at the Leon County Courthouse. Judge Karen Gievers is presiding. For more information, please contact Dorenda Slaton at 850-488-0506.

### **Pasco County National Adoption Day**

**When:** Friday, November 16, 9am – 12pm

**Where:** 7530 Little Road, New Port Richey, FL

**Description:** For more information, please contact Connie Going at [cgoing@eckerd-eca.org](mailto:cgoing@eckerd-eca.org) or 727-456-0600.

### **Volusia County Adoption Celebration**

**When:** Friday, November 16, 10am – 12pm

**Where:** Sunset Harbor Yacht Club, Ballough Road, Daytona Beach, FL

**Description:** Adoption Celebration will be held at local Yacht Club with beautiful water views- with opening adoption video, guest speaker from DCF and adoptive parent as well as 4 judges in attendance to perform 10 adoptions from three counties (Volusia, Flagler and Putnam). If you would like more information, please contact Bill Whelan at 386-944-4702.

**Finalizations Expected:** 10

**Attendees Expected:** 150

**Special Guests:** David Abramowitz, DCF; Chief Judge William Parsons, CEO of CPC Mark Jones, David Shaw who as adopted 10 children and is adopting 2 more on this date.

### **Escambia County Gallery Night**

**When:** Friday, November 16, 5pm – 8pm

**Where:** Artel Gallery, 223 Palafox Place, Pensacola, FL

**Description:** A huge street party during which local artist display their work setting up in all the different downtown stores and restaurants. The newly updated Art of Adoption-Heart Gallery of the Gulf Coast pictures will be on display at the Artel Gallery Nov.12 – Nov. 26 and the display

will be shown during Gallery Night in Pensacola. If you would like more information, please contact Peggy Custred at 850-453-7766.

**Attendees Expected:** 100+

### **Brevard County 7th Annual Walk for Love**

**When:** Saturday, November 17, 9am – 1pm

**Where:** The Church at Viera, 9005 N. Wickham Rd., Viera, FL

**Description:** Walk to help raise awareness about public adoption and celebrate the families and children in Brevard County. If you would like more information, please contact LaChrista Jones at 321-752-4650, Ext. 3053.

**Attendees Expected:** 300

### **Broward County Adoption Finalizations**

**When:** Saturday, November 17, 9am – 12pm

**Where:** Broward County Courthouse, 201 SE 6th Street, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301

**Description:** Families will gather for brief ceremony in the jury waiting room on the third floor. Guest speakers will present and information on courtroom assignments will be provided to families scheduled to finalize. Afterwards family photos will be taken; food, face painting and a DJ will also be available for the families to enjoy. For additional information, please contact Yasmin Mendoza at 954-414-6000, Ext. 2026.

**Finalizations Expected:** TBD

**Attendees Expected:** 70-90

### **Pinellas County National Adoption Day**

**When:** Friday, November 30, 9am – 12pm

**Where:** Criminal Justice Center, 14250 49th Street N, 1st Floor Conference Room, Clearwater, FL

**Description:** For more information, please contact Connie Going at [cgoing@eckerd-eca.org](mailto:cgoing@eckerd-eca.org) or 727-456-0600.