



Dena Murphy
Director

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**- For Immediate Release –
18th Annual National Adoption Month**

(Bakersfield, CA) – We invite you to join us in celebrating November as **National Adoption Awareness Month** in Kern County.

Due to the current climate, our department will be adapting our celebration from a physical event to a month-long awareness campaign. Throughout the course of November, we expect more than a dozen adoptions to finalize in both the Kern County Superior Court, Juvenile Division, and as private adoptions completing in the Family Law Division.

While this year’s festivities may look a bit different than what our community has been a part of in the past, our intent to shed light on Kern County’s children in foster care finding their forever homes remains the same. Our world needs this joy now more than ever, especially as we dedicate this month to focusing on adopting teens, children with special needs, and large sibling groups.

We will be delivering gift bags to each adopted child, filled with family frames, a teddy bear, a book about adoption, and resources for families embarking upon this journey. In addition, families have continued support after adopting a child through a program called “Reach.”

Please follow our social media for ongoing information about this momentous month in Kern County. Search @kerncountydhs on Instagram, @KernCountyDHS on Twitter, and @ Kern County Department of Human Services on Facebook to stay up-to-date with our campaign.

Nearly 1,800 Kern County children are in foster care, and we have a constant need for adoptive families willing to commit to these children long term. When kids cannot return home to their families, they do best when they’re able to find permanency through adoption. Please help us celebrate National Adoption Awareness Month here in our community.

For media inquiries, please contact Jana Slagle at 661.633.7104 or Ally Triolo at 661.556.0376.

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