

The Michigan Adoption Resource Exchange is a program of Judson Center and is funded by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

To learn about foster care adoption and view photolistings and videos of waiting children, visit our website at www.mare.org.



MARE's Match Support Program is now accepting referrals

The Match Support Program is a statewide service for families who have been matched with a child from the MARE website and are in the process of moving forward with an adoption. The Match Support Specialists deliver up to 90 days of services to families by providing them with referrals to support groups, educational training opportunities, and other recommendations to helpful community resources. Our Match Support Specialists are a beneficial support for any family throughout the adoption process. They will be there for the family to answer any questions that they may have and to provide support and guidance during any adversity that may occur in the process.

If you have a family in mind who you believe would be a great match for the Match Support Program, you can find the referral form on the MARE website under "worker forms" or you can contact the program supervisor. If you are interested in having a Match Support Specialist provide a brief presentation to your agency regarding our valuable services and the referral process, please contact the Match Support Program Supervisor, Tara Radina at (734) 528 - 1721 or via email at Tara_Radina@judsoncenter.org.

We look forward to hearing from you and working with families!

Meet the Specialists

Jennifer Jackson

Recently relocated from New York to Michigan, Jennifer (Jen) joined the MARE team as a Match Support Specialist in October 2015. Jen has a bachelor degree in Psychology and master degree in Forensic Psychology. In the past, she has worked with children experiencing emotional and behavioral disorders in a school setting. Currently, she is attending Simmons College full time to complete her Master of Social Work degree. When Jen is not working or studying, she and her family enjoy spending time hiking, kayaking and exploring their new home here in Michigan.

Kalley Goad

Kalley is very pleased to announce that she is one of four Match Support Specialists who are ready to make a difference with the new MARE Match Support Program! Kalley has a degree in Family Life Education from Spring Arbor University, a very full eight years of experience being a single foster/adoptive parent, and in her spare time she does contractual work with DHHS as a parent aide and teaching parenting classes. She began her parenting journey 18 years ago; since then, it has been a fantastic voyage of learning, living, loving, and hair pulling that she considers a gift!



Kalley Goad



Jennifer Jackson

30 Days of Adoption Wishes



Celebrating National Adoption Month

November							2015
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
29	30						

Left, the Foor family is recognized during an event in Midland.

We loved giving thanks for an entire month to the 2015 Outstanding Adoptive Families



Left, the Melnkowyz/Campbell family is recognized during an event in Detroit. Top, worker Katie Page Sander, left, accepts the award for the Rusnak/Loyd family from MARE Program Manager Heidi Raubenolt.



Greetings from the U.P.!



Greetings from Macomb County!



Greetings from The Michigan Supreme Court!

Happy Michigan Adoption Day 2015 From Across The State!



Greetings from Oakland County!

Clockwise from above: The Michigan Supreme Court made sure that this Teddy bear found its forever kid. The Chamberlain Family was recognized in Sault Ste. Marie for being named an Outstanding Adoptive Family in the 30 Days of Adoption Wishes celebration. Michigan Supreme Court Justice David Viviano joined Macomb County Judges James Biernat and Kathryn George for a courthouse ceremony. Excitement filled the Oakland County Courtroom where 11 adoptions were finalized.

Grant puts MARE on center stage in AdoptUSKids ad campaign

Speakers also needed to help this promotional effort

**YOUR SON HAS ASKED
A CALCULUS QUESTION
YOU DON'T
UNDERSTAND
AT ALL**

Do you:

- (A) Create a diversion.
- (B) Look up the answer on your phone but pretend you knew it.
- (C) Hire a tutor. For yourself.

When it comes to being a parent, there are no perfect answers – just being there is enough. So don't worry, you don't have to be perfect to be a perfect parent. There are thousands of teens in foster care who will love you just the same.



800.569.MARE MARE.org

You will soon be seeing the “You Don't Have to be Perfect to be a Perfect Parent” Public Service Announcements a lot more throughout the state!

Michigan has been selected as one of four states to receive a grant and technical assistance to increase the measurable penetration of the National Adoption Recruitment Campaign through AdoptUSKids and the Ad Council. These ads will direct viewers or listeners to the MARE website and toll free hotline.

In addition to increasing the airtime of these PSA's, MARE and DHHS are developing a formalized Adoption Speakers Bureau. If you know of a family, child or adoption professional who would like to tell their adoption story to the media, please send an email to Kalley_goad@judsoncenter.org.



Photo courtesy
AdoptUSKids

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 16, 2016
MARE Meet & Greet, Detroit
11 a.m.-3 p.m.

January 23, 2016
Meet & Greet, Westland, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

February 21, 2016
Adoption Awareness Night at the Palace, Detroit Pistons,
Auburn Hills, 3:30 p.m.

February 27, 2016
MARE Meet & Greet, Holland, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

March 19, 2016
MARE Meet & Greet, Brighton, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

For more information
regarding these events please
contact Jessica Thompson,
MARE Recruitment
Specialist: jessica_thompson@judsoncenter.org

