

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

To learn about foster care adoption and view photolistings and videos of waiting children, visit our website at [www.mare.org](http://www.mare.org).



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## GOING MOBILE FOR MATCHES

### RV tour aims to pair children, families

**Y**ou've heard of this in July, but "Christmas in June"?

That's what'll happen for 10 MARE children who've been selected to receive their "ultimate wish" as part of One Simple Wish's 7,000 mile journey across the U.S.

On June 29, the [Ultimate Wish Tour](#) makes a stop in Detroit. The tour hopes to pair many of the nation's foster care children, including some in Michigan, with adoptive parents.

"We want to find up to 75 children a forever family and we're going to travel over 6,000 miles in six weeks this summer to do it," states One Simple Wish's Ultimate Wish Tour website.

The trek begins June 22 when two One Simple Wish workers and four volunteers pack into an RV for a stop in Trenton, NJ. The tour then moves on to Pittsburgh, Cleveland and Cincinnati

#### Tour stops

- June 22, Trenton, NJ
- June 24, Pittsburgh
- June 26, Cleveland
- June 27, Cincinnati
- **June 29, Detroit**
- July 2, Lincoln, NE
- July 5, Denver
- July 8, Albuquerque, NM
- July 15, Los Angeles
- July 18, San Antonio
- July 21, Little Rock
- July 24, Jacksonville
- July 26, Charlotte, NC
- July 28, Washington, DC
- July 30, Providence, RI
- August 1, Springfield, MA

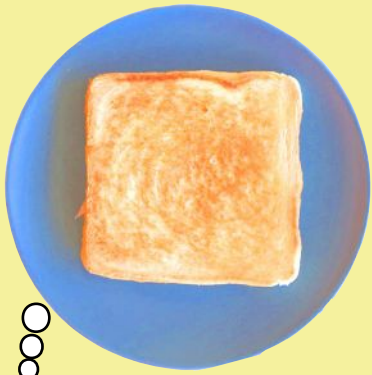
before stopping in Detroit at the [Westin Book Cadillac](#).

During the tour, One Simple Wish volunteers will be taking pictures and videos. See [Tour](#), on page 3



LAKENYE, C06085, SEE PAGE 3  
FOR MORE  
PHOTO BY ELIZABETH WALKER

# Meet Jesse: TV's next celebrity chef?



  
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Jesse, C07797

**B**eware, [Bobby Flay](#). There's a new emerging chef on the horizon, and his name is [Jesse](#)! This kid cooks his own tasty grilled cheese sandwich and is proud of the fact that he can make his own snacks. When he's not in the kitchen, you might see Jesse pumping gas, mowing grass or mastering math. Yes, he takes pride in knowing his multiplication tables as well as helping others. And if you want to make Jesse really happy, show him a movie, just as long as it's not a scary one. Jesse shows off his creative skills by drawing and his athletic prowess by swimming, biking, and rollerblading and by playing basketball and soccer. He also likes listening to music and watching cartoons.

In addition, Jesse says that he is a good helper and enjoys spending time with his current foster family. His foster parent says Jesse likes feeling needed. The foster parent also reports that a family should teach Jesse about appropriate interactions with pets since he has little experience with them.

## Recipe

### Ingredients:

- 9-year-old boy
- 2 cups of love
- 1 gallon of fun
- 1 great smile
- Dash of excitement
- Sprinkle of energy
- \* Mix ingredients together and place gently into a loving home.
- \* Let rise into a forever family!

**Step on up! Perhaps you're the forever family that Jesse craves. Call the Michigan Adoption Resource Exchange, 800-589-6273.**

## HEY, WHAT'S UP WITH THIS EMAIL?

### Why you get 'Child Profile Changes Approved' messages

**M**any supervisors (and some adoption workers) have been receiving notification emails with the subject line "Child Profile Changes Approved." You may not recognize the case, or it may be a very old case that has been closed for a while. **DON'T PANIC!** Here's what we're doing here at MARE and what action you need to take.

#### WHY THIS IS HAPPENING

When MARE migrated all of its data to the new [MARE website](#), all closed cases were transferred to ensure continuity. Any cases that did not have an assigned adoption worker defaulted to a random worker in error. (Many old, closed out

cases were never properly registered with MARE by the assigned adoption worker, which is what caused this predicament).

To correct this issue, MARE is now re-assigning these cases to the appropriate agency. If the adoption worker is no longer with the assigned agency, or if MARE never knew who the worker was (but did know the agency), a current supervisor at that agency is being added as the worker on the MARE website.

#### WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

Unfortunately, the newly assigned worker will receive an email alert every time a change is made. You do not have to do anything with these alerts; you can

delete them. MARE already has all the documentation we need for these cases. These particular cases are all closed and will appear in your "Discharged Cases" list on your dashboard. (Note: The Discharged Cases list on the worker dashboard is undergoing a remodel and will soon be easier to view and sort).

If you feel that a case should not be assigned to your agency, please contact Chaely Chartier, MARE's Data Analyst, at [Chaely\\_chartier@judsoncenter.org](mailto:Chaely_chartier@judsoncenter.org). She will help to sort out the issue. We apologize for the inconvenience in our effort to correct the data to ensure that future agency reports and statistics are accurate. We anticipate that this project will be completed by the end of June.

# WAIVER COVERS MORE CHILDREN

## SED change extends to adopted kids

More children with serious emotional issues now qualify for funding to help them get the services they need.

The Michigan Department of Human Services and Michigan Department of Community Health have extended the Serious Emotional Disturbances (SED) Waiver to include children who have been adopted from the Michigan child welfare system. The waiver previously covered only children in DHS foster care.

The change will help families who have adopted children with serious emotional problems pay for needed services.

"The Children's SEDW provides services that are enhancements or additions to Medicaid State Plan coverage for children through age 20 with SED," according to the MDCH website. "The SEDW enables Medicaid to fund necessary home and community-based services for children with serious emotional disturbance who meet the criteria for admission to the state inpatient psychiatric hospital (Hawthorn Center) and are at risk of hospitalization without waiver services."

Applications for SEDW are made through Community Mental Health Ser-

“The Children’s SEDW provides services that are enhancements or additions to Medicaid State Plan coverage.”

vices Programs in 37 participating Michigan counties. Those programs assess whether an individual qualifies for the waiver.

"The Wraparound Facilitator, the child and his/her family and friends, and other professional members of the planning team work together to identify the child/family's strengths, needs, interventions and outcomes following the Wraparound Practice Model," the MDCH website says. The result is a plan for the individual that "identifies all the services and supports necessary to meet the needs and outcomes."

For eligibility requirements and to see a list of participating counties and programs that administer the waiver, visit the MDCH website at [www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,4612,7-132-2941\\_4868\\_7145-168285--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,4612,7-132-2941_4868_7145-168285--,00.html).



### About Sally

Sally is a loving, caring and helpful little girl. She enjoys helping her foster mother with household chores. Sally is very active and enjoys coloring, drawing, playing outside and playing with her dolls. She can be very bubbly and loves displaying her outgoing personality. Sally loves going to school and will even play school when not there.

## REVISED DHS FORM Use new Intent to Adopt

The DHS-4809, Intent to Adopt form has been revised to comply with ICWA placement priority requirements. This form can be found on the DHS website under [Adoption Forms](#). Be sure to utilize the most updated version of this form immediately.

Additionally, the DHS Native American Affairs Policy Manual has been updated effective May 1, 2014 and can be viewed [here](#).



## DID YOU KNOW?

MARE receives many requests for information on the demographics of youth who are photolisted on the MARE website. Did you know this information is always available in real time via the [MARE website](#)? Just go to View Waiting Children and click on Listed Children Statistics in the right-hand navigation list.

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Tour, continued from page 1

of children in foster care and posting information along with the images in hopes of matching children with forever families. The Detroit stop will include a press conference in which 10 Michigan specially selected children will receive a gift worth up to \$500.

One Simple Wish workers also will interview children to create a promotional webisode in hopes of matching the children with forever families. The Detroit stop also includes a game night for up to 50 waiting youth sponsored by Hasbro, One Simple Wish and Starwood Hotels. To add a waiting youth for the Ann Hasbro Game Night on June 29 at 6:30 p.m. in Detroit, contact Ann Riggs [ann\\_riggs@judsoncenter.org](mailto:ann_riggs@judsoncenter.org) to register.

If you would like to help this cause, you can sponsor a child by visiting [www.ultimatesimplewish.org](http://www.ultimatesimplewish.org). For \$10, you can also sponsor a mile of the tour itself.

### About Lakenyei

Lakenyei, who is one of the Michigan children listed on the Ultimate Wish Tour website, is a friendly and bright young girl. She likes to help people and teach others. She enjoys music, TV, skating, bowling, going outside and spending time with her friends. Lakenyei says, "I would like people to know that I am a nice and intelligent person!"

# 25 Years of Family Celebrations

Remembering Our Past, Celebrating Our Future

## Kinship Adoption Festival

11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Sunday, September 28, 2014  
Belle Isle, Detroit

Talk with adoption workers, attend informational workshops, participate in children's activities, and meet some of the Detroit area's waiting children.

For more information, contact the Michigan Adoption Resource Exchange at 800-589-MARE, [www.mare.org](http://www.mare.org)

Michael, 15, by Photo Boutique  
C08222

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**June 29, 2014**

### One Simple Wish's Ultimate Wish Tour

Westin Book Cadillac, Detroit, 3-9 pm

Children will receive their big wish, be interviewed by One Simple Wish workers for a promotional webisode and play during a Game Night sponsored by Hasbro, One Simple Wish and Starwood Hotels. General public can donate to a child's wish or to the tour by visiting [www.ultimatewish.org](http://www.ultimatewish.org).

E-mail Ann Riggs at [ann\\_riggs@judsoncenter.org](mailto:ann_riggs@judsoncenter.org) to register.

**July 26, 2014**

### Lansing Match Party

E-mail Ann Riggs at [ann\\_riggs@judsoncenter.org](mailto:ann_riggs@judsoncenter.org) to register.

**September 13, 2014**

### Midland Match Party, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

E-mail Ann Riggs at [ann\\_riggs@judsoncenter.org](mailto:ann_riggs@judsoncenter.org) to register.

View a comprehensive list of events at [www.mare.org](http://www.mare.org).