

Contact: Sheonna Hill
Juvenile Services Supervisor
Adoptions Unit
Genesee County Circuit Court
900 South Saginaw Street, Rm. 104
Flint, MI 48502
Phone: 810-424-4470
Fax: 810-257-3299

Genesee County 7th Circuit Court

PRESS RELEASE

Genesee County Will Participate in State-wide Adoption Day on **November 20** **“Forever Family”**

The Genesee County Probate Court and the Family Division of the Genesee County 7th Judicial Circuit Court along with local adoption agencies will host an Adoption Day celebration on Tuesday, November 20, 2018 beginning at 1 p.m. at the Genesee County Circuit Courthouse located at 900 S. Saginaw St. in Flint, Michigan. The event is open to the public and will feature open adoption hearings and a reception immediately following the hearings. The Honorable Jennie E. Barkey, Genesee County Probate Judge will be presiding over the public adoption hearings. Representatives from Genesee County Department of Health and Human Services and several adoption agencies will attend. The Adoption Day speaker will be adoptive parent, Regina Bush. She made national news 20 years ago for a landmark transracial adoption case.

This local celebration is part of a nationwide effort to bring attention to the number of foster children waiting for adoption and to celebrate all families who adopt. Currently, there are hundreds of children in Genesee County who are placed in foster care and many of those children are available for adoption and are waiting for a loving, permanent home.

“This day marks the beginning of an exciting journey for these deserving children and families,” Presiding Probate Court Judge, the Honorable Jennie E. Barkey explains. “This celebration offers us an opportunity to take a moment to acknowledge what is important – family; and we encourage other individuals and families to consider adoption, as we celebrate the joy of adoption and express our thanks for adoptive parents throughout our community. This celebration is also a reminder to us of the importance of those who work so tirelessly on behalf of children in foster care.”

Michigan Adoption Day is held each year in November. Participating courts finalize adoptions, hold parties for adoptive families, and educate the public about the adoption process. Michigan Adoption Day is co-sponsored by the Michigan Supreme Court, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Michigan Adoption Resource Exchange, and the Child Welfare Services Division of the State Court Administrative Office.

Throughout the month of November, which is National Adoption month, the Genesee County 7th Circuit Court encourages all Michigan residents to learn more about how they can change the lives of children through adoption by visiting <http://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs>.

For further information on the Genesee County event, contact Sheonna Hill by telephone at 810-424-4470 or by email at AdoptionsDepartment@co.genesee.mi.us.

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