



**ARAPAHOE COUNTY**  
COLORADO'S FIRST

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# News Release

**For release: Dec. 9, 2014**

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## **Newly adopted foster children spending the holidays with their ‘forever families’ *Arapahoe County celebrates 17 adoptions during National Adoption Month.***

**Littleton, Colo.** – Christmas is still weeks away but it looks like 2-year-old Jaiden Frye is getting some of her best presents early: a new Disney Frozen princess doll and more importantly, a new mom and dad. Outside the courtroom awaiting their adoption hearing, little Jaiden shows off her new princess doll to her new dad, Cleo Frye.

“We are blessed to be in a position to do this and we’re blessed to have her,” said Frye.

Emotions were high at Arapahoe County District Courthouse as Frye, his wife and even little Jaiden raised their right hand for the swearing in. Magistrate Kathleen Janski of the 18<sup>th</sup> Judicial District presided over the adoption hearings and the families celebrated with caseworkers and friends at a special party with professional family portrait sessions, food and cake.

Jaiden is one of 17 foster children Arapahoe County’s Department of Human Services found permanent homes for during the County’s special proceedings for National Adoption Month. These are children who had been victims of abuse or neglect and while the County makes every effort to reunify child with their parents or relatives, sometimes concerns for their well-being and safety go unresolved and a small percentage become legally free for adoption.

“Children deserve a chance to grow up in a loving and stable home and we are grateful for these 14 families for making such a commitment to these children,” said Arapahoe County Commissioner Nancy Sharpe.

“Thanks to all of the loving adoptive parents, these kids can now leave the fear and the hurt in their hearts behind and focus on being happy children.”

So far, 73 children have been adopted through the County’s foster care program in 2014. There are 22 children in Arapahoe County currently waiting to be adopted and most of them are 10 and older. Unfortunately, the older the child, the harder it is to find people willing to give a foster child a permanent home.

That, however, wasn’t the case for Dr. Janet Kerin. She just adopted her fourth youth, 11-year-old Jackson who she has been fostering for about two years.

“There is a need for the child and I knew he was a good fit for us,” said Kerin. “It feels good that we have stability now and I know he feels good knowing he belongs to a family.”

There are about 1,100 children in foster care through the Collaborative Foster Care Program of Arapahoe, Douglas and Jefferson Counties and there is always a great need for more foster homes for children.

Adoptive and foster parents may be married, single or living with a partner and may be with or without children.

If you would like to learn more about becoming a foster or adoptive parent through the Collaborative Foster Care Program please call 303-636-1KID or attend one of our bimonthly Information Nights. The next Information Night for Arapahoe, Douglas and Jefferson Counties will be held 6 -7 p.m., Jan. 12 at the Jefferson County Human Services building, 900 Jefferson County Pkwy., Golden. For more dates, information and to register, please visit [www.collaborativefostercare.com](http://www.collaborativefostercare.com).

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**To download photos, please click on the following link:**

<ftp://ftp.arapahoegov.com/Pub/Communication%20Services/Photos/Human%20Services/National%20Adoption%20Day/>

**Descriptions:**

JaidenFrye.jpg1 thru 4: Jaiden Frye and Family

JacksonKerin.jpg1 and 2: Jackson Kerin and Family

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