Press Release:
Local Adoption Agency Runs Free Art Group for Adoptees

November 21, 2012 - Forever Families Through Adoption (FFTA), a local adoption agency and resource center in Rye Brook, is running the second session of the Art Group for Adoptees. The groups are led bi-monthly by Becca Leitman, MSW, adoption counselor and Dustin Lindsey at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Rye Brook. Participants range in age from seven to ten years old. The group focuses on the expression of emotions through art, and creating an open forum for discussion about the participants' feelings about adoption. Adoption is the common thread that holds the group together, and is addressed as it is brought up by the participants.

The participants are given art directives during each session which include, creating a group mandala, paper mache masks, and creating superheroes out of clay. The goals of the Art Group for Adoptees are for children to have fun participating in art related activities, to get to know peers and adults who share the experience of domestic or international adoption, to normalize these experiences and the accompanying emotions, and to develop the skills and self-esteem of each adoptee.

In addition to the art group, Forever Families Through Adoption has been providing workshops on adoption education for hundreds of middle and high school students throughout New York and Connecticut as part of their community outreach programs since 2007.

If you or anyone you know is interested in learning more about registering for FFTA's Art Group for Adoptees or any of the school outreach programs available, please contact Joy at FFTA at (914) 939-1180 or JoyG@ForeverFamiliesThroughAdoption.org.   All correspondence remains confidential.

Inset: Co-Leaders, Becca Leitman and Dustin Lindsey hold the Art Group for Adoptees Mandala.

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