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Press Release

November 4, 2011

On Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, National Adoption Day, Forever Families Through Adoption (FFTA), a NY and CT-authorized adoption placement agency and resource center in Rye Brook, NY, will be awarded the All Children-All Families Seal of Recognition by the Human Rights Campaign. The Seal signifies that FFTA is an organization that is welcoming, affirming and supportive of LGBT families, and has demonstrated skill and competency in 10 key areas of best practice.

National Adoption Day will be recognized throughout the United States when an unprecedented number of courts open their doors to finalize the adoptions of thousands of children and celebrate all families that adopt. Among these families are three FFTA families whose finalizations will take place on Adoption Day at the Westchester County Family Court with the Honorable Judge Kathie E. Davidson presiding. Judge Davidson, who has been recognizing and finalizing same-sex adoptions for many years, will join FFTA along with two of FFTA's LGBT families whose adoptions are being finalized, as the agency receives this important honor.

FFTA is truly proud and pleased to continue to place children with LGBT families and to always focus on the best interests of children in need of their forever family. Joy S. Goldstein, LCSW, ACSW, Executive Director of the agency stated, "As we celebrate the awarding of the All Children-All Families Seal of Recognition we are not only supporting the LGBT community, but are standing up for ethical practice by removing barriers to LGBT adults who dream of becoming parents and to children in need of a safe, permanent and loving family."

FFTA staff, families, Members of the Board, notable guests and representatives from the Human Rights Campaign Foundation's All Children- All Families Initiative will all be on hand at the Westchester County Courthouse on November 18<sup>th</sup>. Every day FFTA is committed to treating all persons with respect, dignity and compassion and welcomes all families regardless of race, religion, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, marital status, age, nationality or disability.

For further information or to provide press coverage for the event, call (914) 939-1180 or visit FFTA on the web at <u>www.foreverfamiliesthroughadoption.org</u>





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