



62 Bowman Avenue • Rye Brook, New York 10573

Tel: (914) 939-1180 • Fax: (914) 939-1181

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RYE BROOK, NEW YORK, FOREVER FAMILIES THROUGH ADOPTION, INC.

Forever Families Through Adoption, Inc. earns All Children – All Families (ACAF) Seal of Recognition for LGBTQ best practices

Forever Families Through Adoption (FFTA), a NY and CT-authorized adoption placement agency and resource center in Rye Brook, NY, (FFTA), proudly announced that it is being recognized in <u>Change-Makers in Child Welfare 2020</u> -- a report highlighting the HRC Foundation's All Children - All Families (ACAF) program's partnership with 100 organizations across the country working to improve the services they provide to the LGBTQ community, including children in foster care and prospective foster and adoptive parents. These organizations serve more than 600,000 clients annually in 28 states, and employ more than 15,000 workers.

FFTA was again 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 LGBTQ families, and recognized as one of 100 child welfare agencies committed to LGBTQ inclusion and has once again demonstrated skill and competency in areas of best practice. FFTA reached the highest "Tier of Recognition," which celebrates FFTA as being fully LGBTQ welcoming and affirming and being one of the 39 agencies reaching the "Innovative Inclusion Tier"; meeting ALL 25 criteria and going above and beyond to innovate services for LGBTQ families.

FFTA originally received the SEAL in November 2011 during National Adoption Day at the Westchester County Family Court with the Honorable Judge Kathie E. Davidson presiding. National Adoption Day is 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. Judge Davidson has been recognizing and finalizing same-sex adoptions for many years, and has always supported the work that FFTA does and congratulates them in receiving this important honor.

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

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.

The All Children – All Families initiative, launched in 2007, promotes policies and practices that welcome LGBTQ foster and adoptive parents. The program seeks to enhance LGBTQ cultural competence among child welfare professionals and educate LGBTQ people about opportunities to become foster or adoptive parents to waiting children. More information about HRC and the initiative can be found at www.hrc.org/acaf. More information about FFTA can be found at the website below or call #914-939-1180

www.ForeverFamiliesThroughAdoption.org • adopt@ForeverFamiliesThroughAdoption.org