

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

CHILDREN'S DIVISION

P.O. BOX 88

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

August 20, 2004

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: REGIONAL EXECUTIVE STAFF, CIRCUIT MANAGERS AND
CHILDREN'S DIVISION STAFF

FROM: FREDERIC M. SIMMENS, DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: LINKING HEARTS COMMUNITY ADOPTION EVENT

REFERENCE: CHILDREN'S DIVISION

DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this memorandum is to announce the Linking Hearts Adoption Picnic. This event is a wonderful opportunity for our agency and community partners to provide prospective adoptive families with the opportunity to interact with children in need of permanent homes. For over a decade, Linking Hearts events have resulted in creating new families for our children and increasing community awareness of the need for adoptive homes.

This year's event will be held on Friday, September 24, 2004, at Lions Club Park in Rolla, Missouri. Registration for children will begin at 12:00 PM, followed by Outdoor activities, a tour of U.M.R. campus and an ice cream social. Prospective adoptive parents are invited to join the festivities at the picnic beginning at 4:00 PM. Students from the University of Missouri at Rolla will be hosting the picnic with carnival games, music, and a barbeque. A complete agenda and registration forms are attached. Directions may be obtained by visiting the MapQuest website at Lions Club Park, Rolla, Missouri.

Counties are encouraged to participate in this event by registering children and inviting prospective adoptive parents to attend. Please feel free to use the attached flyer to invite families to this recruitment activity.

This has proven to be an enjoyable and informative adoption recruitment event for prospective families and adoption workers over the years. We strongly encourage your participation and support of this activity.

If you have questions about Linking Hearts, please contact the 25th Circuit Adoption Unit at 573-368-2340 or 573-774-6121.

NECESSARY ACTION:

1. Review this memorandum with all Children's Division staff.
2. Complete the appropriate attached forms for children and adults who accompany children who are attending this event.
3. Share the attached Linking Hearts Building Families Letter, Adoption Event Flyer and Event Agenda with adoptive families within your county.
4. All questions are to go through normal supervisory channels.

FMS/RH/JN:js

Attachments: Linking Hearts Building Families Letter
Linking Hearts Community Adoption Event Flyer
Linking Hearts Community Adoption Event Agenda
Adult Registration Form
Child Registration Form