

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

CHILDREN'S DIVISION

P. O. BOX 88

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

August 10, 2017

What's Inside:Information
about the 2017
Linking Hearts
Adoption Event
in Rolla, MO

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: REGIONAL DIRECTORS, FIELD SUPPORT MANAGERS,
CIRCUIT MANAGERS, SUPERVISORS and CHILDREN'S SERVICES
WORKERS

FROM: TIM DECKER, DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: 2017 LINKING HEARTS COMMUNITY ADOPTION EVENT

DISCUSSION:

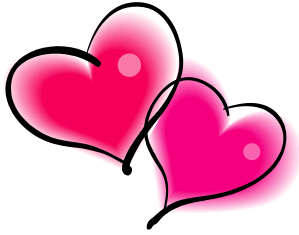
We are pleased to announce the annual Linking Hearts Community Adoption Event. This event allows the Children's Division, the Phelps County Community Partnership, the InterFraternity Council, and Pan-Hellenic Council of the Missouri University of Science and Technology to offer an opportunity for prospective adoptive families and children to meet and interact with each other in a fun and relaxed environment. The Linking Hearts event has been successful over the years in creating forever families for waiting children and increasing awareness of the need for adoptive homes for children from foster care.

This year's event will be held on Friday, September 15, 2017. The event will be held at the Lion's Club Park in Rolla, Missouri. Registration for children will begin at 1:00 p.m. at The Centre. Activities will include games, swimming, volleyball, basketball and crafts. Prospective adoptive parents are invited to join the festivities at 5:00 p.m. There will be evening activities available for participants to engage in with the children as well as a BBQ for all prospective adoptive parents, children and workers. The closing ceremony will be at 7:00 p.m.

Registration is now open, effective the date of this memo and must be received before **September 1, 2017**. You may complete the child registration using the 2017 Linking Hearts Child Registration form. To promote the participation of potential and approved adoptive families use the 2017 Linking Hearts 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 or need directions to The Centre, please contact the 25th Circuit Adoption Unit at 573-368-2440 or 573-774-6121 ext 245 and ask for an adoption worker.



LINKING HEARTS COMMUNITY ADOPTION EVENT

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15th 2017

5:00 - 7:00 P.M.

Lion's Club Park

Rolla, MO

Potential adoptive parents, licensed and prospective, are encouraged to attend.

This event offers an opportunity for families and children to meet and interact with each other in a fun and relaxed environment. Games, activities, and a BBQ will be available for prospective adoptive families, Children's Division Workers, and children who have the goal of adoption.

Lion's Club Park is located at 1061 S Bishop Ave, Rolla, MO 65401, on Highway 63 South in Rolla across from JC Penney and next to Kmart. The event is at the big pavilion at the front of the park.



LINKING HEARTS COMMUNITY ADOPTION EVENT

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2017

AGENDA FOR CASEWORKERS AND CHILDREN

- 1:00 Registration at The Centre
- 1:00 – 4:00 Games, swimming, volleyball, basketball, etc.
Crafts will begin at 2:00
(Children and adults welcome to participate in any activity—please bring along additional items as necessary i.e. towel, swimsuit, etc. There will be a lifeguard available.)
- 4:00 – 4:30 Buddy Match-Up (children pair up with MS&T students and receive their backpacks with their wish list items)
- 4:30 – 5:00 Travel to Park (Children will be transported by the person who brought them to The Centre.)
- 5:00 Opening Ceremony (Guest speaker briefly speaks)
- 5:15 BBQ and Games Open (children play games and eat with their “buddy” while workers/foster parents answer questions of potential adoptive families) Note to Caseworkers: Please allow community members and children to enter the food line first.
- 7:00 Closing Ceremony – Trophy Presentation to MS&T
Sorority/Fraternity with the best carnival booth

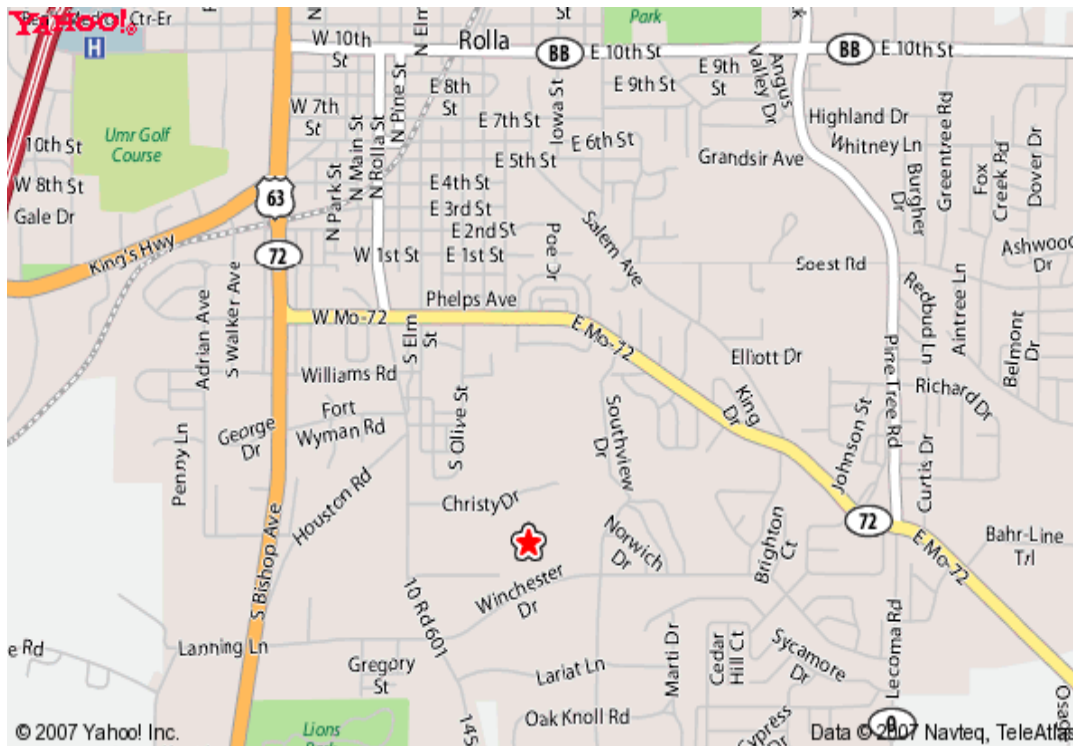
Directions to The Centre

1200 Holloway St, Rolla, MO 65401

From I-44 (east or west): Take exit 186 and head south. Turn left onto 10th street-will be a stop light. You will pass by Rolla High School on your right. Just after that, there is a stop light, turn left onto Holloway. The Centre is on the right.

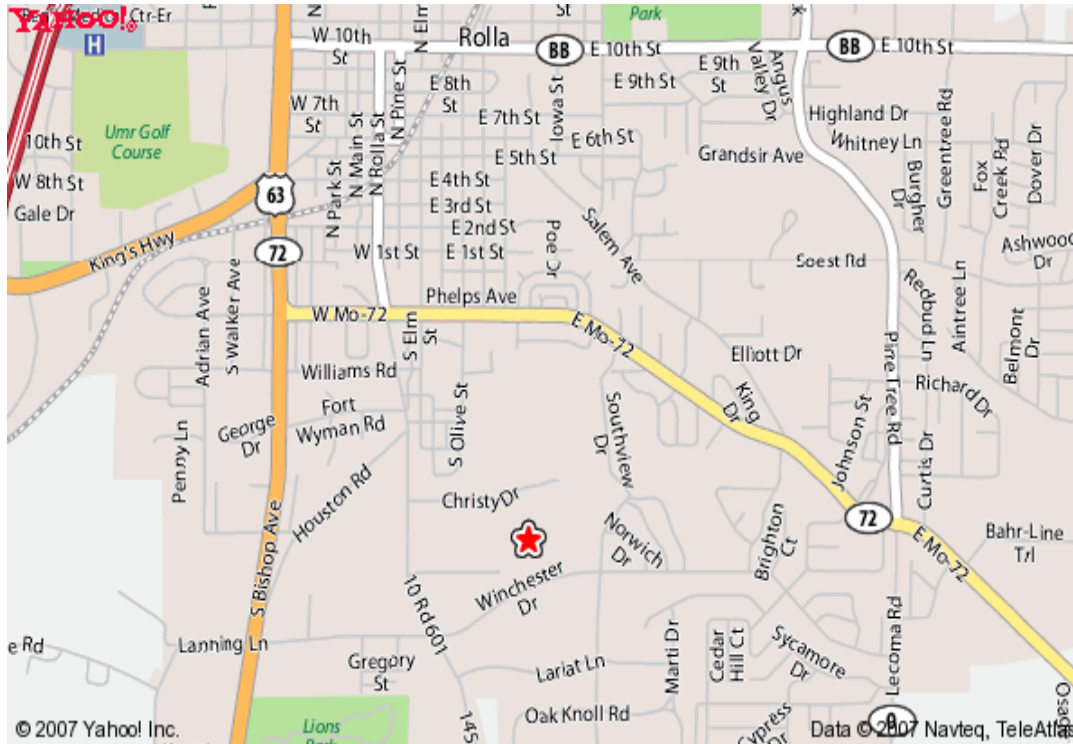
From South 63: Head north through town. Turn right onto 10th street-will be a stop light. You will pass by Rolla High School on your right. Just after that, there is a stop light, turn left onto Holloway. The Centre is on the right.

The Centre



Lion's Club Park is located at 1061 S Bishop Ave, Rolla, MO 65401 or on Highway 63 South in Rolla across from JC Penney and next to Kmart. From The Centre, turn left out of the parking lot, turn right at light onto 10th Street. Continue to the light at Bishop Ave/Hwy 63. Turn left and take Bishop Ave/Hwy 63 past Wal-Mart, Sonic, Kmart. Turn left across from JC Penny into Lion's Club Park. The event is in the big pavilion at the front of the park.

Directions to Lion's Club Park Rolla, MO



Lion's Club Park is located at 1061 S Bishop Ave, Rolla, MO 65401 or on Highway 63 South in Rolla across from JC Penney and next to Kmart. The event is in the big pavilion at the front of the park.

2017 Linking Hearts Child Registration Form

Child's Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____ DCN: _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____ Phone: _____

Health or Behavior Concerns:

T-Shirt Size: Circle One

CHILD Small (6-8)

CHILD Medium (10-12)

Adult Small

Adult Medium

Adult Large

Adult XL

Adult 2XL

Chaperone(s) Responsible for Supervising the Child (NEED CORRESPONDING ADULT FORM)

Name: _____ Cell # for event day: _____

Name: _____ Cell # for event day: _____

Name: _____ Cell # for event day: _____

PHOTOGRAPHS of the event will be taken and used in recruitment and Community Partnership activities! So...

Circle which is attached: CD-AE-1B or Court order for media recruitment

Email completed registration forms to: Wendy.Wiseman@dss.mo.gov

Questions may be directed to Wendy at 573-368-2440.

A backpack with small gifts will be provided to each foster/adoptive child. Please list 3 possible ideas your child would appreciate (\$10.00 or less). It is VERY important to at least provide interests/hobbies of the children to assist in buying appropriate items for them. If the child cannot attend after being registered, please notify us as soon as possible so we can make best use of our funds.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Linking Hearts 2017
Adult Supervising A Child(ren)
Registration Form**

Send to: Wendy Wiseman (573-368-2440) Wendy.Wiseman@dss.mo.gov or Alisha Otis (573-368-2426) at Alisha.G.Otis@dss.mo.gov .

Registration Deadline is Close of Business Day on 9/1/17!!

Adult Participant Name _____

Relationship to Child _____

County/Agency Representing _____ Office Phone Number _____

Mandatory Cell # for event day _____

Children Supervising

Adult T-Shirt Size _____ Color may vary with role or size

Note: Children's Service Worker/Foster Parent should be the person bringing the child and the person for the potential adoptive parents to talk to. **This person is responsible for supervising the child and will be answering questions regarding the child they brought from 5-7pm.**

There will be several different activities available at The Centre including swimming, basketball, and volleyball so please bring additional items as needed, i.e. towel, swimsuit, etc. for yourself and children. (A lifeguard will be available.) In case of cooler weather, please bring long sleeves for the kids to wear **under** the event T-Shirts as this identifies participants.

If you become unable to attend, please contact us so that we can best utilize funds for the kids! Contact Wendy Wiseman at 573-368-2440 or Wendy.Wiseman@dss.mo.gov or Alisha Otis at 573-368-2426 or Alisha.G.Otis@dss.mo.gov .

Linking Hearts 2017 Adult Volunteer Registration Form

Send to: Wendy Wiseman (573-368-2440) Wendy.Wiseman@dss.mo.gov or Alisha Otis (573-368-2426) at Alisha.G.Otis@dss.mo.gov .

Registration Deadline is Close of Business Day 9/1/17!

Adult Participant Name _____

County/Agency Representing _____

Office Phone Number _____

Mandatory Cell # for event day _____

Adult T-Shirt Size _____ Color may vary with role or size

You will be asked to do some of the following as needed. Please mark your preferences.

___ Work Child/Worker Registration Table from 1-4 at The Centre

___ Work MS&T Volunteer Registration at The Centre from 3:30-4:30

___ Do activities (volleyball, basketball, crafts, board games) with kids at the Centre from 1-4

___ Welcome families/work Registration Table from 5-7 at Lion's Club Park

___ Talk to potential adoptive parents about the process and find child's worker at Lion's Club
Park from 5-7

___ Serve ice cream, help monitor participation/safety, or any other task needed at Lion's Club
Park from 5-7

Note: There will be several different activities available at The Centre including swimming, basketball, and volleyball so come dressed to play hard. For the Park, In case of cooler weather, please bring long sleeves to wear **under** the event T-Shirts as this identifies participants.

If you become unable to attend, please contact us so that we can utilize t-shirt funds for priority items such as gift bags and activity supplies for the kids! Contact Wendy Wiseman at 573-368-2440 or Wendy.Wiseman@dss.mo.gov or Alisha Otis at 573-368-2426 or Alisha.G.Otis@dss.mo.gov .

NECESSARY ACTION

1. Review this memorandum with all Children's Division staff.
2. All questions should be cleared through normal supervisory channels and directed to:

PDS CONTACT

Sarah Bashore
(573) 751-0311
Sarah.Bashore@dss.mo.gov

PROGRAM MANAGER

Amy Martin
(573) 751-3171
Amy.L.Martin@dss.mo.gov

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS AND RESOURCES

2017 LINKING HEARTS CHILD REGISTRATION FORM
2017 LINKING HEARTS ADULT REGISTRATION FORM
2017 LINKING HEARTS FLYER
DIRECTIONS
2017 LINKING HEARTS AGENDA