



Connecting teens, creating families, changing lives

A reminder for the rest of us

DCFYI Orientation Tuesday, January 11

Learn more or take the next step to being a mentor, weekend host parent, adoptive parent, or event driver.

RSVP from the [website calendar](#).



Dear Pamela:

Way back when (a long six months ago) as vaccines were rolling out and covid numbers going down, we thought we would hold program events outdoors through the fall and begin to come back inside over the winter when it would be safe again.

Needless to say that's not where we are now so we will continue to hold our events outdoors for the foreseeable future. We are wondering how we will work around unpredictable winter weather and, like everyone else, frustrated that life has not returned to "normal" yet.

And then I am reminded that most of us retain control over many aspects of our lives despite the vicissitudes of a pandemic. Children in foster care do not.

Too many children in foster care wake up on edge daily, wondering what unexpected change the day will bring. Some adults with lived experience talk about how long it took to lose the feeling of never being sure they would go to bed at night in the same bed they woke up in that morning.

[Watch DC's annual Adoption Day](#) celebration video.

[Just in time:](#) Two teens find their forever home before aging out of foster care.

['It changed my life.'](#) Program continues to help ex-foster kids navigate college.

[At 26,](#) Milwaukee automotive educator Chaya Milchtein has landed on the Out100 list of the most influential LGBTQ people.

[Philly youth](#) aging out of foster care get some relief with housing aid.

[How 'Shadow' Foster Care](#) Is Tearing Families Apart.

DCFYI is seeking volunteers to serve on our [Fundraising](#) committee.

The pandemic gives the rest of us a small window into what it's like to live with that kind of uncertainty. And a reminder of why helping teens who are in foster care find permanency is so critically important.

Maybe you know someone who is interested in learning more; maybe you know someone who might be interested in adopting a teen. Now would be the perfect time to tell them about DCFYI and invite them to join us!

Thank you for all you do and here's to a safer 2022 for all of us,
Susan

Upcoming Events

Holiday Party

Outside for the first time ever (so no gingerbread houses but we will have plenty of other activities).

Saturday, December 11th.

Register [here!](#)

For now, we are continuing with outdoor events. We are watching covid numbers and vaccination rates to determine when we can safely return to indoor events.

Events are on the DCFYI [website calendar](#).



Help us expand DCFYI's reach and find more weekend host and adoptive parents for wonderful teens. Like our social media pages and comment and share posts so other people will see them.

Thank you!



[Your support](#) means more teens in foster care will have lifelong connections with caring adults and find adoptive families.

A Birthday Book Drive Thank You!

A while back we asked for helping replenishing our book supply. (We send every DCFYler a book and card for their actual birthday, in addition to celebrating everyone at the annual all-youth birthday party.)



We were blown away by the response, but not surprised because we know we have THE most generous friends. We are so grateful to [East City Bookshop](#) for hosting the book drive and helping curate our list and to all of you who donated.

As you can see, we are well-stocked for upcoming birthdays. Thank you!!

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