



Changing Directions.
Changing Lives.

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CHRIS 180 Works to Reunite and Build Families During National Adoption Month

Nonprofit Organization Seeks Additional Foster Parents During COVID-19 Pandemic

ATLANTA, GA (November 18, 2020) Worldwide, November is celebrated as National Adoption Month, and CHRIS 180, an Atlanta-based nonprofit organization, whose mission is to heal children, strengthen families, and build community is committed to bringing awareness to the need to find safe homes for children in foster care while focusing on keeping siblings together throughout the process.

There are over 15,000 Georgia children in the foster care system and approximately half of these children are members of a sibling group. For a variety of reasons, many of siblings are not placed together initially or become separated over time. Keeping siblings together and providing them stability is the focus of CHRIS 180's Gateway Foster Homes which reunite siblings separated in foster care to help them bond and find a forever family together.

CHRIS 180's Gateway Foster Homes, with three locations around Metro Atlanta, focus primarily on fostering siblings until they may be reunited with their biological parent(s), placed in a safe home with their closest of kin or adopted. Three siblings were recently adopted and now can make memories as a family in their forever family.

"CHRIS 180's Adoptions and Foster Care program utilizes a unique trauma-informed approach that helps children heal and provides foster and adoptive parents with an understanding of the impact of childhood trauma and the tools to help them succeed. Our Gateway homes, the first of their kind in Georgia, create stability for siblings, helps them form lasting bonds and prepares them for reunification or adoption," said Kathy Colbenson, LMFT, President and CEO of CHRIS 180.

CHRIS 180's Adoptions and Foster Care Services works with potential adoptive parents providing them trauma-informed trainings, therapeutic and medical resources during the adoption process and support after the adoption is finalized. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, CHRIS 180 has finalized four adoptions and has five pending adoptions!

This National Adoption Month we are raising awareness for the thousands of Georgia children in the foster care system who need a loving and safe home. If you are interested in becoming a foster or adoptive parent, please contact CHRIS 180's Adoptions and Foster Care Program at adoptions@CHRIS180.org.

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About CHRIS 180

Since 1981, CHRIS 180 has transformed more than 90,000 lives. CHRIS 180 saves, serves and protects traumatized children, adults and families through trauma-informed, solution-focused programming that empowers them to change the direction of their lives. For more information, visit CHRIS180.org