



Since 1988

“Finding at least one family  
in each church to  
adopt, foster or mentor  
at least one child”

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[www.ococfl.org](http://www.ococfl.org)

850-414-5620

In partnership with:



# November 2019 National Adoption Month Information for Florida Churches



## Family & Faith

... A STRONG FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE

### (Pastor's Guide)



September 20, 2019

Dear Pastor:

November is National Adoption Month. We are requesting your assistance in sharing the information in this booklet with your church congregation members, during the month of November. Each page has very simple instructions. The booklet contains:

- A Church announcement to be read each Sunday in November
- A proclamation to be read on One Church One Child Sunday, November 10, 2019
- A list of 25 of the 800+ children waiting to be adopted, names to be announced on One Church One Child Sunday or each Sunday of November

We are also asking if you would use November 10<sup>th</sup> as a day to recognize, acknowledge and commend families or individuals in your church who have already adopted.

Thank you for your consideration and assistance on behalf of Florida's children in foster care in need of adoption.

Sincerely,

Arie Sailor, MSW, Th.D.  
Executive Director



## Church Announcement

(To post and/or read during church service, especially during the month of November)

### **YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!!**

If you can provide love, understanding, compassion and space in your home, you can make the difference in the life of a child, youth or sibling group of children, who currently have no permanent family and home to call their own.

Children from young to 17 ½ years of age are waiting in foster care. They are part of the 800 + children waiting on any given day for adoption. Pray about making a difference or sharing with others about this need for individuals and/or married couples to come to action for the children in local communities who are waiting and hoping to be placed with a family that will become their own.

There is little to no cost involved to adopt children from the state's foster care system, and getting started is easy (there are funds available to help support cost). Also, college, medical and financial assistance are available to help meet the needs of children adopted from foster care.

For additional information, please contact One Church One Child of Florida at [info@ococfl.org](mailto:info@ococfl.org), [www.ococfl.org](http://www.ococfl.org), toll free (888) 283-0886 or 850-414-5620.



## ONE CHURCH ONE CHILD ADOPTION SUNDAY PROCLAMATION

*(To be read November 10, 2019 in churches statewide)*

**WHEREAS**, One Church One Child was founded in Chicago, Illinois in 1980 by Father George Clements and implemented in Florida in 1988 as a statewide, nonprofit adoption organization for the purpose of providing services to adoptable children and increasing children's potential for placement in a permanent family home, publicizing the plight of children in foster care and promoting child welfare services to children and support for families; and

**WHEREAS**, One Church One Child particularly encourages the involvement of clergy and churches, in the process of identifying suitable individuals and families for adoption, foster care and mentoring with the basic philosophy being "to find at least one family per church to adopt, foster or mentor at least one child;" and

**WHEREAS**, the month of November has been declared National Adoption Month by National One Church One Child, the National Council on Adoption and other adoption promotion organizations across the country. The intent is to raise public awareness of the fact that there are over 400,000 children in foster care and of those over 100,000 children are in need of a family to adopt them. In Florida over 800 children are daily waiting/languishing with no family identified to adopt them; and

**WHEREAS**, One Church One Child of Florida, Inc. is focusing special attention on waiting children, by promoting Adoption Sunday in Florida; now therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the One Church One Child of Florida Board of Directors and Executive Director, understanding the critical situation of children waiting for an adoptive family, continue to designate and publish, through this resolution, Second Sunday in November (November 10, 2019) as One Church One Child Adoption Sunday in Florida, calling attention to children in need of adoption, and the urgency for families to open their hearts and provide a permanent, loving home for these children.

*Rev. Beverly Hills Lane*

Reverend Beverly Hills Lane  
State Board President

*Arie Sailor*

Dr. Arie Sailor  
Executive Director

One Church One Child of Florida, Inc., 3051 Highland Oaks Terrace, Suite 1  
Tallahassee, Florida 32301, 888/283-0886 or 850/414-5620

***PERSERVE THE LEGACY***

***“Adopt, Foster, Mentor or provide Watch Care to a Child Today”***

***How It’s Done in Florida***

One Church One Child works in partnership with the Department of Children and Families (DCF), approved Community Base Care organizations and Churches to find individuals and families who will consider adopting, fostering, mentoring or providing support for children in foster care.

***What Does it mean to Adopt or Foster a child or sibling group?***

To Adopt means to legally give a permanent loving home and family to a child who has neither.  
To Foster means to provide a child a temporary home with a loving and stable environment until the child can return to his/her home or be placed for adoption.

***How can Mentoring or Church Watch Care Help a Child?***

Mentoring means-providing encouragement, support and assistance to children.  
Church Watch Care is a care ministry of local churches that can be extended to children in foster care and local families to provide a long term congregation family connection.

***You Should Know That To Be An Adoptive or Foster Parent;***

You don’t have to earn a high income, although you must have enough money to provide for the basic needs of your family.  
You can have children of your own or other adopted or foster children.  
You don’t have to own your own home; and you can work full-time.

***How Much Does It Cost To Adopt and  
How Long Does It Take?***

Generally, there is no charge for adopting children in Florida’s foster care system.  
You may need to pay a reasonable amount of lawyer’s fee to finalize the adoption which is usually reimbursed, up to \$1000 per child adopted.

College, medical and financial assistance is available to help meet the needs of children in foster care. The time spent in learning about and preparing for adoption varies. But the average time is three to nine months.

How soon a child is placed with you may depend on the age and the sex of the child.

**IF YOU CAN GIVE A CHILD THE LOVE AND CARE HE OR SHE  
NEEDS, YOU MAY BE AN IDEAL CANDIDATE TO BECOME AN  
ADOPTIVE, FOSTER PARENT OR MENTOR!**

**CALL TOLL FREE: 888/283-0886**

**MAIN OFFICE: 850/414-5620**

**[WWW.OCOCFL.ORG](http://WWW.OCOCFL.ORG)**

**(BACK PAGE OF THE PROCLAMATION)**



Below are the actual names of 25 of the 800+ children and youth in need of adoption. Please allow their names to be called out in your church on Sunday, November 10, 2019 and request special prayer for these and other waiting children and youth.

<b>Child's Name</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>ID Number</b>
Ira	16	505710
Jaylene	11	506206
Nathan	15	521418
Jeremiah	12	10244993
Lorenzo	16	10292837
Exavior	16	10304093
Tommie	15	10499410
Maxwell	14	10508045
Tra'Von	16	10549985
Tyrese	16	10579583
Larry	14	10746111
Bobby	13	10807750
DaQuan	16	10888415
Laila	16	501183
Jakira	16	506451
Octavia	14	10163109
Faith	12	11164071
Lania	15	11270806
Andrea	14	11502556
Asia	13	11641852
Carmel	13	11667800
Atirah	15	12220377
Imani	13	12315680
Genesis	13	12524502
Messiah	12	12557530

For photographs and additional information on these and other children awaiting families across Florida, go to the One Church One Child of Florida website at: [www.ococfl.org](http://www.ococfl.org); click on the tab that reads Florida's children and view the hundreds of children. Also know that new children are added each month; so keep checking back for updates.