



MARE IN THE NEWS

MARE Hosts Roller Skating Adoption Party for Children and Families

(Wilbraham, MA) –There are over 800 children in Massachusetts, currently living in foster care, who are waiting for adoption right now. To learn more about adoption from foster care and to help children needing adoptive homes meet families that are ready to parent, the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) is hosting an adoption party on Sunday, April 23, from 4:30 – 6:30 PM, at Interskate 91, located at 2043 Boston Road, Wilbraham, MA 01095. Registration is required.

The event is being hosted by MARE in cooperation with the Massachusetts Department of Children & Families (DCF) to help find permanent families for children in state foster care. Prospective adoptive parents who have been through the approval process will be able to meet Massachusetts' waiting children, and they will have an opportunity to meet with social workers in a casual atmosphere. Parents who are looking for more information about the process can meet with other experienced families and staff to discuss the process.

There is no cost to adopt a child from foster care. Prospective adoptive parents can be almost any age (21+); single, partnered, married, LGBT;



A rollerskater enjoys the arena at Interskate 91

homeowners or renters; experienced parents or new to parenting. Families of various income levels can adopt, as long as they have a stable source of income to support a child. Financial subsidies may be available, and children adopted from foster care are eligible for a tuition-waiver at Massachusetts state colleges and universities.

We are so pleased to present this opportunity for people to come by and learn about the adoption process", said Western Massachusetts

MARE representative, Maurine Albano. “Families that are homestudied are welcomed to join us to meet waiting children, as well. This is wonderful event for anyone to attend, regardless of where they are in the process.”

“The need for adoptive parents in western Massachusetts is so necessary”, said Joseph Sandagato, Communications and Public Relations Director for the organization. “We have many children waiting right here for a connection to a loving and caring family. It is always wonderful when they can make that connection in their own backyard.” Mr. Sandagato went on to say, “If you think that you could be a resource for a waiting child, please call or email us. Our staff will be pleased to have a commitment-free conversation with you about the process.”

In Massachusetts, nearly 2,800 children currently in foster care have the goal of adoption, and more than 800 of those children have no relative or other potential adopter. Nationwide, there are over 112,000 children in foster care in need of adoption. Older, school-aged children, sibling groups, children of color and/or children with special needs tend to wait the longest for families.

For more information about adoption from foster care, please visit www.MAREinc.org or call MARE at 617-54-ADOPT (617-542-3678).

MARE is a private, non-profit organization, founded in 1957 to find “a permanent place to call home” for children and teens in foster care, including sibling groups and children who are traditionally harder to place.