



County of Ottawa

Press Release



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For Immediate Release

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Note: This press release was adapted from a [state press release](#) from the Michigan Supreme Court.

Ottawa County Gives Thanks for Families on Adoption Day

On Tuesday, November 25, many Michigan families will have a special reason to give thanks this season as they welcome new members into their families. These happy families will be celebrating, along with judges, court staff, and social workers as adoptions are finalized on the state's 12th Annual Adoption Day. Ottawa County's 20th Circuit Court will hold a brief ceremony at 9 a.m. followed by confirmation hearings with Judges Mark Feyen and Kent Engle presiding and a concurrent reception as each adoption becomes official. The public is invited to celebrate at Ottawa County's Family Court Offices located at 12120 Fillmore in West Olive.



Many people in our community are unaware of the need for adoptive and foster parents in Michigan.

- As of September 30, there are about 12,800 children in Michigan's foster care system.
- There are about 2,500 children statewide whose parents' rights have been terminated and have a goal of adoption.

More than 2,160 children were adopted in Michigan last year through the Department of Human Services or private adoption agencies. Trends indicate that about 32 percent of children were adopted by their foster parents, 29 percent of children were adopted by relatives, and 39 percent of children were adopted by a recruited family.

Michigan Adoption Day is co-sponsored by the Michigan Supreme Court, the Michigan Department of Human Services, the Child Welfare Services division of the State Court Administrative Office, and Michigan Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE). Those interested in adopting a child may contact MARE at (800) 589-6273 (in Michigan) or www.mare.org/

Courts across the state will also be observing Adoption Day. To learn more about other Adoption Day events, see visit the [Michigan Supreme Court](#).

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