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Children Awaiting Parents Announces Addition of New Therapeutic Foster Care Program

Program will train and work with families to take in foster children/youth with special needs

Rochester, NY— Nearly 50 years after the inception of Children Awaiting Parents—and four years after the addition of the Donald J Corbett Adoption Agency—Children Awaiting Parents is proud and honored to announce the opening of its new, New York State-approved, **Therapeutic Foster Care** (TFC) program. The program will serve children and youth age 21 and younger who are in the custody of Local Social Service Districts and have been evaluated to need special or exceptional levels of foster care.

"This is a major accomplishment for CAP, for the local community, and the surrounding counties in an effort to meet the increasing need for foster homes and families," said CAP Executive Director Lauri McKnight. "With a decrease in the number of available homes for placements, our new TFC program comes at the right time to help fill that critical need. We are working closely with the Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) to support area counties in need of more homes."

CAP's TFC program focuses on placing foster children/youth with emotional, behavioral, or developmental disabilities, or are medically frail, as well as sibling sets. CAP's focus is on older youth in need of a temporary home and family who meet the criteria for a therapeutic level of care.

CAP's **Therapeutic Foster Care program goals** include:

- providing continuity of care
- assisting children to reunify with their families
- ensuring appropriate emotional and mental health support
- providing support groups for youth and families
- achieving permanency
- developing the necessary skills to live independently as young adults

To ensure a trauma sensitive environment for the children/youth and families it serves, CAP has chosen experienced and knowledgeable staff headed up by Program Manager Stacie Dailey, LMSW/Certified Clinical Trauma Professional, and seasoned Home Finder Toni Marrocco-Helwig.

The TFC program already has more than a dozen parents currently in training. In addition to MAPP Certification (Model Approach to Partnerships in Parenting), all families will be therapeutically trained and educated in a therapeutic trauma informed model, along with training in crisis intervention skill.

For more information, or to Inquire about becoming a CAP foster parent, email sparker@cap-book.org or call (585) 232-5110.

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Children Awaiting Parents is a national, non-profit organization that—since 1972—has been dedicated to finding adoptive families for those children waiting the longest in foster care.