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**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES**  
**DIVISION OF CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES**

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**Division News Flash**

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**FEDERAL ADOPTION INCENTIVE GRANT AWARDED**  
**TO DIVISION OF CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES**

Jone Bosworth, Administrator for the Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS), announced today that the State of Nevada was one of 32 states recently recognized by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) for its efforts to promote the adoption of children from foster care. The award was originally authorized through the Federal Adoption and Safe Families Act (ASPHA) of 1997 with the national goal of doubling the number of foster children adopted between 1998 and 2002. HHS has reauthorized the award and it will continue through September 2007. "This award recognizes the innovative programs implemented in Nevada to remove barriers to adoption. In fact, 293 adoptions have been finalized – a wonderful accomplishment by staff statewide."

The Adoption Incentive Award is the fifth award received by DCFS since the year 1999 totaling nearly \$542,355.00. HHS provides grants to public and private organizations to eliminate barriers to adoption, particularly for children with special needs. Typically, the awards fund a variety of initiatives, including adoptive family recruitment activities, services needed to support adoptive families, costs related to placing children with families across jurisdictional lines, and to provide other assistance and support needed by the child and family to ensure a successful adoption.

DCFS will spend the current award, \$260,000.00, collaborating with its partners, Washoe and Clark Counties, to provide support for the needs of children awaiting adoption, particularly older children. Michael Capello, Director of Washoe County Social Services added that he is especially pleased for the children and families who have finalized their adoptions. "The children waiting to be adopted are a part of our community, it is so refreshing to see the number of Washoe County families that are willing to open their hearts and homes to our kids. We are proud to be a part of this success story, but we recognize there are still nearly a hundred children available for adoption in Washoe County. We will continue to work with our community to find families for every child who is waiting to be adopted."

For more information on children waiting adoptions in a specific geographical area, please call Clark County adoption recruitment at 1-888-4AFAMILY, Washoe County adoption recruitment at 775-337-4502 and DCFS Rural Adoption recruitment at 775-687-4943. Additional information may be found at [www.dcf.state.nv.us/Adoptions](http://www.dcf.state.nv.us/Adoptions).