

How Can I Get Involved???

IF YOU HAVE A FEW MINUTES...

- ✚ Learn the facts about foster care and gain a better understanding of the needs of those touched by this issue.
 - **A Second Chance, Inc.** www.asecondchance-kinship.com
 - **About Foster Care** www.fostercaremonth.org
- ✚ Wear a Blue Ribbon during May in support of National Foster Care Month.
 - **A Second Chance, Inc.**
 - *Contact Ina Allicott if you would like to receive a ribbon (412) 342-0600*
- ✚ Make a financial contribution to support the personal enrichment or education of a young person in foster care.
 - **A Second Chance, Inc.**
www.asecondchance-kinship.com
 - **Roswell Foster Children's Positive Plan**
www.rowellfosterchildren.org
 - **Orphan Foundation of America**
www.orphan.org/donateonline.html
 - **National Foster Youth Advisory Council**
www.cwla.org/programs/positiveyouth/nfyac.htm
- ✚ Donate goods such as suitcases, books, games, computers, sports equipment, musical instruments, clothing, and school supplies to young people in foster care.
 - **A Second Chance, Inc., (412) 342-0600**
 - *New To You Clothing-Clothing Bank*
 - *Moving with Dignity-Luggage*
 - *Project Warm-Up-Coats*
 - **National Foster Parent Association** www.nfpainc.org
- ✚ Be inspired to make a difference! Read more about former foster children from all walks of life who are enjoying positive accomplished adult lives thanks to the relationships they shared with caring adults.
 - **A Second Chance, Inc. Profiles** www.asecondchance-kinship.com
 - **Success Stories** www.fostercaremonth.org
 - **FosterClub All Stars** www.fosterclub.org/grownups/allstars.cfm
- ✚ Spread the word! Feature the National Foster Care Month logo and website link on your personal and/or organization web sites. Help raise awareness and encourage others to get involved on behalf of the 513,000 American children in foster care. www.fostercaremonth.org

IF YOU HAVE A FEW HOURS...

- ✚ Recognize/honor a person or organization helping foster youth in your community. Write a letter to the editor of your local newspaper in praise of someone making a difference in the life of a child in foster care.
- ✚ Volunteer to help a foster program in your state. Your contribution to these agencies will mean brighter and safer tomorrows for children and youth in your state and across America.
 - **A Second Chance, Inc.**
 - **EYO Program**
 - **Camp C.O.P.E.S**
 - **Dance for Life**
 - **Annual Holiday Toy Give-Away**
 - **CWLA member agencies**
www.cwla.org/members/members.htm
- ✚ Make presentations to your faith-based congregation, civic group, school PTA, and other neighborhood associations. Encourage your community to come together to find families and resources that help young people in foster care thrive. Browse our website for additional resources on accomplishing this www.asecondchance-kinsip.com
- ✚ Are you a young person who wants to support other kids? Join a youth-led effort to raise funds and public awareness in your community to benefit kids in foster care and to fight child abuse and neglect. **Band Together** www.bandtogether.org
- ✚ Become a virtual mentor for a young person in college. Expand the circle of support for a youth in foster care as an email/online pen pal. **Orphan Foundation of America** www.vmentor.com

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IF YOU HAVE A FEW WEEKS...

- ✚ Become a licensed respite care provider as a way of providing support to foster families in your neighborhood.
 - **A Second Chance, Inc.**
 - **Greg Collier, Administrator of Permanency (412)342-0600**

- ✚ Tutor a child. Because they often must change schools or have social/behavioral challenges to overcome, youth in foster care frequently require extra academic support. Contact local foster care agencies, Boys and Girls Clubs, libraries, YWCA and YMCAs to inquire about how to become a volunteer tutor to a child in foster care.
 - **Opportunities at A Second Chance, Inc.**
 - **EYO Program**
 - **Jackie Dewberry, Supervisor over EYO (412) 342-0600**

- ✚ Learn how to help a youth in foster care explore career options, acquire new job skills, find employment or a resume-building internship. Contact the Independent Living Program in your area or click any of the following links below to find more information and how to get involved.
 - **A Second Chance, Inc.**
 - **James Paolicelli, Supervisor of Transitional Living Program (412) 342-0600**
 - **Additional Links**
 - **Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative www.jimcaseyyouth.org**
 - **Career Voyages www.careervoyages.gov**
 - **America's Job Bank www.ajb.dni.us**
 - **America's Career Infonet www.acinet.org/acinet**
 - **WorkforceUSA.net www.workforceusa.net**

IF YOU HAVE MORE TIME...

- ✚ Become a Foster or Adoptive Parent. Caring families are especially needed for older youth, siblings, and children with special needs.
 - **Allegheny County of Human Services-Executive Office**
 - **Child, Youth and Families, 412-350-5701**

- ✚ Make a Permanency Pact. Supportive relationships with caring adults make all the difference in the world especially for older youth leaving the foster care system
 - **A Second Chance, Inc.**
 - **Subsidized Permanent Legal Custodianship (SPLC)**
 - **Permanent Legal Custodianship (PLC)**
 - **Greg Collier, Administrator of Permanency (412) 342-0600**

- ✚ Become a Court Appointed Special Advocate. CASA volunteers are trained citizens appointed by judges to represent the best interests of abused and neglected children.
 - **CASA of Allegheny County www.pgh-casa.org**
 - **National CASA www.nationalcasa.org**

- ✚ Mentor a young person. Research shows that children and youth with mentors earn higher grades and improve their relationships with friends and families.
 - **National Mentoring Partnership www.mentoring.org**
 - **Big Brothers, Big Sisters www.bbbspittsburgh.org**
 - **The Mentoring Partnership of Southwestern, PA www.elimatethewait.org**

- ✚ Dedicate yourself to a career that helps children and families!
 - **National Association of Social Workers www.socialworkers.org**
 - **A Second Chance, Inc.**
 - **Human Resources Dept. (412) 342-0600**