



Main Office: 222 East Central Parkway • Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-1225

Neighborhood Center: 237 Wm. Howard Taft • Cincinnati, Ohio 45219

General Information: (513) 946-1000

General Information TDD: (513) 946-1295

FAX: (513) 946-2250

www.hcifs.org

www.hcadopt.org

www.hcfoster.org

Media Contact:

Brian Gregg

Media Spokesperson/Communications Manager

E-mail: greggb@jfs.hamilton-co.org

Phone: 513-946-1728

Fax: 513-946-2248

Hamilton County Highlights Another Child Available for Adoption

Cincinnati (Nov. 3, 2008) A 13-year-old girl who dreams of a music career is November's Adoptable Child at Hamilton County's Department of Job and Family Services.

Hamilton County is spotlighting some of the children it has available for adoption with monthly releases to local media.

"We're looking at innovative ways of getting our children before the public so we can find them safe, loving homes," said Moira Weir, director of the department. "Every child deserves a permanent home and we know there are hundreds of loving families throughout this community who would be willing to open up their doors and their hearts to our children."

Passionate about melodies, Shekeia sings in her church choir. But words in the songs she loves are not just words to this talented and dynamic teenager. She cares deeply about what lyrics mean, so she interprets them with her own unique style. Shekeia isn't pinning all her hopes on a singing career; other options include becoming a lawyer or fashion designer.

Reading and talking are serious hobbies for this young lady, and she loves testing her word skills at Scrabble®. She also plays volleyball and pillow polo, which is a combination of golf and hockey. Bowling and skating are other activities this energetic teen enjoys. Keeping in touch with her siblings is important to Shekeia, so she hopes to be placed with a family in close proximity to them.

Hamilton County currently has about 215 children available for adoption. The county's Children's Services Division often must take custody of children who are the victims of abuse or neglect and cannot be safely reunited with their families.

Those interested in adopting or becoming foster parents can learn more at www.hcadopt.org or www.hcfoster.org, or by calling (513) 632-6366 or e-mailing adoption@jfs.hamilton-co.org.

About Hamilton County's Department of Job and Family Services

The Department of Job and Family Services administers federal, state and local programs for those in need. The Department helps with local child protection, elderly protection, child care, child support enforcement, workforce development, cash assistance, food stamp disbursement and Medicaid disbursement. Servicing Hamilton County since 1947, the Department helps hundreds of thousands each year and is accredited by the Council on Accreditation, an international, independent, not-for-profit child and family service accrediting organization.