



Dear Provider Community:

I am proud to announce the launch of ACS' redesigned public website. I invite you to visit www.nyc.gov/acs. The look and feel of the website is completely refreshed, and the content is more accessible. All of ACS' program areas worked hard to develop content that speaks *directly* to our children, families, and partners in as simple and clear language as possible. The website uses the new NYC.gov template and offers a fast, direct, and helpful resource for our visitors, especially the children and families who turn to us for help and to access our services. The website also features a [section](#) dedicated to our provider partners.

Please feel free to [share](#) your thoughts on the new site with the ACS Office of Communications.

Gladys Carrión, Esq.
Commissioner

Cross Divisional

Reminder: ACS Diligent Search Unit Accepts Referrals Citywide

The inability to locate and serve necessary parties in a timely manner lengthens stays in foster care and delays permanency. By initiating searches earlier in the life of the case, the parents can be located and other family members identified as resources for the children. In October 2011, ACS created the Diligent Search Unit (DSU) to help expedite the time it takes for children to reach permanency.

This is a reminder that the DSU is now available to receive referrals from provider agencies, and ACS divisions - Family Court Legal Services (FCLS), Family Permanency Services (FPS) and Division of Child Protection (DCP) - in all five boroughs. DSU can assist with searches concerning cases of children on remand or in placement. At this time, DSU cannot assist with Court Ordered Supervision (COS) cases.

DSU uses the most up-to-date software in law enforcement and family finding and other databases in order to identify addresses for both respondents and non-respondents. It should be noted that for a court ordered diligent search on an Abuse/Neglect petition or on a TPR, provider agency/DCP staff are still required to search certain entities such as hospitals if DSU cannot locate a parent. Although DSU can often provide information that can lead to locating a parent, DCP and provider agencies should begin their part of a diligent search without waiting for the results of the DSU search. This will help expedite the court proceedings.

Agencies must [submit a request by completing the diligent search request form](#). We suggest that each provider agency have a diligent search liaison to help expedite requests to DSU. For additional information about how to refer cases to DSU, contact Michelle Acevedo (212) 227-5777 or e-mail us acsdsu@acs.nyc.gov.

Calling all 11th & 12th Grade Students

The Office of Education Support and Policy Planning has launched the College and Career Corner where 11th and 12th grade students in foster care can connect to a peer mentor and receive help with college applications and career advice from peers who have received ACS services. College advisors from the Options Institute will also be available for consultations! Sessions are held twice a month at ACS - 150 William Street.

The final session for November will be held on November 18, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., 150 William Street, 19th floor.

December sessions will be held:

- December 2, - 4 pm to 7 pm, Manhattan Room, 19th floor, 150 William St.
- December 16, - 4 pm to 7 pm, Brooklyn Room, 19th floor, 150 William St.

High School Goal Weekend 2015 Canceled

High School Goal Weekend, an annual event which offers counseling to middle school children in foster care on schools choice and the high school applications process has been canceled for this year. Students can still get assistance from the ACS Office of Education Support and Policy Planning by contacting OESPP at HighSchoolGoal@acs.nyc.gov.

Foster Care

ACS Celebrates National Adoption Month November 2015- (CORRECTION)

Adoption Family Fun Day- CORRECTION

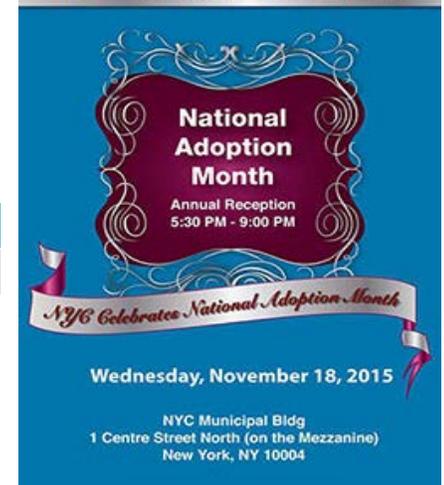
Saturday, November 21, 10am-5pm - Dave & Busters, 234 West 42nd Street, NYC

This all-day event is for newly adopted children and their families and children who are matched/adoptively placed with their permanent family and for the general public/patrons to receive information and talk to ACS representatives about adoption. For more information, contact: Kim.halpern@acs.nyc.gov.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

National Adoption Month

NYC Administration for Children's Services



National Adoption Month
Annual Reception
5:30 PM - 9:00 PM

NYC Celebrates National Adoption Month

Wednesday, November 18, 2015

NYC Municipal Bldg
1 Centre Street North (on the Mezzanine)
New York, NY 10004

NYC Administration for Children's Services



NYC Celebrates National Adoption Month

with
Family Fun Day @ Dave & Busters

Saturday, November 21, 2015

Free Food, Drinks, Watch Sports, Hundreds of
Arcade & Video Games & Free Giveaways

All Day Fun for the Entire Family

234 West 42nd Street, NY, NY
10:30am - 11:30am (Official Program)

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST

[Click here to send a new name and email address](#)

FEEDBACK

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Archived Bulletins



B2H SED Now Accepting Applications

We are now accepting applications for the B2H SED (Serious Emotional Disabled) waiver, effective October 15, 2015. At the beginning of the year, we notified providers that we had reached our capacity in B2H SED and were forced to implement a waitlist. We are only allowed to maintain 150 children on the waitlist, and since we only have the capacity to serve a predetermined number of children at a time, our waitlist will continue to fluctuate. We will keep you posted periodically as to its status.

The Developmentally Disabled (DD) waiver continues to be closed and not accepting any new referrals.

We currently have vacancies in the Med-f (Medical Fragile) and C2H (Close to Home) waivers, so do not hesitate to send in applications.

We look forward to your referral submissions. All updated forms can be downloaded directly from our website at the following link: www.nyc.gov/acs/b2h. If you have any questions, please email the main B2H mailbox at b2hacs@acs.nyc.gov.

Preventive Services

[There are no Preventive Services announcements in this edition.](#)

Juvenile Justice

[There are no Juvenile Justice announcements in this edition.](#)

Early Care and Education

[There are no Early Care and Education announcements in this edition.](#)

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