

October 13, 2006

For Immediate Release

## **Canadian Foster Family Week is October 15 - 21, 2006**

**October 2006:** October 15 - 21, 2006 is Canadian Foster Family Week. The York Region Children's Aid Society is responsible for the safety and protection of children. Wherever possible, the Children's Aid Society works to keep children in their own family. When this is not possible, a child may be brought into the care of the Children's Aid Society. Foster care is the first choice in these situations because most children's needs are best met in a family environment. Foster parents provide a temporary home for children who are in the care of the Children's Aid Society. Children may need foster care for just a few days, a week, several months or possibly years.

Foster parents work with Children's Aid Society staff as part of a team to develop a plan for each child in care. The ideal plan is usually to reunite a child with their family. Where this is not possible, the plan may include adoption or long-term foster care.

Foster parents provide stability and a caring home that encourages a child's growth and development.

While the legal responsibility for the child remains with the agency, foster parents play an important role in the child's daily life.

During Foster Family Week the York Region Children's Aid Society honours those families who give of their time and themselves to serve the community by being foster parents.

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