



For Immediate Release
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Contact: Kelly Bachman
302.633.2501 or 302.299.9791

Delaware Youth in Foster Care to be Featured on NBC10's Wednesday's Child

WILMINGTON – Twelve year old Jowelle enjoys riding her bike, roller skating and bowling – all the typical preteen activities. What she would enjoy most of all, though, is a place to call home. To help in that quest, Jowelle will be featured on NBC 10's Wednesday's Child segment airing tonight at 5 p.m., and again on Saturday, November 28, at 9 a.m.

“November is Adoption Awareness Month, which makes the timing of Jowelle's appearance on this program all the more poignant,” said Vivian Rapposelli, Secretary of the Delaware Children's Department. “There are so many children in foster care in Delaware and across the country who desperately want – and rightfully deserve – a family that will love and support them. I am grateful we are able to partner with NBC10 and the Wednesday's Child program to highlight their needs.”

On any given day, there are about 800 children in foster care in Delaware. Currently, the Department is actively seeking adoptive homes for 66 of these children. Nationally, over 500,000 children are in foster care, with more than 125,000 children legally awaiting adoption.

“The holiday season is often a time to bring families together, celebrate traditions and create memories,” said Rapposelli. “I can think of no better time to open your heart and your home to a child in foster care and give them one of the greatest gifts of all.”

The Freddie Mac Foundation's Wednesday's Child program started in Washington, D.C., in 1992 as a partnership with NBC4 and the Council of Governments. Its phenomenal success there encouraged the Freddie Mac Foundation to expand the program nationwide. You can learn more by visiting <http://adopt.org/wednesdayschild>. You can also visit NBC 10's website to view video stream of the feature if you are unable to see it at the scheduled time. Simply log onto www.nbcphiladelphia.com and search the name of the featured child/ren of the week.

The Delaware Children's Department provides services to children who have been abused, neglected, abandoned, dependent, or have mental health or substance abuse problems, and/or have been adjudicated delinquent by the Courts. For more information about children available for adoption, please visit our online Heart Gallery at <http://www.kids.delaware.gov>.

Our Mission: The Delaware Department of Services for Children, Youth & Their Families assists children, youth and families in making positive changes through services that support child and public safety, behavioral health and individual, family and community well-being.

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