



Tips, Tools, News & Fun!

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Youth Talk:

When told that the group of people who helped him were getting an award, Amir thought this was, "Very cool!" He also said, "I'm glad everyone cared about me and helped me get better."



SOC WRAP

And The Winners Are...

Competition was fierce for the Department's *first-ever SOC Team Award*, but after a serious review and lengthy discussions, the winning team was chosen. Nominated by team member **Jennifer Uebelher** of DFS, the team also included: **Christine Montgomery** of DFS, Guardian Ad Litem **MC Landis**, Maple Lane Elementary School staff members **Alison Dankel**, **Ryan Matthews** and **Julianne Pecorella**, Children & Families First therapist **Robin Redman** and foster parent **Laverne Sutton**.

Among the comments made by the judges were kudos regarding the team's ability to garner involvement from the community, be truly seamless within and across organizations, have excellent communication, involve the foster

parent as an integral member of the team, hold no preconceived notions regarding the youth and his abilities and produce positive outcomes.

The team worked together through numerous IEP meetings, psychiatric evaluations, crisis events and other ups and downs in order to ensure that the youth served, Amir B., achieved stability and success. Their hard work truly paid off when Amir was promoted to the second grade and an adoptive family was identified! Congratulations and many thanks to all involved in Amir's case.

Be sure to go online to find out more information about other teams nominated for the SOC Team Award!

SOC in Action KUDOS

Can't wait to nominate a team for the 2009 award? Recognize them (or an individual) today by submitting SOC in Action KUDOS!

You can find the KUDOS form on the DSCYF extra-net page under useful forms. The form is easy to complete and has an automatic submit button.

KUDOS can be given to staff /teams that make small steps or long leaps in using an SOC approach.

Recognize someone today—they'll be glad you did!

Team Trivia:

TENNESSEE TITANS

MIAMI HEAT

Each of the above named professional sports teams features one (1) current player who is a former foster care youth. What are their names?

Answer will be in the next issue!

July Celebrity Chatter Answer:- Haley Joel Osment

