



# COMMUNIQUÉ

**The Board of Directors and staff at the Connecticut Alliance of Foster and Adoptive Families would like to wish you and your family a happy and healthy Spring!**

**Support newly licensed families!  
BE A BUDDY  
Training and stipend provided**

**Are you an experienced  
Foster Parent?**

**Are you an experienced  
Relative Foster Parent?**

When you were newly  
Licensed, do you remember all the  
questions you had when your first foster  
child came into your home?

Do you remember wondering what  
resources were  
available to you?

Do you remember thinking, "If only I had  
another foster parent to talk to who has  
shared the same  
experience?"

If you remember all of these times, then  
you might enjoy being a Buddy!

**Call Wendy Sander,  
Peer Network Coordinator at  
1-800-861-8838  
Or email [wendy.sander@cafafct.org](mailto:wendy.sander@cafafct.org)**

**Do you know someone who  
would make an outstanding  
Foster Parent?  
An Adoptive Parent?  
Need to become a Kinship  
Family?**

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## From the Desk of the Executive Director



Spring 2025

Spring has finally sprung! Daffodils are breaking through the ground and soon there will be leaves on the trees!

As we “go to press” we are about to launch our new website! We hope that it will be more user-friendly, especially when registering for post-licensing training modules, and still give our families the information that they need.

We also believe that we are making progress in helping families transition from paper survey to shorter surveys that arrive

via text messages.

In our Summer issue we will have lots of photos from our Avenue of Dreams Prom Readiness event. We will have lots of “Thank you!” messages to shout out.

CAFAF continues planning for our upcoming 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary conference and award show May 2 -3, 2025 at Mystic Marriott and Spa. Please mark your calendars.

We hope that you and your loved ones enjoy this Spring!

Margaret Doherty  
Executive Director

## Board of Directors

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**Cathy Gentile-Doyle**  
Vice President

**Mike Burns**  
Secretary / Treasurer

**Preston Oliver**  
Director

**Kally Moquete-Gonzalez**  
Director

Are you interested in joining  
our Board of Directors?

Visit [this link](#) to learn more!

The Alliance would like to thank  
the Connecticut Department of  
Children and Families for the  
funding we receive.

## **CAFAF IN THE COMMUNITY**



Torrington CAFAF Liaison Jennifer Bellamy attended the No Child Left Inside (NCLI) Winter Festival!



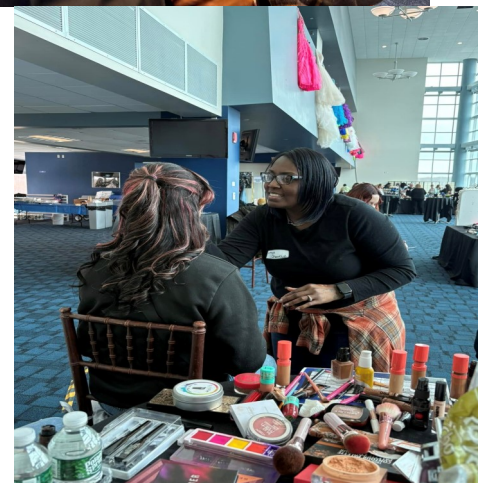
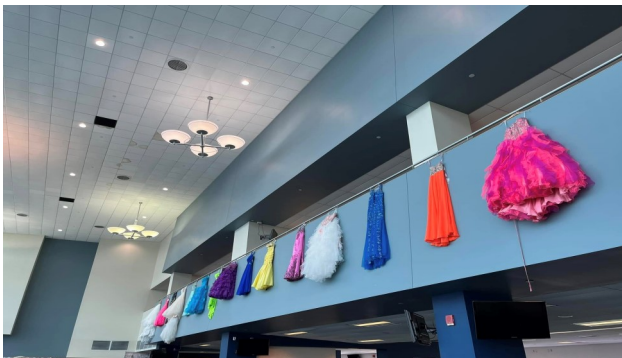
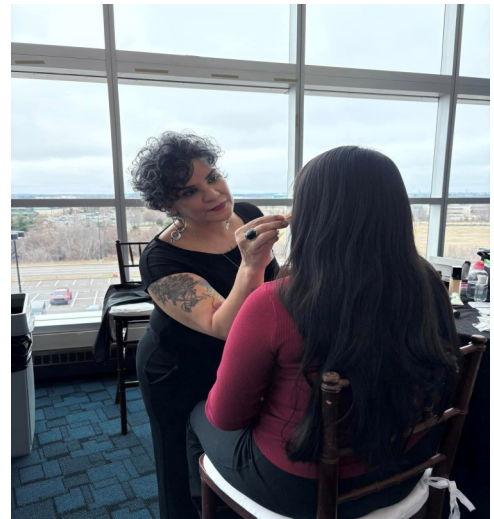
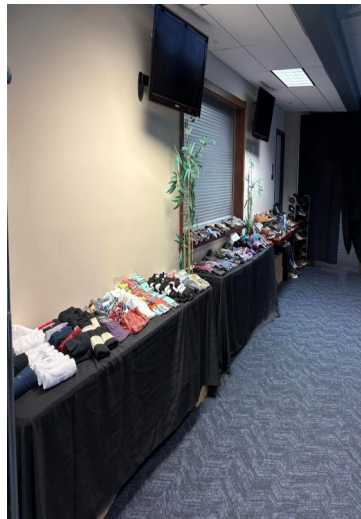
CAFAF attended Annie C. Courtney Foundation's 2nd Annual Fundraising Dinner at The Crystal Room!



## 2025 Avenue of Dreams

Thank you for everyone who volunteered and attended!  
It was a success!

A huge thank you to our sponsors & donors!



# 30th Annual CAFAF Conference

## Save the date!

CAFAF's 30th Annual Conference will be held in-person May 2nd & 3rd 2025 at the Mystic Marriott Hotel & Spa, Groton, CT!

More information can be found on our website.

<https://cafafct.org/>





## Order a FREE cake for your Foster/ Adoptive child

Cake4Kids provides free cakes, cupcakes, cookies, bars, and brownies for foster children ages 1-24 for the following events:

- ♦ Birthdays
- ♦ Graduations
- ♦ Adoptions
- ♦ Academic Awards
- ♦ Biological Parent Reunifications



**ORDER YOUR FREE CAKE TODAY!**

For order forms, please use the link below:

<https://cafafct.org/cake4kids/>

The Connecticut Alliance of Foster and Adoptive Families thanks the Department of Children and Families for its support and funding!



Please Stay Safe and Warm This Spring Season!

**Communiqué** is published in both English and Spanish language four times a year by the Connecticut Alliance of Foster and Adoptive Families, Inc. CAFAF is a non-profit organization devoted to the strengthening of foster, adoptive and relative care families through support, training, and advocacy with the aim of nurturing child safety, well being and stability in partnership with child welfare professionals and the community.