

The Heart Gallery concept began in New Mexico and soon spread to several other states. New Jersey is the site of the largest project yet. In 2005, we photographed 346 foster children. Two years later, more than 100 have been adopted. This year, "100 Waiting Children" focuses on New Jersey's foster children who have been in the foster care system the longest and are in need of finding a permanent home before they "age out" of the foster care system.

BECAUSE EVERYONE DESERVES A FAMILY
HEARTGALLERYNJ.ORG • 1.800.99.ADOPT

Heart Gallery

of NEW JERSEY, Inc

FINDING ADOPTIVE FAMILIES FOR NEW JERSEY
FOSTER CHILDREN

DID YOU KNOW?

- In 2004, more than half a million children and youth were in the U.S. foster care system.
- Half of all children in foster care are over the age of ten.
- Each year, 20,000 teenagers "age out," leaving the system without finding a permanent adoptive family.
- More than 100 children from the Heart Gallery of New Jersey 2005 exhibit have been placed in permanent homes.
- New Jersey has 1,740 foster children available for adoption nationwide.
- There is no charge by the Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS) to adopt. Payment of legal fees is one of the benefits offered through adoption subsidy, so many families adopting children through DYFS will have that cost covered for them.
- DYFS helps families through the process of becoming licensed foster or adoptive parents, which involves getting references, background checks, training, interviews and home inspections.
- Families who adopt children who are difficult to place or have special needs are eligible to receive monthly subsidies, medical coverage and assistance with child care and other services.



William



Sherod + Alwisa



DARIUS



shaguon



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Kelly



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• HEARTGALLERYNJ.ORG •

100
WAITING CHILDREN



miguel

PHOTOGRAPHY BY ERIC OGDEN

GALLERY EXHIBITION

The "100 Waiting Children" gallery will be on display at various venues throughout New Jersey in 2008. Please visit our website at www.heartgallerynj.org to view our schedule of exhibits or to submit your venue as a possible location. To learn more about the children in the Heart Gallery exhibit, including video bios of each child, visit our site.

Most Heart Gallery exhibitions will feature individual and group portraits of approximately 100 foster children legally free for adoption. The Heart Gallery website provides detailed background information on each child.



Johnson & Johnson

More information on becoming a sponsor or volunteer can be found by visiting our website, www.heartgallerynj.org.

More than 1,740 children in New Jersey are legally available for adoption. Some are siblings trying to stay together, most are boys, and some have special needs.

Stop and think. How can you help?

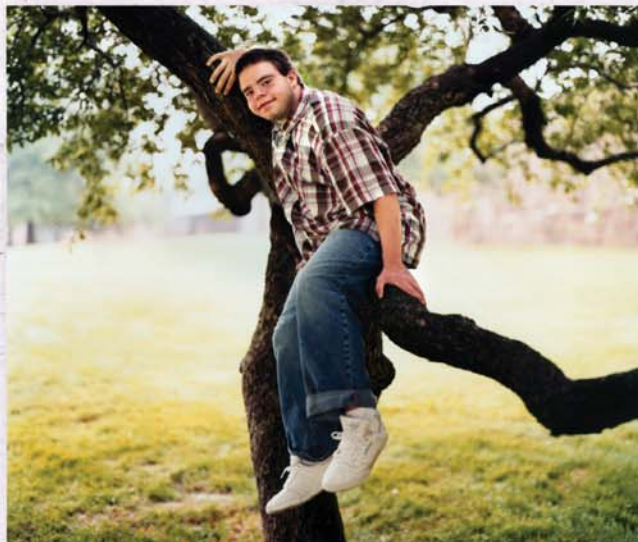
The Heart Gallery of New Jersey has been featured on national and international news outlets, including National Public Radio, NBC, ABC, CBS, CNN, MSNBC, TIME.com and in *Parade*, *PEOPLE Magazine*, *The New York Times*, and *The Star-Ledger*, to name a few. The word is spreading about the need for these loving children to find a place to call home, but our work is never done until every child finds a forever family.

ABC World News Tonight named the photographers as "Person of the Week" for their countless hours of volunteer work given to ensure the success of the Heart Gallery of New Jersey.



Joseph

PHOTOGRAPHY BY LES STONE



Nathan

PHOTOGRAPHY BY GREG MILLER



Michele Nancy

PHOTOGRAPHY BY MICHAEL MURPHREE

THE HEART GALLERY OF NEW JERSEY

The Heart Gallery of New Jersey is a unique not-for-profit organization dedicated to raising awareness about foster children available for adoption. Through the volunteer efforts of some of the country's most prestigious photographers, portraits are taken that help capture the individuality and spirit of each foster child who is available for adoption. These photographs are then shared on our web site, www.heartgallerynj.org, and in gallery exhibits that travel throughout the state to different venues in hopes that potential families will be moved to inquire about adoption. The idea is to get the pictures out into the world with the hope that a loving family will respond.

ADOPTION IN NEW JERSEY

Many children long for a forever family because they are not able to be reunited with their birth parents. Being an adoptive parent can change a child's life forever, as well as bring new joy and fulfillment to your family.

If you are a New Jersey resident and interested in adoption, please call **1-800-99-ADOPT**, or visit www.NJAdopt.org. You must reach age 18 before the adoption is finalized and you must be at least ten years older than the child you wish to adopt. The information you give will be provided to Foster and Adoptive Family Services, and a staff member from that organization will contact you to discuss your interest.

HOW TO HELP

The Heart Gallery needs volunteers to help with fundraising, exhibit planning, web services, administrative affairs and many other tasks. If you would like to volunteer your services, or believe you can be of help in keeping the Heart Gallery running, we would love to hear from you. We have set up a brief questionnaire to help us process your information as efficiently as possible.

Volunteer. Make a Gift. Adopt a Child.
Because Everyone Deserves a Family.
www.heartgallerynj.org

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