

# *Friend of the Family Program*

## **A Mentor Program for Adoptive Families**

### **To Become a “Friend of the Family”, you must:**

- Have finalized an adoption from foster care
- Have a positive relationship with DCF or contracted private agency
- Submit an application, reference form, and confidentiality agreement
- Participate in an interview
- Have sufficient time and ability to make contact with assigned family

### **Responsibilities of a *Friend of the Family***

- Contact the assigned family within one week of notification
- Maintain weekly contact with the family by phone or email (at least one phone contact/month) unless otherwise requested by the mentee
- Develop a relationship with your assigned family and provide support, share personal experiences and parenting skills and acquaint families with helpful resources and services
- Submit update forms to MARE
  - Inform Coordinator from MARE if assigned family is experiencing stressors that may require additional support