



November is Adoption Awareness Month

Everyone is connected to adoption in some way – whether it be adoption through foster care, private adoption, international adoption or adoption of a family member – and the Illinois Adoption Advisory Council and the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services want to **celebrate** those connections!

Adoptees and adoptive parents, family members, friends, neighbors, teachers, classmates, coaches, caseworkers and judges, we want to see **YOUR** connection!

1. Make as many copies of the enclosed template as you can.
2. Cut the strips on the dashed line.
3. Set up a table to celebrate Adoption Month in your office, classroom or business.
4. Encourage people to share their connection to adoption by writing it on the strip. Examples include "I am adopted," "my brother was adopted," "I am a caseworker" or "we are adoptive parents".
5. Connect all of the strips into one long paper chain and display it in a high-traffic area.
6. Take pictures of your paper chain and share them on social media. Use these hashtags: #findyourconnection and #adoptionmonth – and be sure to "tag" @illinoisDCFS.

Display your paper chain throughout the month of November and beyond! Use it to start conversations about how we are all connected to adoption.



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My connection to adoption is: _____

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