#### HOW DO I LEARN MORE ABOUT FOSTER CARE ADOPTION?

- Complete the Adoption Contact form at www.camelotcommunitycare.org/ adoption-contact-form-central-florida.
- Contact the Camelot Community Care Adoption Team directly by emailing adoptcentralflorida@camelotcommunitycare.org.



## **OUR VALUES**

**Safety:** The safety of children will be of the highest importance.

**Ethical:** We will maintain the highest ethical standards in all aspects of our company.

**Responsible:** We take full responsibility for the work we do. Children succeed because we succeed.

**Commitment:** We will never waiver in our commitment to being the best. Our best practice is excellence.

**Resourceful:** We will be vigilant stewards of the funds we receive and honor the trust the families we serve put in us. We will strive to obtain the needed resources to effectively serve our children and families.

**Leadership:** We will be leaders in our communities and advocate for the betterment of children.

**Culturally Competent and Respectful Practice:** Culturally competent services will be delivered in a manner that respects individual and family needs, cultural differences, and special issues.



Bringing Families Together For A Bright Future.

Serving Orange, Seminole, and Osceola counties in Central Florida adoptcentralflorida@ camelotcommunitycare.org www.camelotcommunitycare.org



Bringing Families Together For A Bright Future.



ADOPTION FROM FOSTER CARE Serving Central Florida Camelot Community Care is pleased to be one of the premier providers of Adoption Services in Central Florida.

## **OUR MISSION**

To develop and provide services which enable children and families to realize their fullest potential.

#### ADOPTING A CHILD FROM FOSTER CARE

Right now, more than 115,000 children, through no fault of their own, are waiting to be adopted from foster care in the United States and of that number 19,000 are right here in Florida. As victims of abandonment, abuse or neglect, these young people are placed in care because their birth family is unable or unwilling to provide a safe environment for them. The majority are healthy children who simply need and deserve a permanent, loving home. In Central Florida, Camelot Community Care works in conjunction with Family Partnerships of Central Florida to find these children their forever families and homes.

Children waiting in the foster care system vary in age, from infants to young adults and many have siblings with whom they should stay with if and when possible. Some children have medical challenges and other special needs that are often treatable. Support and resources are available to help. It is a fact that children waiting for adoption have had a disruptive home life and have frequently experienced significant trauma. They've been separated from their birth parents – and often from siblings or extended family – through no fault of their own, and they're often left with feeling of loss and grief and a fear of rejection. They are eager to belong. But they may doubt themselves because of past experiences, or they may be suspicious of new adults entering their lives.

It will be important to create a welcoming environment so that the child feels comfortable discussing thoughts and feelings with you, and provide the behavioral and psychological support they need.

### STARTING YOUR ADOPTION JOURNEY

Take a moment to think... How many of the following characteristics describe you?

- A belief in adoption and the ability to commit to a child or children
- Patience and perseverance
- A good sense of humor and talent for keeping life in perspective
- A love of children and parenting
- The ability to accept without judgment and to love unconditionally
- Awareness that healing doesn't always come quickly

- Willingness to teach an adopted child about their race, culture and ethnicity
- Resourcefulness

If most of these qualities describe you, then we would like to invite you to take the next steps in starting your adoption journey by scanning this QR code.



# WHO CAN ADOPT, COST, & HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE?

To be eligible to adopt one of the children currently available, you may be married or single, already a parent or never a parent, in your 60s or in your 20s, an apartment renter or a homeowner, a person of modest means or wealth. The fact is that there is no one description of people who can be prospective adoptive parents.

Adopting from foster care comes with no cost. Contrary to common misconceptions, the adoption process through our dependency system is completely free of charge.

The process to become an approved adoptive parent includes attending a specialized training course, obtaining background, employment and reference checks, NTDC training, current physical exam, and completion of a home study.

The process usually can be completed in six to eight months.

Finding forever families...

Because every child deserves a safe, loving and permanent family.

