ADOPTION TAX CREDIT AWARENESS DAY

Monday, February 13, 2012

Save the Date & Play Your Part

Save the Date: Plan now to be part of the Adoption Tax Credit Awareness Day on Monday, February 13, 2012—a national effort highlighting the federal tax credit available to adoptive families.

Play Your Part: Join with adoption organizations, state agencies, adoptive families, advocates, and other interested parties to raise visibility of the adoption tax credit. Help spread the word collectively, through website postings, email blasts, newsletters, social media, and other informational outlets, so eligible families that may not be aware of this benefit can be sure to access the credit. Families who adopted as far back as 2005 may still benefit if they haven't already. Be sure to include non-internet based strategies since some adoptive families do not have access to the internet.

The Facts:

- Since 2003, families who adopted a U.S. child with special needs from foster care could claim a federal adoption tax credit *even if they had no adoption expenses* (as long as they met the fairly generous income requirements).
- Children who receive adoption assistance/subsidy benefits are considered children with special needs. Even families who receive a deferred subsidy ($0 per month but medical coverage through the subsidy program) are eligible.
- All adoptive families (except those who adopted a step-child) are eligible for the credit, but those who adopt children other than those with special needs must have—and be able to document, if requested by the IRS—qualified adoption expenses.
- For 2010 and 2011 the credit was made refundable. If parents who adopted as long ago as 2005 had credit to carry forward into 2010, that amount of the credit also became refundable. In 2010 and 2011, parents can claim the credit even if they don't have income or any tax liability.
- The amount of the credit for 2011 is $13,360 per child.

The Information:

- IRS Form 8839 Instructions: http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/i8839.pdf
- IRS Form 8839: http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f8839.pdf
- IRS – adoption tax credit FAQ's: http://www.irs.gov/individuals/article/0,,id=231663,00.html
- Voice for Adoption's distributable postcard: http://voice-for-adoption.org/adoption_tax_credit
- Tools & Resources from the North American Council on Adoptable Children (NACAC): http://www.nacac.org/taxcredit/taxcredit.html

Dave Thomas Foundation For Adoption®
Finding Forever Families for Children in Foster Care

Voice for Adoption
SPEAKING OUT FOR OUR NATION'S WAITING CHILDREN

NACAC
North American Council on Adoptable Children