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## Media advisory

### **Arapahoe County hosts weekend adoptions to celebrate National Adoption Day**

**Aurora, Colo.** Arapahoe County is hosting multiple adoptions on Saturday, November 19, as part of a collaborative effort by five organizations to celebrate National Adoption Day. Judge Gerald Rafferty, Arapahoe County, and Judge Brian Boatright, Jefferson County—both themselves adoptive parents—will perform 11 adoption ceremonies to place 15 children into permanent homes.

“We’re proud to recognize these families for their commitment and tenacity to one another, and to celebrate this significant step in their lives as a way to mark National Adoption Day,” said Rhonda Miescke, Adoption Unit Supervisor. “It can take months and even years to finalize an adoption, but adopting a child into a loving, permanent home greatly increases his or her chance of future success and helps us build strong, healthy communities.”

Arapahoe County and Jefferson County departments of Human Services, with Colorado Department of Human Services, Project 1:27, and the Faith-Based Collaborative joined forces to enable the weekend adoptions which usually take place behind closed courtroom doors during the week. There are photography / video opportunities for the media. For more information, contact Katrina Seymour at 303-636-1945.

**When:** Saturday November 19, 10 a.m. – noon.  
**Where:** Project 1:27, Regency Plaza One Building, 4643 S. Ulster St., #1190, Denver 80237.  
**What:** ***Celebration of Family public reception.*** Families will celebrate finalizing their adoptions at a special reception emceed by 9News anchor Bazi Kanani. Families will receive proclamations, commemorative teddy bears, and enjoy cake and punch.

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