



Media Release

November 20, 2009

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Andy Forgie had everyone singing along in celebration of National Child Day, November 20...

Over 175 kids, parents and caregivers sang, danced, tapped and clapped along with local entertainer and musical story teller, Andy Forgie, at the "*Every Child Deserves to be a Kid*" free family concert in celebration of National Child Day and the 20th anniversary of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child this morning at Ontario Early Years Centre.

The concert, presented by the Ontario Early Years Centre, Hastings Children's Aid Society and Quinte Children's Foundation, also brought attention to the community's current need for families able to provide care, guidance and support for children and youth at times when their own families are unable to care for them.

Ginny Jones, Early Years Centre Coordinator, told those gathered that the aim of National Child Day 2009 was to raise awareness of the fundamental human rights to which children are entitled. "We're delighted to partner with Hastings CAS and Quinte Children's Foundation in presenting this free family concert to promote the important message of National Child Day and emphasize the need locally for more adoptive and foster families," she said.

In her remarks, HCAS Resource Supervisor, Janet Vintinner, said that there was an ongoing need in Hastings County for families to provide important family-based care, particularly for babies under two and teenagers, as well as a need for families who can keep siblings together.

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“The message of National Child Day 2009 reinforces the importance of our providing every child in care with the family best prepared to meet his or her needs,” said Ms. Vintinner. “We’re very fortunate to have over 200 wonderful foster homes, but with over 450 children and youth in need of supportive, caring homes, recruiting foster and adoptive families continues to be a priority.’

If you - or someone you know - are interested in fostering or adopting a child, call Hastings Children’s Aid Society at 613-962-9291 or visit hastingscas.org.

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