



CHAMBLISS CENTER FOR CHILDREN
GROWING YOUNG LIVES 24•7•365

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Chattanooga, TN . . . November is National Adoption Month, specifically adoption through foster care. In an effort to provide the community more information on the fostering process, Chambliss Center for Children will host a free Foster Care Info Night on Monday, November 6th at 6:00 p.m.

In Hamilton and the surrounding counties, there are more than 9,000 children in state custody at any given time. These children have been removed from their homes because of abuse, abandonment, and/or neglect. Chambliss Center for Children contracts with the state to provide loving, stable foster homes for these youth. Finding a permanent home for these children is the ultimate goal, whether with their biological parents - if the parents can complete the steps needed to regain custody - or with family members. However, approximately 20% of these youth end up becoming available for adoption.

The public is invited to this free Foster Parent Info Night to learn more about what is needed to foster a child in their community. Attendees can expect to view a short film on a child's experience in foster care and the positive effect that a loving and safe foster home can have on a young person's life. This evening will also provide an opportunity to learn about requirements for fostering and adoption, the training process, and allow attendees to have their questions answered.

"Due to the exponential growth of children being removed from their homes, there is currently a tremendous need for foster parents in our community," says Liz Blasbery, Executive Director of Chambliss Center for Children's Residential Program. "There is a great need for loving and safe homes for children as they navigate some of the toughest moments in their life. The Foster Care Info Night will provide families the opportunity to learn more about the fostering process, dispelling any myths and truly providing the information needed to make a well-informed decision to bring a child into their home."

The event will be held at Chambliss Center for Children, located at 315 Gillespie Road. Free, on-site parking is available. Kindly RSVP for this event to 423-693-2580 or fostercare@chamblisscenter.org by Thursday, November 2nd, so accurate preparations for refreshments may be made.

About Chambliss Center for Children

Chambliss Center for Children is a local non-profit organization that has been caring for this community's children 24-hours-a-day, 365-days-a-year since 1872. The mission of Chambliss Center for Children is to enrich the lives of children, youth, and families by providing transformative programs and support services to meet the evolving needs of our community. This is done by providing affordable, accessible and quality care for over 750 children every day through an Early Childhood Education and Extended Child Care Program, as well as a Residential Program, which recruits and trains foster families and operates a Transitional Living Program. The newest addition to the Residential

program, the Isaiah 117 House at Chambliss Center for Children provides a welcoming space for children and teens to await foster or kinship placement after being removed from their homes due to abuse, abandonment, or neglect. The agency also manages six off-site childcare centers and educates and cares for the children of teachers in several Hamilton County Schools. For more information about Chambliss Center for Children, please visit www.chamblisscenter.org or call 423-698-2456.

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