

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Foster Kids of the Merrimack Valley Celebrate Social Worker's Month by Hosting
Honorary Breakfast for Lawrence-based Department of Social Services (DSS)
Employees**

Methuen, MA -- April 14, 2008 -- The Foster Kids of the Merrimack Valley (FKMV), a local non-profit organization dedicated to serving the needs of foster children in the area, recently hosted an honorary breakfast for the Lawrence Department of Social Services branch.. This annual event, organized and held every last Friday of March by the FKMV, recognizes the hard work and efforts of those working and helping foster children across the Merrimack Valley. This event caps off the month of March which is officially recognized as "Social Worker Month" in the State of Massachusetts.

"This is an important annual event for our organization," stated Larry F. Giordano, founder and chair of the Foster Kids of the Merrimack Valley. "We feel it's important to recognize the good works that the staff at DSS accomplishes every day. All too often we hear reports about what is not working at DSS, and ignore the good work they do, day-in day-out, in helping these children find secure homes and improving their quality of life. The event is our way of saying thanks to our Social Workers for all that they do for the children."

About Foster Kids of the Merrimack Valley

We are a non-profit organization dedicated to serving the needs of foster children in the Merrimack Valley, including Lawrence, Methuen, Andover, and North Andover. With more than 500 foster children in our local area, they need role models who can make a difference in their lives. Through the efforts of the organization, our goal is to bring a positive influence into the lives of these children and support them as they grow. We offer a range of programs for local foster children of all ages. We work closely with the Department of Social Services (DSS) to make sure our programs are complementary and needed, and do not overlap with state and federally funded programs. For more information, please visit our website at: <http://www.fosterkidsmv.org>

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Photos:

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