



# **NEWS ADVISORY**

**New York State  
Unified Court System**

**Hon. Deborah H. Karalunas  
Administrative Judge  
Fifth Judicial District**

**Contact:  
Hon. Julie Cecile  
[jacecile@nycourts.gov](mailto:jacecile@nycourts.gov)**

**[www.nycourts.gov/press](http://www.nycourts.gov/press)**

**Date: November 13, 2023**

## **Fifth Judicial District, Onondaga County Executive to Host 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Adoption Day Event at Syracuse's Oncenter**

**SYRACUSE, NEW YORK**—The Fifth Judicial District's 23rd Adoption Day celebration will take place on **November 17, 2023**, at 9:30 a.m. at the Oncenter, in Syracuse, New York.

Doors open at 8:30 a.m., with the ceremony beginning promptly at 9:30 a.m. This annual event, sponsored by the New York State court system's Fifth Judicial District and Onondaga County Executive Ryan McMahon, is free and open to the public.

This year's celebration will mark the finalization of more than 40 adoptions—the fulfillment of dreams for children and adults who have long waited to build together a life of love, happiness, and permanency as an adoptive family. We are honored to have journalist, author, and amazing storyteller Sean Kirst as this year's guest speaker.

All children need safe and loving homes to call their own. Currently, there are more than 390,000 children in foster care in the United States, with more than 100,000 of these foster children eagerly await adoption. Each year—heartbreakingly—20,000 children age out of foster care without a home or family to call their own.

If you are interested in learning more about becoming a foster or adoptive parent, please attend the Fifth Judicial District's Adoption Day Celebration or call the Onondaga County Department of Children and Family Services at (315) 435-3827.

# # #