

## National Adoption Day Hosted In Hunterdon

Hunterdon County Surrogate, Susan J. Hoffman, announced this year Hunterdon County hosted National Adoption Day for Vicinage 13 on November 22, 2019. There were two judges hearing the adoptions simultaneously, and there were a total of 11 children adopted that afternoon.

National Adoption Day is celebrated annually on the Saturday before Thanksgiving. National Adoption Day is a holiday in which communities and courts all over the US come together to finalize the adoptions of thousands of children who are in foster care. In NJ the focus is to make the community aware of how many children are still waiting to be adopted.

Carnival atmosphere was this year's theme! The children received a picture of them and their forever family which was followed by carnival games and making stuffed animals to take home. New this year was a gift for each child and each family from JOCKEY International – backpacks carrying a teddy bear and a soft blanket for each child and a tote bag for each parent containing information about talking about adoption including a game to make the talk easier. The day ended with a light lunch and cake.

Surrogate Hoffman stated, "The Vicinage 13 Adoption Day Celebration was made possible by monetary or in kind donations from the Hunterdon County Bar Association, the Somerset County Bar Association, CASA, Jessica Wallace, Deputy Surrogate of Hunterdon County (stuffed animal workshop, picture frames and FOREVER FAMILY SIGN), Hon. Yolanda Ciccone, A.J., Amy Guinan, Assistant Civil Division Manager, (Photography), Cut by Katie (personalized t-shirts for the stuffed animals) Alexandra Arboleda (face painting) and JOCKEY International. Thank you to all the sponsors and the staffs of the Family Divisions and Surrogate Court Staffs."