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PRESS RELEASE

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**MORE FOSTER/ADOPTIVE FAMILIES NEEDED IN EL PASO
TO ASSIST NEGLECTED AND ABUSED CHILDREN**

The city of El Paso currently is experiencing a shortage of foster/adoptive families available to help neglected, abused or abandoned children. As of last month, in El Paso there were 96 children ready for adoption. Even more pressing is the need for foster parents. Just last year Child Protective Services (CPS) in El Paso investigated more than 5,300 cases of abuse/neglect, and 621 children were placed in foster care.

In an effort to recruit more foster and adoptive families in El Paso, several agencies and organizations that work with abused and neglected children are hosting the 2012 CARE Adoption Conference. The conference will be held on Wednesday November 14, 2014 from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Region XIX Education Services Center, located at 11670 Chito Samaniego.

The purpose of the conference is twofold:

- To educate parents and professionals who work with foster/adoptive kids about current trends and approaches to deal with children's needs.
- To recruit more foster and adoptive homes for local abused and neglected children.

During the conference interested families will understand how simple it is the process of adopting a child. They will also receive information about the financial assistance the government offers to help pay for some of the expenses of the child.

Attendees at this conference will be able to participate in breakout sessions where they will have the opportunity to have one-on-one conversations with current foster parents.

The event also provides professional training to individuals who work with abused children by presenting experts on complex needs of vulnerable children. For more information on the training sessions, please see the attached program.

Both the conference and professional seminar are free and open to the public. Simultaneous Spanish translation will be available.

The Professional Seminar portion of the conference runs from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The foster/adoption information sessions run from 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

WHO: CARE Coalition

WHAT: 2012 C.A.R.E. Conference and Professional Seminar

WHEN: Wednesday November 14, 2014, from 8 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

**WHERE: Region XIX Education Services Center
11670 Chito Samaniego**

INFO: Jose Alamillo, (915) 740-8879