

The Center for Adoption Support and Education is Named “One of Best Small Charities” by Catalogue for Philanthropy: Greater Washington

The Catalogue for Philanthropy: Greater Washington is proud to announce that The Center for Adoption Support and Education has been selected to be featured in the 2008-09 Catalogue. A panel of 60 expert reviewers from area foundations, corporate giving programs, larger non-profit organizations, and the DC government evaluated nearly 200 applications. The Center for Adoption Support and Education (C.A.S.E.) is one of 68 outstanding nonprofits featured this year.

"Charities were selected for excellence, cost-effectiveness, and impact," said Catalogue for Philanthropy: Greater Washington President Barbara Harman. "Non-profits face a tough challenge this year in a struggling economy and volatile stock market environment. Making wise end-of-year contributions that will have significant impact is more important than ever to donors and charities alike. These are certainly among the best small charities in the Washington region."

About The Center for Adoption Support and Education

In 1998, Kathy and Mike Dugan, parents of nine children adopted from the Prince George's County, Maryland foster care system, struggled in vain to find a family therapist who understood the impact of adoption on children's lives. Finding no resources were available, the Dugans became unintentional philanthropists and created The Center for Adoption Support and Education. Their vision has since helped some 3,000 adoptive families.

Estimates suggest that three-quarters of school-age children in foster care (many of the Center's children have spent time in the system) experience abuse and one-quarter experience post-traumatic stress disorder - exacerbated by the trauma of multiple foster care placements. Depression, anxiety, aggression and fear are common problems that can challenge a family's survival.

The Center offers adoption-competent therapy for children, parents and families of all adoptive experiences (regardless of their ability to pay), therapy and counseling services for children whose age or personal circumstances/needs create barriers to finding permanent homes, workshops and empowerment publications, and training and education for hundreds of parents, professionals and educators about the unique challenges of adoption. If this is your cause, you have found your home. For more information, visit www.adoptionsupport.org

About the Catalogue for Philanthropy

Now in its sixth year, the Catalogue has become a trusted intermediary whose mission is to connect smaller, community-based organizations with individuals who want to contribute to, and make a difference in their community. "

The Catalogue enables smaller non-profits to tell their stories to individuals who would otherwise never hear them, and to encourage those individuals to "give where you live." It also provides charities with a stamp of approval that tells donors they can invest with confidence. 30,000 individuals and hundreds of family foundations will receive copies of the Catalogue this year. Since its inception in 2003, the Catalogue has helped deserving, local non-profit organizations raise more \$6.3 million dollars. For information and to order a copy of the 2008-09 catalogue, visit www.catalogueforphilanthropy-dc.org or call 202-549-6396.