

NEWS RELEASE

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Reunified Families Celebrate at Gering Event

Gering – A celebration of the reunification of families involved in the child welfare system was held recently at Brannan’s World of Bounce and Skate in Gering.

Arranged by the Gering office of the Division of Children and Family Services of the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, the purpose of Reunification Day, which was the first-of-its-kind event in the Western Service Area, was to recognize the hard work of the families to accomplish reunification.

“Naturally, these family members love each other, and it was great to see not only how happy the parents were to have their children back home, but also the happiness of the children,” said Kylie Wilson, children and family services specialist, who helped to organize the event. “This was a good opportunity to show families that their hard work and dedication to reunification does not go unnoticed and is greatly appreciated. And that’s what it’s all about.”

In addition, she said it was rewarding to child welfare workers to see the outcome of their work.

Each family received a certificate signed by the judge who closed their case, ending their involvement in the child welfare system.

Wilson said it is planned to hold Reunification Day annually. “It’s important that the community, our department and the justice system celebrate and support these families,” she said.

Wilson thanked the following sponsors who donated food and door prizes: Domino’s Pizza, Godfather’s Pizza, Game Time, Culver’s, McDonald’s, Burger King, Sam and Louie’s Pizza, Target, Fresh Foods and Scott Curtis, who runs the area Foster Care Closet.

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