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Seventeen Children Adopted Into Twelve Families on Pasco County’s 14th Annual Adoption Day Celebration

CLEARWATER - Seventeen children were adopted into twelve families on Friday, Nov. 22, 2024, on what was Pasco County's 14th Annual Adoption Day celebration. Two mothers spoke poignantly of their adoption experiences. They started out as foster parents.



Dianne Fenech

One, Dianne Fenech, and her husband adopted two babies they had cared for as foster parents, one of whom had been exposed to drugs.

The other, Nichole Perez, adopted three siblings, a teenager, and three more she had taken in as babies while a foster parent, for a total of seven children.



Nichole Perez

Other speakers were Shawn Crane, chief judge of the Sixth Judicial Circuit; Shevaun Harris, secretary of the Florida Department of Children and Families; Jenn Petion, the CEO of Family Support Services, the lead foster and adoption non-profit for Pinellas and Pasco counties; and Spectrum Bay News 9 reporter Erica Riggins welcomed the dozens of children, parents and family members who came to the celebration.



Judge Crane



Shevaun Harris



Jenn Petion



Erica Riggins

The children were given gifts such as backpacks. There was pizza, sandwiches, cupcakes and beverages for everyone. And there were costume characters galore, including Stormtroopers from Star Wars, two Ghostbusters, and various princesses.

Various judges based at the West Pasco Judicial Center, where the celebration took place, attended, as the dignitaries who are seated behind them.



Ghostbusters



A Cute Moment



Various Princesses