



# KFAPA NEWS

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During the December 17, 2011 address to the Emporia State University graduates, the keynote speaker lifted his hand above his head and said "Aim high", then lowered his hand to his heart and said "Care deeply." This is what foster, adoptive and kinship families do. We aim high: we strive to help children and families overcome or conquer their problems. We work to make a difference in the life of a child by providing a temporary or permanent family. We attend trainings, support groups, therapy sessions, IEP meetings, case plan meetings, medical appointments, visits with birth families, school programs, sporting events, and on and on and on. We do this because we care deeply. We open our hearts and our homes to children for a day, a week, a month, perhaps even years. We continue to care, even when the children have been reintegrated, even when they have moved on to an adoptive home, even when they have aged out of the system and are out on their own.

There will always be "children in need of care." There will always be families who step up and play a role in helping those children and families. There will be changes in the coming weeks, months and years. The Kansas Foster & Adoptive Parent Association will continue to represent, inform and educate families. We ask our families and agencies to continue to inform and educate us.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas,  
a happy holiday season, and a peaceful and productive 2012.

**The Kansas Foster & Adoptive Parent Association**