

CHILD FIND® OF AMERICA ANNUAL REPORT 2011



Bringing Missing Children Home For 30 Years





PARTNERSHIPS — CUSTARD N'JELLY (WE COULD ALL USE A GUARDIAN ANGEL FROM TIME TO TIME)



Almost a year ago Child Find was introduced to "7 innocent, yet adorably hip, plush guardian angels" based on the drawings of an 8 year girl named Ally. Ally's mom and dad, Julie and Sam, invited Child Find and other children's charities to partner with their start-up business called "Custard 'n Jelly" (a play on the Italian phrase, *custodi angeli*, which means *guardian angel*.) Julie explained that

the venture's main focus is helping kids, and getting them to recognize the importance of sharing. Each "angel" possesses unique qualities and gifts to share. Further, with the purchase of an angel, children's parents have the opportunity to register the doll on the Custard n' Jelly (Cn'J) website, where 10% of the profits from that doll's sale would go to one of the partner charities – and the child gets to choose the charity!

Time magazine listed the angels among "The 15 Smartest Toys for Young Geniuses." They also garnered *Creative Child Magazine's* Top Toy of the Year Award in the soft toy category.

Normally, Child Find does not endorse products, but were so charmed by the dolls, and impressed with their message, that we're spreading the word. We particularly like the lessons this product imparts without being preachy, particularly that children have the power to make choices that positively impact themselves and other. With this comes confidence, and with confidence comes a sense of self-determination. A more confident child is a safer child. Of course, the 10% donation is appreciated as well – and will go directly to Child Find's services of prevention, location and education.

To learn more about Cn'J's history – and read each doll's unique bio – please visit Child Find's website at www.childfindofamerica.org. From there you will find a link that takes to you the Custard n'Jelly site. If you wish to purchase a doll, please be sure to enter through Child Find's link, it will code your order and C n'J will donate another 10% to Child Find for making the connection!

PARTNERSHIPS - THE UPROAR CONTINUES!

Child Find's national partner joined the effort in a big way in 2010 to help prevent and resolve child abductions and bring endangered children to a safe environment, donating over \$40,000 and raising awareness in a media blitz. This year - on May 17, 2011 - producers John Reese and John Oakes announced "The Rockstar Energy Drink UPROAR Festival is proud to continue their alliance with Child Find of America..." Plans include donating to Child Find a portion of the proceeds of each ticket sold - as well as proceeds from merchandise and VIP ticket auctions held on eBay. The North America Trek ran August 26-October 15 and traveled across the United States and parts of Canada. Results will be posted on Child Find's website at www.childfindofamerica.org



Daniel, 15 - Canton, MI

"THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME" -ABOUT THE ARTWORK-

Child Find commemorated its 30th Anniversary in 2010 with a picture contest for kids ages 5 to 15. The theme was "There's No Place Like Home." Prizes for the top four finishers listed below included gift cards for art supplies and the use of their designs on Child Find acknowledgement cards.

Additionally it was promised that all those who placed would be published in the 2011 Annual Report. So take a look! We're sure you'll agree every single one of them is a winner!

First Place (On the cover) – Tiffany, 13, Ewa Beach, HI. 2nd Place – Eileen, 9, Ann Arbor MI. 3rd Place – Elizabeth, 13, Kapolei, HI. 4th Place – Selena, 12, Kapolei, HI.

Get a Tax Benefit KLUNKERS for KIDS Vehicle Donations · ANY car, truck, boat, motorcycle, RV running or not, ANYWHERE in the U.S. FREE, Fast, Friendly Pick-up. The hassle-free alternative to selling or trading. Get a substantial tax benefit as a big "Thank You!" from CHILD FIND OF AMERICA It's easy, just call: 1877 999 8322 or Click on the car below. Vehicle Donations



PARENTHELP FOR MILITARY FAMILIES

Parenting while deployed? Constructing a Family Care Plan? Need to reconnect with your kids and spouse?



In 2007, Child Find took note of an increase in calls from Dads and Moms in the military or whose spouses had been deployed. It was recognized there would soon be a need for dealing with the multifaceted issues both the newly deployed and returning veterans of Afghanistan and Iraq would be experiencing in their transitions. In an on-going process, Child Find's multi-disciplinary Parent Help team received training in dealing with the special needs of military families and in the development of protocol for working within the culture of the US military and its justice system. Funding, however, was needed to produce and distribute outreach materials outlining Parent Help's

free and confidential telephone assistance specifically targeting military families.

Subsequently, Child Find applied for and received a \$45,000 project grant, "Parent Help for Military Families" from the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation (CWF) to "fund the production and dissemination of Parent Help information and outreach materials targeted to U.S. military dads and moms." The grant was sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary.

The award was announced at the annual board of directors meeting of the CWF in Indianapolis at which a total of 21 non-profit organizations received funding that, according to the CWF website, "support projects that benefit the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual well-being of children."

In September 2011, 125,000 booklets and 2,000 posters were distributed to 500 veterans' centers located in all 50 states. Reviews have been overwhelmingly positive, with many requests for reprints. A free PDF of the booklet is available on Child Find's website www.childfindofamerica.org which may be downloaded and reprinted.



A GIFT TO CHILD FIND, in honor of important events in the lives of family and friends is a meaningful and fitting remembrance. Those moments we mark — births, baptisms, bar/bat mitzvahs, graduations, weddings and memorials — are all celebrations of family, of hope and gratitude. What better way to pay tribute than with a gift that will bring hope to a family less fortunate ... a gift that will help to bring a missing child home ... a gift that will help to prevent child abduction, endangerment and abuse.

If you would like to recognize a special moment with a tax-deducible tribute, Child Find will send you a receipt as well as an acknowledgment of your generosity to the person being honored or their family.

FOR MORE GIVING INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL 845-883-6060







FAX: 845.883.6614

Ann Kibalo
WANTED FOR KIDNAPPING
DATE OF BIRTH: 3/25/1963
HAIR: BROWN EYES: BLUE
HEIGHT: 5'0" WEIGHT: 130 Ib

MISSING CHILD
CHILD FIND CASE #6300-P

SAMANTHA KIBALO

DATE OF BIRTH: January 1, 1999
HAIR: LIGHT BROWN
EYES: BLUE
Samantha was abducted by her non-custodial mother, Ann who may also use the surnames Yormak, Saul or Kaplan. They may have traveled out of state. Ann wears glasses to drive and may wear brown contacts.

LAST SEEN: FEBRUARY 4, 2001 SUFFERN, NY

If you have any information or think you have seen SAMANTHA or her abductor, please call Child Find at:

1-800-I-AM-LOST

(1-800-426-5678)

For further information, please call (845) 883-6060 Rockland County Sheriff's Office: (845) 638-5400





CASE NOTES

A Mom's Story

Cathy called Child Find seeking help in finding her 13 year old son, Chad, who had been abducted by his father, Michael. At the point in which she began working with Child Find, her local court in Virginia had already issued her an emergency order granting her full temporary custody of Chad under an order of protection, as Michael had a history of substance abuse and domestic violence. To make matters more complicated, she had heard rumors of there being another custody case started in New York, though she had not yet been served with any paperwork. She wanted to know more about her options and if Child Find could locate Chad for her.

Cathy and Michael were married in Delaware in 2005 and separated in 2008 after Cathy was awarded a Protection From Abuse* order (PFA) from Family Court. Shortly thereafter, Michael relocated to New York and Cathy to Virginia.

Michael was aware of Cathy's move and initially had no issues with it, being able to maintain communication with Chad. However, after some time passed and the PFA had expired, Michael began to fall behind in child support payments eventually accruing significant arrears. At this point, Michael arranged for a visit with Chad at which time he abducted the child back to New York.

Cathy was able to get an emergency protection order which granted her full temporary custody of her son – however she was unable to locate Michael. Child Find was able to locate Chad and Michael, and provide Cathy's attorney with the address for the sole purpose of serving the order. (For reasons of safety and confidentiality, it is policy that Child Find does not share addresses directly with disputing parties.)

Cathy continues to work with Child Find. She currently finds herself caught in a legal situation faced by many left behind parents, whereby there is disagreement surrounding the proper jurisdiction to handle the case. Both parents have filed their cases in their separate states of residence. The Uniform Child-Custody Enforcement and Jurisdiction Act* was created for just such situations, and outlines the process for determining which state has "home state rule." Typically, a state in which the child has a "significant connection" and/or has resided for longer than 6 months has the authority to claim home state rule, but there are some exceptions.

Recently, Cathy emailed her caseworker:

I haven't had a chance to touch base with you since my court date in NY over the phone. It went well. (The NY judge) requested to speak to(the VA judge) concerning jurisdiction... (The NY judge) also had (Michael) agree under oath to accept the papers I have been trying to get him served so he can show up to court down here (in VA.) I sent it next day express and received delivery confirmation. I am very excited.

I cannot tell you how much i appreciate your time and dedication. You, not a lawyer, were the first one to tell me about home state. That was pivotal... I know I have a court date on Wednesday but I am already celebrating! I'll let you know how it goes.

Postscript: It went well. It looks as though Cathy may very well be reunited with Chad in time to ring in the New Year as a family once again.

*On the internet, you can learn more about:

Protection From Abuse orders http://courts.delaware.gov/Help/PFA/index.stm

Uniform Child-Custody Enforcement and Jurisdiction Act

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uniform_Child_Custody_ Jurisdiction_And_Enforcement_Act.

Drawing by: Eileen, 9 – Ann Arbor, MI



parenthelp

CASE NOTES

A DAD'S STORY

In mid 2006, courts granted Dad parenting time every summer and two weeks every other year in his own home with his daughter. However, Dad called Child Find in February of 2007 to say that he could not locate his child. Child Find kept Dad's case open over the next five years as he struggled to not only locate his daughter as Mom moved from place to place, but to work his way through the courts to enforce his rights. Dad grew increasingly concerned about his child's missed educational opportunities for gifted and talented youth, as well as her general welfare. While Child Find was able to assist Dad in locating her, Mom would move frequently and seemed to consistently remain one step ahead as Dad's resources and hope dwindled.

Remarkably, five years later child welfare removed the child from her mother's custody after she had run away and requested to be placed with her father. Child welfare workers



Drawing by: Elizabeth, 13 - Kapolei, HI

placed the girl with a foster family so that she could finish the school year while they had Dad travel to her state of residence to discuss how he might provide for his daughter. Child welfare had been given false information about Dad's living conditions and his state of health. They were happily surprised when this soft-spoken, strong, healthy father sat down with his binder of extensive documents, photos and information that detailed the history of the case and his fine living situation. Throughout the years, Dad's Child Find caseworker coached him through his preparation for the court proceedings; dispensed much needed moral support when his confidence would sag, and helped him stay focused on all the positive outcomes resulting from his grueling quest to be reunited with his daughter.



Dad has been keeping his caseworker apprised of his progress through phone calls and letters. He has asked if he and his daughter might call his Child Find caseworker once he was given the green light to bring her to live with him, wanting the case worker to hear just how wonderful his daughter is for herself. In a short note dated April 18th, Dad stated that they were waiting for the school year to end so that his daughter might finally move in. He also enclosed a photo.

"I thought you should see what (my daughter) looks like now that she is in the fifth grade and reading on a ninth grade level...You have given me some very very good advice over the years. And I Thank You Very Very Much!"

This case is not closed. There are more legal proceedings ahead, but there is a tone of optimism in Dad's voice that his caseworker has been hoping to hear for five years.

1-800-I-AM-LOST (1-800-426-5678) Tempe Police Department 1-480-350-8311

LAST SEEN: SEPTEMBER 28, 1998 - TEMPE, ARIZONA



2011 PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

CHILD FIND OF AMERICA LOGS MORE THAN 18,000 CALLS PER YEAR IN SERVICE TO FAMILIES IN CRISIS AND PARENTS OF MISSING CHILDREN.

ALL OF CHILD FIND'S PROGRAMS AND SERVICES ARE FREE.

parenthelp

The Parent Help program was established as an extension of Child Find's original Child Abduction Prevention and Support Services (CAPSS), to enhance those existing services for dads and moms parenting apart and dealing with problems sharing kids, visitation, custody, and child support. Free, confidential telephone assistance is provided, nationwide, by calling 1-800-716-3468 or 1-800-A-WAY-OUT. These tollfree help lines connect families impacted by child custody crisis, parental abduction and denied visitation to a wide array of services including crisis intervention, prevention action, conflict resolution and mediation, relationship coaching, anger management, parenting and fatherhood education, co-parenting planning, comprehensive case management. resources and more. On staff mediators have extensive experience in divorce, custodial and family mediation.

PARENT *HELP* was designed in conjunction with New York State's Child Support Division and with support from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services with the goal to serve as a model program to prevent parental child abduction and denied visitation while increasing establishment of and compliance with child support orders.

The program was launched in New York State in the beginning of June, 2007 and went nationwide in October 2009.



Of Parent Help's 2505 open cases in the 2010-11 fiscal year, 343 of them involved children who were parentally abducted, 11 involved runaways and 47 cases concerned children with whom the callers lost contact for other reasons.



LOCATION SERVICES:

An in-house location staff investigates each case of a missing child using computer technology, the Internet and a massive national network of

partners, including local law enforcement agencies, the FBI, state missing children clearinghouses, schools and other non-profit organizations. Photos of missing children are disseminated nationwide through the support of hundreds of media outlets, other businesses and volunteers who post, circulate, print or air Child Find missing children posters. It is important to note that not all cases under investigation necessarily result in the publication of posters due to factors such as custody issues or privacy and safety concerns.

In 2011 there were 111 open location cases registered with Child Find. Additional location services were rendered through the Parent Help Program.

PUBLIC EDUCATION

Child Find's educational materials are readily available to individuals, schools and community organizations. Press releases, articles and interviews with local and national media bring attention and awareness to the issues. In-service training of allied professionals also increases understanding and strengthens our ability to prevent and resolve missing children cases. Child Find's website provides free access to many of our materials.

Child Find has developed comprehensive information and referral network and an extensive library that serves parents, educators, law enforcement and human service professionals on a daily basis. Child Find works year round to educate about missing children issues, how to keep kids safe and what to do in times of crisis.

Child Find's materials are available on our website: www.childfindofamerica.org and www.parenthelp-ny.org.

Drawing by Stephanie, 9 – New Paltz, NY





Selena, 13 – Kapolei, HI

CHILD FIND OF AMERICA, INC.

PO BOX 277 NEW PALTZ NY 12561-0277

Business Phone: 845 - 883 - 6060 Fax: 845 - 883 - 6614

LOCATION SERVICES: 1-800-I-AM-LOST

(1-800-426-5678)

PARENT *HELP*: 1-800-716-3468

or

1-800-A-WAY-OUT (1-800-292-9688)



