



Problems Sharing Kids? Custody? Support?
and info about Visitation, Parenting, Going to Court?

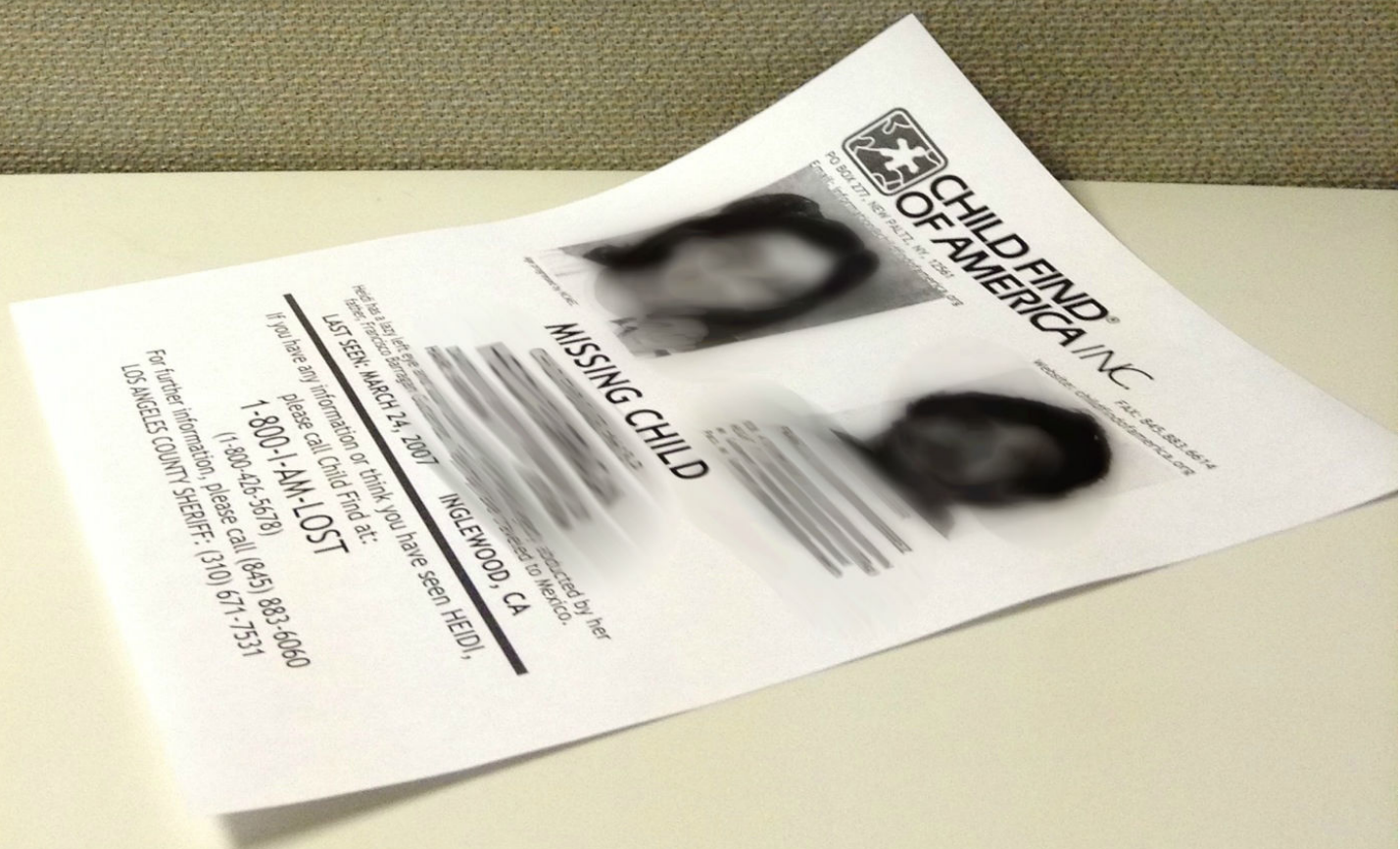
free telephone assistance for dads and moms living apart

Project of Child Find of America, Inc.,
is working to prevent and resolve
child abuse.
childfindofamerica.org to learn more about
services

TALK TO
PARENT *HELP*
800-716-3468
for free, confidential assistance

HELP project was provided by the United States
Department of Human Services, Administration for Children
and Youth. Any opinions, findings, and
conclusions expressed in this material are those
of the project and do not necessarily reflect the views of the United
States Department of Human Services, Administration for Children
and Youth.

Annual Report 2014



A MESSAGE FROM CHILD FIND'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends and Supporters,

For this annual report Child Find staff and I decided to give you a glimpse into the principles, research and collaborations that guide our work to prevent and resolve all cases of missing children. We've also included a look at our financial statements and some of the families we've helped – including a recent interview with a parent who reconnected with us – initially just to say thanks – almost 2 decades since Child Find had a hand in helping her reunite with her son after being abducted by his father.

We started 2013 by hosting in the Hudson Valley the Stronger Families New York Coalition's Leadership Forum which brought non-profit and government agency leaders from around the state to discuss policies and strategies to support family success and child well-being in challenging economic times. Child Find is an active member of the Stronger Families New York Coalition. This coalition of over 75 human service agencies was convened several years ago by the United States Dept. of Health and Human Services, Region 2 Administration for Children and Families. Forum panel presentations at the focused on macro issues of state and national policies, research and funding trends as well as the micro issues of implementation and promising practices. I found most interesting the information presented on childhood toxic stress. Take a few moments to read the article in this report on how Child Find works to help mitigate the impact of toxic stress on children and their families.

As many of you know, Child Find has had strong ties to the responsible fatherhood movement which urges and supports child well-being through building healthy and happy father-child relationships. In fact, 50% of the callers to Child Find's Parent Help are fathers. We are happy to report that our good work with dads has been recognized and Child Find now provides help-line services to the National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse. I encourage you to visit NRFC at www.fatherhood.gov where you'll find a wide variety of useful tips, tools and research.

Friends and supporters of Child Find can be sure that their assistance and dollars are making a difference in the lives of children nationwide. And, we are especially proud of the fact that Child Find has – for 17 years in a row - consistently earned an A+ rating from the American Institute of Philanthropy (Charity Watch) for fiscal responsibility.

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, 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-deductible 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**

Donna



CHILD FIND - 2013 PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Child Find of America averages more than 18,000 calls a year in service to families in crisis and parents of missing children. All of Child Find's programs and services are FREE.

Child Find works to prevent and resolve all cases of missing, kidnapped, runaway and abducted children. To this end, Child Find offers dispute resolution, counseling, advocacy, information, assessment, support services and referral to prevent and resolve parental child abduction. Child Find also searches for missing, kidnapped, runaway and parentally abducted children through investigations and targeted distribution of missing child photos and posters nationwide. Child Find's free programs and services are available nationally and internationally; and are supported through the generous donations from private individuals – including workplace campaigns – businesses, corporations, foundations, grants and service contracts.

LOCATION SERVICES

In fiscal year 2013 there were 61 cases registered with Child Find's location services. Additional locations were provided through Parent Help noted below.

Child Find's 1-800-I-AM-LOST toll-free number receives calls for assistance from all 50 states and internationally. 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.



PUBLIC EDUCATION

In fiscal year 2013, Child Find's Executive Director and staff conducted trainings and participated in 20 national and regional workshops and conferences, and dozens of webinars, with service professionals and organizations regarding missing children, domestic violence, child abuse/neglect, mediation healthy families and more.

Child Find's educational materials are 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 has developed a comprehensive information and referral network and an extensive library serving parents, educators, human service workers, and law enforcement - to educate about missing children issues, crisis management and keeping kids safe.

Many of Child Find's free materials are readily available on our website at: www.childfindofamerica.org

PARENT HELP

1,017 cases were registered with the Parent Help program in fiscal year 2013. Of Parent Help's 4,257 total number of open cases, 653 involve missing children.

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 toll-free 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, fatherhood education, co-parenting planning comprehensive case management, educational resources and more. On-staff professionals have extensive experience in divorce, custodial and family mediation.



MISSING CHILD

CHILD FIND CASE #6618-P

LOCATED since publication

LAST SEEN: MARCH 24, 2007 INGLEWOOD, CA

1-800-I-AM-LOST

(1-800-426-5678)

For further information, please call (845) 883-6060
LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF: (310) 671-7531



FAMILY CONFLICT, CHILD DEVELOPMENT – AND CHILD FIND

For over 30 years, Child Find of America's mission has been *"to prevent and resolve all cases of missing, runaway and abducted children."* That core mission has not changed, however, with years of experience and data from its own case studies to build upon, Child Find has adapted to reflect and align with research-based best practice principles for the benefit of children:

To ensure that all children are in a safe and legal environment, Child Find offers free conflict resolution, problem solving, and mediation services, along with location, prevention education and support services, to families in crisis and the professionals who serve them.

Founded in 1980 by a searching mother whose daughter had been abducted by the father during a custody dispute, Child Find quickly learned that most abducted children are taken by a parent during high family conflict over child support, co-parenting, custody, visitation, and personal values. Our case studies confirmed that parental abduction is child abuse with its victims suffering a long list of lifelong consequences such as those listed in the studies below. The numbers are staggering. More than 200,000 children are reported abducted by a parent each year. Countless other children suffer daily family conflict – and the negative impact of repeated exposure to family conflict results debilitating effects that can last a lifetime:

- Research conducted by The Center for the Advanced Study of Excellence in Early Childhood and Family Support Practices indicates that children living in high inter-parental conflict situations exhibit depression, low self-esteem, delinquency, aggression, poor academic performance and social adjustment problems.
- Harvard University's Center on the Developing Child and the American Academy of Pediatrics report such "toxic stress" both weakens the development of the young brain and threatens mental and physical health, drastically increasing risks of developmental delays and social disorders. The research further reveals that adults who experienced childhood toxic stress are far more prone to enter parenthood with an impaired ability to parent well, manage co-parenting disputes, resolve conflict and negotiate helping systems.
- The Adverse Childhood Experiences Study (ACE Study) conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Kaiser Permanente provide clear evidence on the direct connection between health, social, and economic risks and childhood trauma.

Fortunately, research also offers hope and strategies that communities, professionals and parents can use. Building on the protective factors found in a child's life can prevent, mitigate and/or eliminate toxic stressors. Critical to this effort is building parents' capacity to handle conflict constructively, raising awareness of their own conflict characteristics and the impact conflict has on children, and connecting parents to resources. Multiple stressors require multidisciplinary, inter-connected responses to create the safe, supportive environments, relationships and strong families children need. Long before the studies, Child Find of America was developing these preventive strategies.

By 1986, Child Find knew that parental and family abductions far outnumbered stranger abductions – and sought a grant from the US Department of Justice to create a program to focus on parents were considering abduction or who had already abducted. The "CAPSS" program (Child Abduction Prevention and Support Services) encouraged parents to reach out to our counselors to discuss the return of the abducted child to a safe environment and/or their legal options. Building on the data and knowledge gleaned from 20 years of experience with CAPSS, in 2006, Child Find's Parent Help program was created with assistance from a grant through the Department of Health and Human Services. With the goal of prevention and children's well being, Child Find's Parent Help seeks to address family conflict fully and early on. Today, Parent Help's innovative telephone approach empowers thousands of parents to have immediate access to the benefits of alternative dispute resolution and mediation, including underserved populations such as low income families, parents who have never married, and fathers and mothers who have difficulty negotiating legal and social service systems. Parent Help's case managers additionally

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multidisciplinary service plan designed to benefit those who care for children by reducing conflict and educating them on their options.

We talk to parents and caretakers living together in conflict, living apart - or soon to be living apart - to address the array of issues that arise. Our direct services include exploration of issues related to co- and parallel parenting skills, child development, parenting plans, the courts, communication skill-building, self-care, and safety planning. Our information and referrals may provide additional exploration and resources in matters connected to paternity, mental health, child abuse, domestic violence, legal assistance, child support, substance abuse, youth at risk, et al. This means that – should mediation not be appropriate or one party does not wish to engage – we can continue to speak with the caller about the options on resolving the challenges that still exist. We let callers know that once a case has been opened, they can contact us at any point – even years down the road - and we will be able to retrieve their information and continue the conversation.

To further Child Find's stated mission we also offer consultation services to allied professionals and agencies nationwide who tell us they appreciate the ability to refer clients to us for the services they are not mandated, funded or trained to provide including:

- The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, and community based missing children's agencies
- Child Support Agencies and Courts / Family Courts / Law Guardians / Attorneys
- Social Service, Domestic Violence and Child Welfare Agencies
- Head Starts/ Health Care Providers/ Pre-Natal Service Providers / Maternal Infant Services
- 211 information lines and United Ways
- The U.S. Department of State, Veterans and Law Enforcement
- National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse and the Healthy Relationship Program Grantees of the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services
- Mediation agencies
- Work force /economic development and incarcerated populations caseworkers

REBUILDING RELATIONSHIPS - X, Y AND ZOË

Xavier called Child Find 3 months after his release from having been incarcerated for 13 months for selling narcotics. He expressed to Parent Help two goals: first to be able to see his daughter, Zoë, again and second, to eventually pursue avenues for gaining joint custody with Zoë's mother, Yvonne. Xavier and Yvonne lived together for 3 years and then separated. Though they never married, Xavier's name is on Zoë's birth certificate. Xavier has since married another woman with whom he has a 1 year old.

Xavier stated that while in prison, he had been taking full advantage of the programs available – attending Narcotics Anonymous, counseling, fatherhood groups and court-ordered anger management group. Xavier said he had gained a lot of good information and insights from his programs and wants to apply them as best he can to the situation with Yvonne, who is not open to speaking with him yet. He described his relationship with Yvonne as having been cordial after the breakup up until the time Yvonne learned that his new girlfriend (now wife) had become pregnant. Xavier believes Yvonne remains bitter over his marriage and the lack of child support resulting from his incarceration. Xavier has been in touch with Yvonne's family who told him she moved to another city.

Since his release, Xavier had been in a workforce re-entry program and hopes to soon be able to make support payments. In order to re-establish visits with Zoë, he was hoping Child Find would locate Yvonne so that he could try speaking with her again. Xavier's caseworker explained Child Find's location services and the Parent Help program process. While Child Find will not disclose locations nor share personal information between parties due to confidentiality and safety concerns, there were two options available to him. The first would be that Xavier could request that Yvonne's family forward a message to her for him. This way, if a risk to her safety existed, Yvonne would have the opportunity to enact any safety plan she has by way of supportive family members. Xavier's second option would be for Parent Help to contact Yvonne through a family member. Parent Help would then also be able to offer assistance to support safety if Yvonne were to disclose concerns.

Xavier said he proposed both options to Yvonne's family and forwarded them information about the Parent Help program and our toll-free number. A few weeks later, Yvonne called Parent Help and was able to share her concerns about Xavier and reintroducing him to their young child. Child Find was able to help share the options on how to go about the process. Eventually Yvonne decided the use of a therapist for a slow and thoughtful reunification would be in Zoë's best interest. She also felt it would help in rebuilding a civil working relationship with her former partner. Both Xavier and Yvonne felt comfortable and optimistic that this would be a positive first step in sharing in the care and love of their child while living apart.




AFTER PARENTAL ABDUCTION - IS RELATIONSHIP REBUILDING POSSIBLE?

Jade and Leo divorced when their daughter Meri was 8 years old. Shortly after the split, Leo failed to return Meri after a weekend visit. When Jade's phone calls went unanswered she became worried and went to Leo's apartment, only to discover he had moved with no forwarding address. Over a year had passed before Jade called Child Find. She said it had taken her the better part of that year to discover that Leo had taken Meri to Mexico. She had recently learned he was driving her into the United States daily, to her school just over the border. Now that Jade finally had been awarded custody, she was unsure of how she should handle the reunification. She feared that over the past 15 months Leo had been telling Meri that her mom was no longer interested in her. Child Find's caseworker worked with Jade preparing for the reunification process, providing resources for mental health and support issues. Jade was encouraged to think through her options and next steps regarding her role in Meri's future relationship with Leo i.e. *What would be the consequences of pressing charges? Denying access? Were there safety issues? Was there a chance of re-abduction?* Talking it through with her caseworker, Jade was able to create a plan she believed would be in her daughter's best interest. The day before she and local law enforcement were scheduled to pick up Meri at her school, Jade called Child Find for emotional support - to talk it out one more time. A month later her caseworker received her email:

I wanted to let you know after quite the ordeal I was successful on picking Meri up. Her reaction was amazing and she simply said mommy I have been waiting for you. Law enforcement was very helpful and I couldn't be more grateful for all the help people were so willing to give. I was asked by law enforcement if I wanted to press charges and because of our conversation the day prior I decided against proceeding with charges. I wanted to thank your organization for the service you provide. Meri is doing amazing in her new school and has joined a summer basketball league. I know that she misses her dad and really wishes he would return to the states for a visit and I support her in her feelings and I am working hard to help facilitate the continued growth of a relationship between her and her dad. I just wanted to let you know we have a very happy ending.

4DAD411 – THE DAD CONNECTION

Since April 2012, Child Find has been providing help-line services to the National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse – and through that relationship has connected with 107 cases – mostly from dads (but some mom's and concerned relatives as well.) One recent call to 4DAD was from Malcolm who wanted to discuss how to go about setting up parenting time with his five-month-old daughter, Terra. Once connected with Child Find's Parent Help, Malcolm shared that he and the mom, Lila, were not dating for very long when they discovered that she was pregnant with her first child. The relationship did not last through the full pregnancy; they fought often and Lila moved out of the area to live with her mom prior to the birth. Apparently, Lila's father was an alcoholic and was uninvolved in her life, and Malcolm believed that her negative feelings about her own father made it difficult for her to trust him as a safe, loving father. Malcolm had extended family members excited at the prospect of spending time with Terra; however Lila's hesitancy for him to take Terra for overnight visits was impeded. The Parent Help caseworker discussed with Malcolm what his options were under the circumstances, and provided him with a Parenting Apart Packet to help inform and guide a thoughtful, workable parenting apart plan. He was able to discuss and explore what each option meant, from improved communication, Parent Help outreach, mediation and the courts, so that he might decide for himself the path he felt most comfortable with. Malcolm was also given additional information and referrals to resources in his area, and invited to reconnect with Parent Help at any time.



National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse
@fatherhoodgov

Dads and Moms... ...Living Apart?

We know that when dads and moms live apart, it can be hard to talk to each other about the kids, visitation disputes, parenting differences, money and child support issues. Small arguments become big battles. You end up arguing in front of the kids. Nothing ever changes. Nothing gets resolved.

1-877.4DAD411

and connect with
PARENTHelp
a partner of the National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse (NRFH)



FINANCIAL REPORT

STATEMENT OF AUDITED REVENUES & EXPENSES

Fiscal Year June 1, 2011 to May 31, 2012

Fiscal Year June 1, 2012 to May 31, 2013

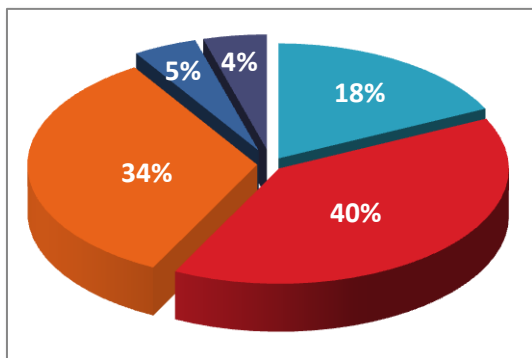
EIN: 22 232 3336

	2012	2013
	audited	audited
REVENUE		
Contributions	\$291,468	\$241,483
Federal Grant	\$70,470	
Interest & Dividends	\$12	\$14
Contracts	\$71,906	\$144,744
Unrealized Gain on Securities	\$0	\$0
TOTAL REVENUE, GAINS & OTHER SUPPORT	\$433,856	\$386,241
EXPENSES		
Program Services	\$413,812	\$338,275
Supporting Services	\$38,337	\$33,323
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$452,149	\$371,598
NET ASSETS		
Change in net assets	-\$18,293	\$14,703
Net Assets Beginning of Year	\$99,570	\$81,373
NET ASSETS END OF YEAR	\$81,373	\$96,076

EXPENSES DISTRIBUTION

Location	18%	.....	\$66,448
Parent Help/Mediation	40%	.....	\$147,066
Public Education	34%	.....	\$124,761
Management	5%	.....	\$16,734
Fundraising	4%	.....	\$16,589
	100%		\$371,598

OVER 90% REVENUE IS ALLOCATED TO PROGRAMMING



Location
PH/Mediation
Public Info
Management
Fundraising

CHILD FIND OF AMERICA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Vice President, IBM
LaGrangeville, NY

VICE PRESIDENT/TREASURER

Arthur H. Fimmel
Financial Consultant
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Brian G.
CASE MANAGER

Patricia T.
INTERPRETER

Juan A.
INTERN

Child Find of America, Inc. is exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code and is not a private foundation as defined in section 509(a). Contributions made to help sustain the programs and services of Child Find are fully tax deductible by donors, as defined by law.

Child Find of America's annual fiscal report, IRS Form 990 and Audit may be viewed online at:
www.childfindofamerica.org



A+ Charity Watch Rating
American Institute of Philanthropy



I'm facing major legal issues regarding custody of my daughter. My husband and I are separated now -he has been very abusive to me and my daughter and threatened to kill me. He's also filed papers keeping me and my daughter from being able to leave the state we live in and he is stalking us. I'm from the United States but he is originally from Europe and he and my daughter have dual citizenship. I'm really afraid he is going to abduct her out of the country. I'm very frightened and don't know what to do. The police said they can't help.

I just want to see my grandson again. When he was 12, his father - who is my son - got arrested for raping his step daughter. He was sentenced to life because then another girl came forward and said that he'd molested her too. Once he got arrested, my daughter-in-law cut off all contact with me. She has since got divorced from my son. The day of the arrest was the last time that I or spoke to her my grandson. That was about 3 years ago. I was hoping you could help me get the opportunity for my daughter-law to be able to work something out so I can see my grandson again.

My best friend has been trying to get her daughter back from her sister in Oregon for a month and a half. She was in prison and left her daughter with her dad in Oakland, her mom died several years ago. Her sister in Oregon took her without any while she was in prison and her dad is not giving her back. She has been trying to communicate with another family but not giving the girl back. She has been getting nowhere. She has a job now and is perfectly able to take care of her family. Her family will say the same thing as I have but we just don't know what to do. Can you help?

BRINGING MISSING CHILDREN HOME SINCE 1980

Shortly after Joseph and I met I became pregnant. We began living together about a year after that, shortly after the birth of our son. I soon became pregnant again gave birth to a daughter. The following spring, about 3 years into our relationship, Joseph asked me to marry him - but we never seemed to get around to it. We just kept living together as a couple and basically were viewed as husband and wife by everyone within the community including by employers and friends. We even referred to ourselves as such. Joseph and I separated when we moved out of the apartment we called home.

Joseph refused to pay bills, including the rent. We went to Iowa to start a new life there. However Joseph was unhappy, so we moved back to Kentucky after only a few weeks. Joseph assured me that if we came back to Kentucky, we'd be able to get back on our feet and find a way to make a home for ourselves. However upon returning Joseph took the kids in the house and told me I wasn't allowed to see them. He called the police who said that there was nothing they could do. Regardless of the fact that he isn't on either of their birth certificates he was still known as their father. The police said if I had anywhere to go and when he told them yes, they told him he had to let me see them. I brought me to my friend's house an hour away from where he and the kids are currently residing and we have not been together since. I have had very little contact with the kids. I call them and either no one answers or we are only able to talk for a few minutes and only once a day at pre-determined time. The kids have been yelled at for talking to me for too long. I am currently working with Legal Aid to obtain custody but would like any and all help/advice in obtaining custody of my children you can give.

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

E-mail: information@childfindofamerica.org

Website: www.childfindofamerica.org



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