

# Adoption Day Celebration 2015



**Saturday, November 14, 2015**

Fountain Plaza II  
700 Town Center Drive  
Newport News, VA 23606

# Welcome

<b>Welcome</b>	Venerria Thomas, Director <i>City of Newport News Dept. of Human Services</i>
<b>Proclamation Presentation</b>	Hon. Robert Coleman <i>Vice Mayor, City of Newport News</i>
<b>Invocation</b>	Miles Jordan, Pastor <i>Bridge of Life Christian Fellowship</i>
<b>Special Presentation</b>	“Adoption Wishes” Sheryl Smith, Sr. Adoption Family Services Specialist <i>City of Newport News Dept. of Human Services</i>
<b>Introduction of Speaker</b>	Dr. Rosanne Walters, Deputy Director <i>City of Newport News Dept. of Human Services</i>
<b>Keynote Speaker</b>	Traci B. Jones, MSW Adoption Program Manager <i>Virginia Department of Social Services</i>
<b>Special Performance</b>	“Nutcracker” Performed by Jada & Varry Shannon
<b>Testimonial</b>	“How adoption changed my life” Lisa Buie, Adoptive Parent
<b>Poem Recital</b>	Robnisha & Uniqua Ford
<b>Presentation to Families</b>	Rhonda Williams, Sr. Family Services Supervisor <i>City of Newport News Dept. of Human Services</i>
	Hon. Robert Coleman
<b>Special Presentation</b>	Diane Holland, Family Services Supervisor <i>City of Newport News Dept. of Human Services</i>
<b>Closing Remarks</b>	Venerria Thomas
<b>Blessing</b>	Miles Jordan

## Keynote Speaker



**Traci B. Jones, MSW**  
*Adoption Program Manager*  
*Virginia Department of Social Services*

Traci Brickhouse Jones has worked in child welfare for over fifteen years in various capacities with increasing responsibilities in both the public and private sector. She received her B. S. Degree in Psychology from Old Dominion University and her Master's Degree in Social Work from Norfolk State University. She is completing her Doctorate Degree in Social Work at Norfolk State University's Ethelyn R. Strong School of Social Work with an emphasis in adoption. She completed the LEAD Program at the University of Virginia's Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service and the Virginia Department of Social Services Leadership Academy in 2007. She has served as an adjunct professor in the Ethelyn R. Strong School of Social Work at Norfolk State University and serves on the Community Advisory Council for Virginia's Wesleyan's Department of Social Work.

Currently, Mrs. Jones is the Adoption Program Manager for the Virginia Department of Social Services. She retired from the Virginia Army National Guard in 2012 after twenty-three years of service. Mrs. Jones is the proud wife of LTC William "BJ" Jones of the United States Army.



## Special Thanks

### EVENT COMMITTEE

Newport News Department of Human Services  
Adoption Unit

### CONTRIBUTORS

City of Newport News  
Court Appointed Special Advocates  
Christi Napier, Photographer  
Christy Smith, Poem  
Anne Carr, Audio/Visual  
Howard Brittner, Entertainment  
Manhattan's Fifth Avenue Catering  
Farm Fresh Supermarkets