

## CASTLE NAMES CHRISTINE MONTGOMERY AS A 2008 DELAWARE "ANGEL IN ADOPTION" -- August 13, 2008

Wilmington, DE -- Delaware Congressman Mike Castle named Ms. Christine Montgomery a 2008 Angel in Adoption as part of an effort to raise awareness about adoption and honor unsung heroes in the field. The Angels in Adoption program, hosted by the Congressional Coalition on Adoption (CCIA), gives each member of Congress the opportunity to learn about and honor the admirable work of their constituents who have enriched the lives of foster children and orphans in their district.

Each Member of Congress can nominate one Angel of Adoption each year who facilitates, advocates, or furthers the cause of adoption -- be it a foster family, social worker, teacher, adoptee, nurse, judge, attorney, etc. Ms. Montgomery was selected by Rep. Castle as a 2008 Delaware Angel because of the tremendous work she has done to impact the Delaware community and the lives of children through adoption.

"Throughout her 18 years of service to the Delaware Children's Department, Christine has truly exemplified the Department's maxim: Think of the child first," said Rep. Castle. "Since 2004, she has helped facilitate the placement of more than 40 children, while also supporting hundreds more through the adoption process. Christine has made immeasurable contributions to the field of adoption and foster care, which is why I am proud to nominate her as a 2008 Angel in Adoption."

One of Ms. Montgomery's many responsibilities is that of a Recruitment Specialist for the New Castle County Permanency Unit. In this capacity, Ms. Montgomery seeks permanent, loving homes for Delaware children who have had trouble being placed. Ms. Montgomery tirelessly works to enrich and unite Delaware children, families, and the entire community. In her current role as a Family Services Assistant, while also serving on the board of the Wilmington Drama League, Ms. Montgomery initiated a program that introduces arts and theatre to children in foster care.

Earlier this year, Frank Perfiniski, a state adoption specialist for the Delaware Division of Services for Children Families and Youth (DSCYF), nominated Ms. Montgomery to be an Angel because of her hard work and commitment to finding homes for Delaware children.

"Christine is truly amazing in her commitment and interaction with the children in foster care who need a permanent family," said Mr. Perfiniski, nominator of Ms. Montgomery. "She continues to go beyond the call of duty in advocating for the services a child needs and has the utmost respect from her peers, and the foster and adoptive families she interacts with on a daily basis. Christine is a team player and this award is deserving of her hard work and commitment in finding permanent homes for the children in foster care with a goal of adoption."

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