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**Family Residences and Essential Enterprises, Inc. (FREE)**  
191 Bethpage-Sweet Hollow Road, Old Bethpage, NY 11804  
Phone: 516-870-1600 Fax: 516-870-1660

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 21, 2014**

**FROM:** Family Residences and Essential Enterprises, Inc. (FREE)  
191 Bethpage-Sweet Hollow Road, Old Bethpage, NY 11804

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***Family Residences And Essential Enterprises, Inc. (FREE) In Partnership With New York  
City Administration For Children's Services (ACS) And Long Island GLBT Network  
Welcome And Encourage All Affirming Prospective LGBT And Ally Parents To Consider  
Fostering***

Old Bethpage, NY (August 21, 2014) – On Wednesday, October 8 at 6:00 p.m., Family Residences And Essential Enterprises, Inc. (FREE), in partnership with the New York City Administration for Children's Services (ACS) and the LI GLBT Network, will be holding an LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender) foster parent recruitment event at their headquarters in Old Bethpage, NY.

LGBT affirming families are always being sought to provide welcoming homes to LGBT youth in care. Affirming families are those who will welcome LGBT youth into their home, treat them with dignity and respect and work to meet their unique needs. You do not need to identify as LGBT yourself to become an affirming family for an LGBT youth.

Registration for this event is necessary and the deadline is September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014. For additional information about this event please contact Development and Mission Advancement at (516) 870-1661 or [events@familyres.org](mailto:events@familyres.org).

If you are interested in being matched with an LGBT youth, please call the ACS Parent Recruitment Hotline at (212) 676-WISH (9474).

**When:**  
**6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**  
**Wednesday, October 8, 2014**

**Where:**  
**Family Residences and Essential Enterprises, Inc. (FREE)**  
**191 Bethpage Sweet Hollow Rd**  
**Old Bethpage, NY 11804**

More...

About Family Residences and Essential Enterprises, Inc. (FREE)

Family Residences and Essential Enterprises, Inc. (FREE) founded in 1977 and headquartered in Old Bethpage, benefits and proudly supports more than 3,500 individuals with intellectual disabilities, mental illness and traumatic brain injury. It is the mission of FREE to help individuals of all abilities realize their full potential. FREE provides a diverse array of supports and services including: housing, recovery services, transition to work, employment, day, community and family services, respite, crisis services, education and after-school support, primary and specialty health care and advocacy. For more information, please call 516-870-7000 or visit [www.familyres.org](http://www.familyres.org).

About Long Island GLBT Services Network

Long Island GLBT Services Network is an association of non-profits working to serve Long Island's GLBT community throughout the lifespan: Long Island Gay and Lesbian Youth (LIGALY), The Long Island GLBT Community Center (The Center), and Services and Advocacy for GLBT Elders – Long Island (SAGE-LI). LIGALY is the original organization of The Network as it was founded in 1993 and is nationally known for its work with GLBT youth in the areas of education, advocacy, youth leadership and development and support. The Center and SAGE-LI along with the Network was founded in 2005 to unite these non-profits to help more GLBT people across the lifespan and create a cost efficient way of serving the Long Island GLBT Community.

With shared administrative staff between all organizations, this structure eliminates duplication of administrative and executive staff thereby allowing each organization of The Network to share resources. This unique model reduces overhead costs and expenses and as a result more than 80 cents of every dollar raised are channeled directly into critical programs and services for Long Islanders of all ages and walks of life.

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