



TAKE *this* HEART

a film by KATHRYN HUNT

a production of KCTS TELEVISION



May, 1997

Dear Public Television Outreach and Promotions Directors:

One of public broadcasting's greatest strengths is its ability to shine a spotlight on urgent issues facing America's children and their families. KCTS Television is proud to present to the viewing public *Take This Heart*, a sensitive and dramatic documentary about a very special group of children in foster care.

Generous funding from The Casey Family Program and The Annie E. Casey Foundation made this film possible. We owe them a debt of gratitude for their unwavering dedication in making this film a reality. KCTS and the funders are partnering with public television stations to contribute to the creation of a more caring, accepting, and inclusive place for children in foster care.

Five key issues about foster care in America emerged from our experience in making this film:

1. What are the root causes for children coming into foster care?
2. What is the community's responsibility and role?
3. How do we value and support foster parents?
4. What do youth need to transition from foster care into productive adulthood?
5. What are you as an individual or organization willing to do to help children and adolescents in foster care to succeed?

These questions form the basis for the outreach opportunities described in this *Toolbox*. We were especially pleased that the original funders of the film — The Casey Family Program and The Annie E. Casey Foundation — provided additional grants to help fund the outreach. They have been joined by a major outreach grant from The David and Lucile Packard Foundation.

Public television outreach is a vital force in bringing the ideas behind any documentary closer to the public. KCTS Television is committed to outreach, and we believe strongly in developing collaborations with community-based organizations. To help accomplish this, *Take This Heart* has created an attractive menu of opportunities to involve local stations.

Local stations will be rewarded in many ways through their participation in the *Take This Heart* outreach campaign. Local station grants are available. A *Viewer Response Guide* will provide viewers of the film with insights into foster care and resources to follow-up. An informational videotape and *Discussion Guide* are available for presentations to local community groups. A web site will provide more information on the family profiled in the film, along with other background on foster care issues. We hope this extensive *Toolbox* presents you with many ideas and resources to design an outreach program especially suited to your community.

However you choose to participate, I encourage you to develop links within your community with those agencies serving children in foster care. Using your station's resources, you can make a difference in a child's life.

Best regards,

Burnie Clark

Burnill F. Clark
President and CEO
KCTS Television

TAKE

this

HEART