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**Governor Crist Names Marielle Gomez-Kaifer of  
Coral Gables as Point of Light for Adoption Awareness Month**

TALLAHASSEE — Governor Crist today recognized Marielle Gomez-Kaifer of Coral Gables as this week's Point of Light.

"Marielle touches many lives through her efforts to represent and protect children," said Governor Crist. "Thanks to her efforts and relentless advocacy, at least two medically challenged children were adopted and are now in safe, nurturing and loving families."

Marielle is a volunteer guardian with the Miami Guardian Ad Litem Program. She is an advocate on behalf of many children and believes it is important to nurture them as if they were her own. Through her efforts, she devotes her time, energy and resources to ensure that children with special needs find permanent homes. Also, she tirelessly works to promote the best interests of the children she represents and seeks quality care and services for them.

"Community is necessary for human happiness," said Sonia Ferrer, circuit director, City of Miami. "In volunteering and helping others, we derive as much – if not more – joy and satisfaction than the person we are helping. Marielle is a mother, a wife, an author, a photographer/artist, a research chemist and, last but not least, a Guardian Ad Litem volunteer extraordinaire."

CSX and AAA are supporting sponsors of the Governor's Points of Light Award. This program recognizes a Florida resident who demonstrates exemplary service to the community. Award recipients are announced weekly. A panel of judges comprised of leaders in the areas of volunteerism and service evaluate all nominations and make recommendations to the Governor. The Volunteer Florida Foundation manages the program. For more information, or to nominate, go to [www.VolunteerFloridaFoundation.org](http://www.VolunteerFloridaFoundation.org).

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