



KFCA Newsletter

www.kitsapfostercare.org

October 2006

KFCA CURRENT EVENTS

Harvest Party & Silent Auction **October 25, 2006 KFCA Dinner Meeting**

Adults and children wear your costumes, prizes will be awarded to the best costumes, so think up a good one now! 1st, 2nd, & 3rd prize will be awarded in each age group (0-12, 13-17, and 18-adult). Prizes are \$20, \$15, and \$10 gift cards. There will be candy bags for all, as well as games...a fishing pond, bean bag toss, cake walk and silent auction. KFCA will be providing dinner (free of charge to you!), cold cut sandwiches, chips, drinks, cookies. There will be no training this meeting. We are in need of donations for the silent auction! If you have questions, donations, or wish to help, contact Phyllis Bishop @ 360-275-5725

Also at the October dinner meeting, household fire extinguishers may be inspected free of charge. You may also have your fire extinguisher filled at the October dinner meeting. Prices are \$11 for a 2.5 lb. tank, \$15.50 for a 5 lb. Tank, or \$27.50 for a 10 lb. Tank. As of May 6, 2004, fire extinguishers in foster homes must be inspected annually...check the WAC with the web address below!

<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=388-148-0240>

If you have comments or suggestions for events or other KFCA related business please contact any Board Member. Additionally, if you have stories, kudos, or other information you would like to share with other foster parents, please contact Jennifer by the last day of any given month.

We need your input!

Foster Parent Day Out

November 18, 2006
1:00pm to 5:00pm

Christian Life Center Church
1780 Lincoln Ave.
Port Orchard, WA

Foster parents, treat yourself to an afternoon without the kids. **This is an opportunity for FREE childcare for YOU!**

KFCA will provide snacks and drinks for the children.

Children with sexual offending behavior will not be allowed to attend.

This event is open to current members of KFCA only. A minimum of 20 children must be present or event will be cancelled.

Register with Luanne Vail by 11/12/06 876-5207



Join Us Now!

Kitsap Foster Care Association membership is open to foster parents and others interested in foster care.

Make \$15 check payable to: KFCA, PO Box 4542, Bremerton, WA 98312

Thanks!

Name: _____

Address: _____

foster parent agency staff renewal?

Affiliation: _____

KITSAP FOSTER CARE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

• GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

- **Where:** Silverdale Community Center, 9729 Silverdale Way NW, Silverdale, WA 98383
- **When:** Fourth Wednesday of each month, Dinner 6pm, Guest Speaker and Discussion 7pm.
- Free child care available on site.
- Members pay \$4 for dinner (50% off) and receive a free raffle ticket to win great prizes (additional raffle tickets may be purchased in support of KFCA).

• BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

- **Where:** Changing locations, contact any board member for this month's location.
- **When:** First Tuesday of each month @ 5:30pm.
- KFCA Board Meetings are open, and all are welcome to attend. If you'd like to add an item to the agenda, please contact Rick Williams two days prior to the meeting.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rick Williams, *President*
president@kitsapfostercare.org

Jeff Bishop, *Vice President*
vicepres@kitsapfostercare.org

Sharon Williams, *Treasurer*
Phone 876-1994
treasurer@kitsapfostercare.org

John Vail, *Secretary/Membership/Community Awareness*
Phone 876-5207
secretary@kitsapfostercare.org

Luanne Vail, *Resources*
Phone 876-5207
resources@kitsapfostercare.org

Karen Randleman, *Dream Project*
Cell 731-9052 dreamproject@kitsapfostercare.org

Henry Castanares, *Historian*
Phone 692-0207
historian@kitsapfostercare.org

Diane Castanares, *Child Care*
Phone 692-0207
childcare@kitsapfostercare.org

Debra Converse, *Education/Training*
education@kitsapfostercare.org

Chuck Converse, *Webmaster/Com. Awareness*
webmaster@kitsapfostercare.org

Teresa Walton, *Foster Parent Liaison*
Cell (360) 990-9995
liaison@kitsapfostercare.org

Jennifer Martin, *Newsletter*
newsletter@kitsapfostercare.org

Phyllis Bishop, *Special Events Coordinator*
Phone 275-5725
events@kitsapfostercare.org



Upcoming Training

PRIDE Pre-Service Training

October 4, 2006 @ 5pm Orientation @ DCFS
 October 4, 5, 6, 12, & 13, 2006 @ 530-930pm
 Also, October 14, 2006 @ 9am to 445pm
 First Methodist, 1150 Marine Drive, Bremerton

(or)

October 23, 24, 25, & 26, 2006 @ 9am to 4pm
 Also, October 27, 2006 @ 9am to Noon
 Port Orchard, TBA

(or)

November 1, 2006 @ 5pm Orientation @ DCFS
 November 7, 8, 9, 14, & 15, 2006 @ 530-930pm
 Also, November 18, 2006 @ 9am to 445pm
 First Methodist, 1150 Marine Drive, Bremerton

(or)

December 6, 2006 @ 5pm Orientation @ DCFS
 December 4, 5, 6, & 7, 2006 @ 9am to 4pm
 Also, December 8, 2006 @ 9am to Noon
 First Methodist, 1150 Marine Drive, Bremerton

Engaging Families for Change

October 19 & 20, 2006
 6:00pm to 9:00pm

Christ the Rock Community Church
 4100 Old Clifton Road, Port Orchard

To register for the above, contact Hildegard Stone
 @ 475-3586 or 1-800-423-6246
 Email @ sthi300@dshs.wa.gov

First Aid/CPR Training for Foster Parents

The Resource Family Training Institute sponsors
 First Aid training free of charge to all currently
 licensed and perspective foster parents. For a
 complete schedule and registration please visit the
 website at:

<http://www.keepthebeatcpr.net>
 Or call (253)217-1105

Check out this web site:

<http://www.familieslikeours.org>

Grow and Go...Online Workshops for Foster Parents

<http://www.pierce.ctc.edu/distance/ofpe/>

DSHS Electronic Forms Link

<http://www1.dshs.wa.gov/msa/forms/eforms.html>

Dewanda Evans of Anointed Hands Hair Salon and supplies, specializes in ethnic hair care and has worked with foster families in the area. Her shop is located in Bremerton on 6th ave. and was recently featured in the Bremerton Sun Times. She is easy to talk with and had a full class for foster parents to come and learn to ask those difficult to ask questions regarding your foster child's hair and skin care. Thank you for requesting the class. If you really enjoyed it and want to have another, let Hildegard know. Show you appreciate the information by taking your child to get their hair done there for the upcoming school holiday dances. The Dream Project may help pay.

I AM STARTING BACK UP A
 SUPPORT GROUP FOR
 CAREGIVERS OF FASD KIDS. THE
 FIRST MEETING WILL BE ON
 THURSDAY 10-26-06 FROM 10AM TO
 12PM IN EITHER 309 OR 308. ANY
 FOSTER PARENTS, ADOPTIVE
 PARENTS OR KIN WHO ARE HAVING
 ISSUES WITH OR CONCERNS
 ABOUT THEIR FASD KIDS ARE
 WELCOME. THEY CAN CALL ME
 WITH QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS
 AT 475-3527.
 CHRISTINE NJOROGÉ



Kitsap County Resources...

- 1) **ABRAHAM'S HOUSE (405-0488)**
*free furniture, household goods, etc.
- 2) **DR. CHARLES BROWN (779-7115)**
*children's dental care with med coupon
- 3) **FIRST** (foster intervention prevention support team) 1-800-391-2273
- 4) **GALAXY LIMOUSINE INC. (874-2565)**
(1-800-874-2565)
*offers discounts to foster families
- 5) **KITSAP FOSTER CARE ASSOCIATION**
(475-3513 or 876-1994)
*free duffel bags for foster children
WWW.KITSAPFOSTERCARE.ORG
- 6) **MARY BRIDGE Center for Child Safety**
(360-662-1198)
*Free child safety seat checks, bicycle helmet sales & fitting, free loaner life jackets
- 7) **NK FOSTER PARENT SUPPORT GROUP**
(206-842-2362) or Sufisher@aol.com
*meets as needed, call for support
- 8) **NORTHWEST ENTERAL SUPPLY**
(1-888-885-2386)
*free pull-ups for foster children
- 9) **OLYMPIC PHARMACY & HEALTH CARE**
(1-253-858-9941)
*free delivery of diapers, medical supplies
- 10) **PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS (337-4738)**
*Youth Services Program
- 11) **SKILLS CENTER (478-5168)**
*free hair cuts for foster children
- 12) **Anointed Hands Hair Care (782-2409)**
*Dewanda Evans welcomes any/all questions re: African American hair care. Located on 6th Street in Bremer-ton.

Calendar of Events

October 2006:

- 1: Family Night @ SkateLand
- 3: KFCA Board Meeting
- 4: PRIDE Training Begins
- 19: Engaging Families
- 23: PRIDE Training Begins
- 25: KFCA Dinner Meeting
Harvest Party/Silent Auction
No Training during this meeting
- 26: FASD Support Group
- 31: Halloween

November 2006:

- 1: PRIDE Orientation
- 7: KFCA Board Meeting
- 7: PRIDE Training Begins
- 18: Foster Parent Day Out!
- 20: KFCA Dinner Meeting
- 23: Thanksgiving

December 2006:

- 4: PRIDE Training Begins
- 5: KFCA Board Meeting
- 6: PRIDE Orientation
- 9: Deadline to register kids for Holiday Party!
- 16: KFCA Annual Holiday Party
No Dinner Meeting this month
- 25: Christmas



KFCA Annual Holiday Party

Is quickly approaching!

Saturday, December 16, 2006 1-3:00pm

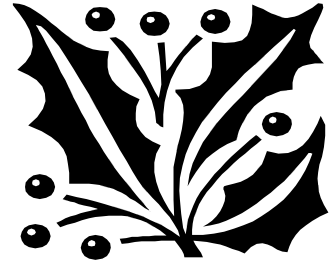
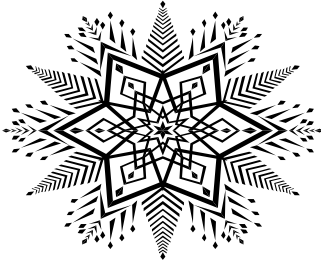
Silverdale Community Center

Now is the time for **licensed foster parents, relative, and kinship caregivers** to register the **children placed & living** in their home!

Call Luanne Vail @ 876-5207 to register...

(be prepared to give name, age, gender of child, and something they would like within a certain price range) Children must be present to receive gifts!

Last day to register children is December 9, 2006!!!



RESPIRE PROVIDER & CASE AIDE NEEDED

Respite provider needed for up to 2 weekends (4 nights) per month. Case Aide needed for up to 20-hours per week. Fees paid directly by private agency. Respite provider must have a current foster license, and be up-to-date on trainings/certifications. Case Aide should be at least 21 years of age, have required trainings and be comfortable working with behavioral challenges.

Foster parents are a same-sex male couple living in West Bremerton. We have been KFCA members for 3+ years. Our child is 11-years old, outgoing, athletic, generally well-behaved & good with younger kids. If interested, please contact: Van-John or George at 360-377-6178 or via e-mail: vanjohnsf@comcast.net.

About the Braam Oversight Panel

The Braam Oversight Panel was created in 2004 to oversee a settlement agreement regarding Washington State's foster care system. The settlement agreement was reached after a six-year period of litigation. The named plaintiff, Jessica Braam, is an adult who lived in 34 foster homes by the time the suit was filed in 1998.

The independent panel has responsibility, in collaboration with Washington's Department of Social and Health Services, and substantial input from plaintiffs, to develop outcomes, benchmarks and action steps as well as professional standards for the six areas identified in the settlement agreement. The six areas are:

- Stable placements
- Mental health services
- Foster parent training and support
- Unsafe or inappropriate placements
- Separation of siblings when placed in out-of-home care
- Services for adolescents

(For more information on the Braam Oversight Panel, go to www.braampanel.org)

The Price of Children

The government recently calculated the cost of raising a child from birth to 18 and came up with \$160,140 for a middle income family. Talk about sticker shock! That doesn't even touch college tuition.

But \$160,140 isn't so bad if you break it down. It translates into:

* \$8,896.66 a year, * \$741.38 a month, or * \$171.08 a week. * That's a mere \$24.24 a day!

* Just over a dollar an hour.

Still, you might think the best financial advice is don't have children if you want to be "rich." Actually, it is just the opposite. What do you get for your \$160,140?

* Naming rights. First, middle, and last!

* Glimpses of God every day.

* Giggles under the covers every night.

* More love than your heart can hold.

* Butterfly kisses and Velcro hugs.

* Endless wonder over rocks, ants, clouds, and warm cookies.

* A hand to hold, usually covered with jelly or chocolate.

* A partner for blowing bubbles, flying kites.

* Someone to laugh yourself silly with, no matter what the boss said or how your stocks performed that day.

For \$160,140, you never have to grow up. You get to:

* finger-paint,

* carve pumpkins,

* play hide-and-seek,

* catch lightning bugs, and

* never stop believing in Santa Claus.

You have an excuse to:

* keep reading the Adventures of Piglet and Pooh,

* watching Saturday morning cartoons,

* going to Disney movies, and

* wishing on stars.

* You get to frame rainbows, hearts, and flowers under refrigerator magnets and collect spray painted noodle wreaths for Christmas, hand prints set in clay or Mother's Day, and cards with backward letters for Father's Day.

For \$160,140, there is no greater bang for your buck. You get to be a hero just for:

* retrieving a Frisbee off the garage roof,

* taking the training wheels off a bike,

* removing a splinter,

* filling a wading pool,

* coaxing a wad of gum out of bangs, and coaching a baseball team that never wins but always gets treated to ice cream regardless.

You get a front row seat to history to witness the:

* first step, * first word, * first bra, * first date, and * first time behind the wheel.

You get to be immortal. You get another branch added to your family tree, and if you're lucky, a long list of limbs in your obituary called grandchildren and great grandchildren. You get an education in psychology, nursing, criminal justice, communications, and human sexuality that no college can match.

In the eyes of a child, you rank right up there under God. You have all the power to heal a boo-boo, scare away the monsters under the bed, patch a broken heart, police a slumber party, ground them forever, and love them without limits, So . . . one day they will, like you, love without counting the cost. That is quite a deal for the price!!!!!!

Love and enjoy your children and grandchildren!

From the President...

What to talk about.....hmmmmm. Those that know me doubt that this is ever a problem but there are times, like now. I just hate saying the same old (you thought I was going to say it, huh?) things but in our world, some things seem to never change. Our world is Social Workers (God love them), home inspections, CPS reports, trainings and more trainings and then even more trainings. Paper work forever! Kids! School, teacher's notes, broken "stuff", mysterious occurrences that no one knows anything about and all those things blamed on everyone else.

Plugged toilets, no toilet paper, napkins or just a swallow left in the milk carton. The missing cookies! Who ate the cookies? Not me! Why is the refrigerator door sticky?

Either the bathroom fan is not used when badly needed or is left on forever. The wet floor in front of the shower? No one did that either and we won't talk about the toilet seat! (boys!) Take out the trash? Naw! I can stuff more in it and then they have to take it out. Does this sound like home? You want to run away? Hey, you're a parent so enjoy!

THE Union? Are you talking about it? Trying to figure it all out but very uncertain.

Good because if you really want to know, then start asking and reading. Go to www.fpaws.com and start there. I asked your board how we should position ourselves and it was decided that we would remain neutral and encourage you to decide for yourselves because why would you do what I say? You have just as good an ability as I to decide what course to take. This question is very important and the whole nation is watching. One way or another, we will be making history. I urge you

to decide if you need a voice to represent you and what will that look like for you and your kids. This month will be our first Halloween Party or should I call it a costume party or both? We are putting a lot of effort into this and it will be a ton of fun. PLEASE come to the party and dress up because we will have money to give away to the winners! DOLLARS! CASH! Okay, so it's not the lottery but there are kid's games, a cake walk, and silent auction with cool stuff to buy! And there is more.

Read the newsletter for the rest of the details but just come and have FUN! We are preparing for the Holiday Party already so call Luanne Vail with the needed info on your kids. Please don't wait because this is a lot of work and all the last

minute stuff kills us! Call now! As always, I preach.....READ the newsletter and maybe even keep it around so when you need a bit of info, you don't need to call me because I don't know anything! I need to look it up in the newsletter too. If you want to be totally informed, check the website. Chuck has it all for easy viewing and

you just might know more than me! (Not hard to do) www.kitsapfostercare.org So, now that I have done my page, I am off the hook with Jennifer and she can get the newsletter printed and Chuck can put it on the web. As for you my friends, you have been informed and will continue to be.

I will see you at the party (unless you are invisible) It will be very good, I promise.

Rick

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Bremerton, WA 98312

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