



KFCA Newsletter

www.kitsapfostercare.org

February 2007

KFCA CURRENT EVENTS

Please join us at the KFCA Dinner Meeting...

On January 24, 2007, Priscilla Bailey from Eastside Tax and Accounting of Bremerton will be speaking with us. Her presentation is entitled *Taxes and Foster Care*. She will be informing us on the latest taxes/deductions related to foster care and adoption.

On February 28, 2007, Jeffery Weist MSW, LICSW from Center for Child and Family Therapy will join us. He will be speaking with us regarding *Techniques to Diffuse Power Struggles*.

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Beginning this month, the KFCA newsletter is only available on line at the above address. If you have comments or questions, please email Jennifer at jjmm1@wavecable.com

Membership fees are due January 1, 2007... Kitsap Foster Care Association Members...please remember that your annual membership fee is due in January 2007. If you paid your 2006 dues between October and December 2006, then your membership fee is current and your next fee is due January 1, 2008 and each January after that. Dues remain \$15. If you have questions about when your membership fees are due, please contact John Vail @ 876-5207. Thank you for your cooperation.

If you have information you would like to share with fellow foster parents, or thanks you would like to offer to someone who has gone above and beyond, please email Jennifer to add it to the newsletter!

Nominations for the positions of President and Treasurer are now open, through the month of March. For those interested, nominations can be made at any membership dinner meeting.

Nominations will close at the end of the March dinner meeting. Individuals who are nominated will be expected to speak at the April dinner meeting, and the membership will vote at the May dinner meeting. New appointments will take office at the June dinner meeting.

This is your opportunity to become involved and add your touch to the Kitsap Foster Care Association. Questions? Call any Board Member.



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: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-mail: _____

(for Newsletter)

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

Dream Project

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

January 31, February 1, 2, 8, 9, (5:30pm to 9:30pm)
& February 10, 2007 (9:00am to 4:45pm)

OR

March 5, 6, 7, 8, (9:00am to 4:00pm) &
March 9, 2007 (9:00am to noon)

OR

March 21, 22, 23, 29, 30, (5:30pm to 9:30pm) &
March 31, 2007 (9:00am to 4:45pm)

Parenting Sexually Aggressive Children & Youth

January 23 & 24, 2007

10:00am to 1:00pm

Parenting Physically Aggressive Children & Youth

February 15 & 16, 2007

10:00am to 1:00pm

Engaging Biological Families for Change

February 20, 2007

9:00am to 4:00pm

The above trainings are held at
Bremerton First Methodist Church
1150 Marine Drive; Bremerton, WA 98312
Contact Hildegard Stone to pre-register @
475-3586 or 1-800-423-6246

Autism & Aspergers Syndrome

Saturday, May 19, 2007

9:00am to 4:00pm

DCFS (CA) Building, Tahoma Room
1313 West Meeker Street, Kent, WA 98032

To register, contact Shelly Myers @
mysh300@dshs.wa.gov

Grow and Go...Online Workshops for Foster Parents

www.pierce.ctc.edu/distance/ofpe/

Check this website for fall 2007 updates!

Understanding Neglect for Foster Parents

Thursday, January 18, 2007

5:30pm to 8:00pm

The Paper Trail:

Documentation for Foster Parents

February 6, 2007

5:30pm to 7:30pm

The above trainings are located at
First Methodist Church
1150 Marine Drive; Bremerton, WA 98312
To pre-register, contact Hildegard Stone @
475-3586 or sthi300@dshs.wa.gov

Disruptive Behavior Disorders

Wednesday, January 17, 2006

9:00am to 4:00pm

2100 24th Avenue South, Seattle, WA 98144

To register, contact Shelly Myers @
mysh300@dhsd.wa.gov

Families with Russian & Ukrainian Adoptions National Conference 2007

Local and national experts will be presenting on
topics that apply to families who have adopted
domestically, as well as internationally.

April 26-28, 2007

Redmond, WA

www.frua.org

DSHS Electronic Forms Link

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

First Aid/CPR Training for Foster Parents

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

www.keepthebeatcpr.net

Or call (253)217-1105

Check out this web site:

www.familieslikeours.org



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) **KITSAP FOSTER CARE ASSOCIATION**
(475-3513 or 876-1994)
*free duffel bags for foster children
WWW.KITSAPFOSTERCARE.ORG
- 5) **MARY BRIDGE Center for Child Safety**
(360-662-1198)
*Free child safety seat checks, bicycle helmet sales & fitting, free loaner life jackets
- 6) **NK FOSTER PARENT SUPPORT GROUP**
(206-842-2362) or Sufisher@aol.com
*meets as needed, call for support
- 7) **NORTHWEST ENTERAL SUPPLY**
(1-888-885-2386)
*free pull-ups for foster children
- 8) **OLYMPIC PHARMACY & HEALTH CARE**
(1-253-858-9941)
*free delivery of diapers, medical supplies
- 9) **PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS (337-4738)**
*Youth Services Program
- 10) **SKILLS CENTER (478-5168)**
*free hair cuts for foster children
- 11) **Anointed Hands Hair Care (782-2409)**
*Dewanda Evans welcomes any/all questions re: African American hair care. Located on 6th Street in Bremer-ton.
- 12) **Christine Njoroge (475-3527)**
*For foster/relative care providers needing support for FASD children.

Calendar of Events

January 2007:

- 1: Happy New Year!
- 2: KFCA Board Meeting
- 3: PRIDE Preservice Begins
- 17: Disruptive Behavior Disorder
- 18: Understanding Neglect
- 23: Sexually Aggressive Youth
- 24: KFCA Dinner Meeting
- 31: PRIDE Preservice Begins

February 2007:

- 6: KFCA Board Meeting
- 6: The Paper Trail
- 14: Happy Valentines Day!
- 15: Physically Aggressive Youth
- 16: Care-giving for Children...
- 20: Engaging Biological Families
- 28: KFCA Dinner Meeting

March 2007:

- 5: PRIDE Preservice Begins
- 6: No KFCA Board Meeting
- 12: Care-giving for Children...
- 13: Culture and Self-Esteem
- 17: Happy St. Patrick's Day!
- 21: PRIDE Preservice Begins
- 28: KFCA Dinner Meeting
(Nominations close)

April 2007:

- 3: KFCA Board Meeting
- 25: KFCA Dinner Meeting
(Nominees will speak)
- 26: Families with Russian...

More Trainings...

Care-giving for Children with ADHD/ADD & Organically Related Mental Health Issues

February 16, 2007

Care-giving for Children with Extreme Behavioral & Other Mental Health Issues

March 12, 2007

Culture & Self Esteem

March 13, 2007

Multiple Placements – Impact on Children

April 9, 2007

Success Beyond Foster Care: Career, Job Search & Financial Management Skills

April 10, 2007

Working with Developmentally Disabled Children

May 4, 2007

All of these trainings are offered in Kitsap County through the Online Foster Parent Education Workshops, Grow & Go...Online Workshops for Foster Parents. In addition to online classes, land-based classes are being offered locally through this Pierce College Program at no cost to foster or relative care providers. Check the website for titles, times, and locations.

For logistics, call Geton Peters @ 360-782-1113
For Program questions, call Pierce College @ 1-877-353-6763 or distedu@pierce.ctc.edu



RESPITE 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.

Are you interested in becoming involved with the Kitsap Foster Care Association???

*Nominations for President and Treasurer are now open. (see page 1)

*We are in need of someone to fill the positions of Historian and Child Care as soon as possible.

*The positions of Fund Raising, Community Awareness, and Legislative/Advocacy are open and awaiting prospective leaders.

*If you have suggestions for dinner meeting training topics, please contact Debra Converse. (see page 2)

Dear interested parties,

After receiving great input from you, the Children's Administration has incorporated some of these recommendations into our proposed request legislation, Z-0240.2, relating to changing provisions affecting the placement of children.

Z-0240.2 will still amend RCW 74.15.020 to expand the definition of relative to include second cousins and relatives of any half-sibling of the child with whom the child could be placed without going through the foster care home licensing procedures.

Z-0240.2 will still amend RCW 13.34.130 to enable the court to authorize the Department of Social and Health Services to place the child with an individual who the Department deems is safe, suitable and appropriate and who is identified as safe, suitable and appropriate. The placement will have been identified as having a preexisting relationship with the child or family and with whom placement is in the child's best interests. We hope that the current language is clearer than the language included in the first draft.

Z-0240.2 will also move within RCW 13.34.130, to the section concerning placement options, the placement preference of the child with a relative. Thank you for all of your input on the first draft of this proposed legislation and we would appreciate your comments and input on the minor changes that were made in this second draft, Z-0240.2.

Christine Robinson, Co-Director
Practice Model Development
(206) 341-7310

THE ROSE

The first day of school our professor introduced himself and challenged us to get to know someone we didn't already know. I stood up to look around when a gentle hand touched my shoulder. I turned round to find a wrinkled, little old lady beaming up at me with a smile that lit up her entire being. She said, "Hi handsome. My name is Rose. I'm eighty-seven years old. Can I give you a hug?" I laughed and enthusiastically responded, "Of course you may!" and she gave me a giant squeeze. "Why are you in college at such a young, innocent age?" I asked. She jokingly replied, "I'm here to meet a rich husband, get married, and have a couple of kids..." "No seriously," I asked. I was curious what may have motivated her to be taking on this challenge at her age. "I always dreamed of having a college education and now I'm getting one!" she told me. After class we walked to the student union building and shared a chocolate milkshake. We became instant friends. Every day for the next three months we would leave class together and talk nonstop. I was always mesmerized listening to this "time machine" as she shared her wisdom and experience with me. Over the course of the year, Rose became a campus icon and she easily made friends wherever she went. She loved to dress up and she reveled in the attention bestowed upon her from the other students. She was living it up. At the end of the semester we invited Rose to speak at our football banquet. I'll never forget what she taught us. She was introduced and stepped up to the podium. As she began to deliver her prepared speech, she dropped her three by five cards on the floor. Frustrated and a little embarrassed she leaned into the microphone and simply said, "I'm sorry I'm so jittery. I gave up beer for Lent and this whiskey is killing me! I'll never get my speech back in order so let me just tell you what I know." As we laughed she cleared her throat and began, "We do not stop playing because we are old; we grow old because we stop playing. There are only four secrets to staying young, being happy, and achieving success. You have to laugh and find humor every day. You've got to have a dream. When you lose your dreams, you die. We have so many people walking around who are dead and don't even know it! There is a huge difference between growing older and growing up. If you are nineteen years old and lie in bed for one full year and don't do one productive thing, you will turn twenty years old. If I am eighty-seven years old and stay in bed for a year and never do anything I will turn eighty-eight. Anybody can grow older. That doesn't take any talent or ability. The idea is to grow up by always finding opportunity in change. Have no regrets. The elderly usually don't have regrets for what we did, but rather for things we did not do. The only people who fear death are those with regrets." She concluded her speech by courageously singing "The Rose." She challenged each of us to study the lyrics and live them out in our daily lives. At the year's end Rose finished the college degree she had begun all those years ago. One week after graduation Rose died peacefully in her sleep. Over two thousand college students attended her funeral in tribute to the wonderful woman who taught by example that it's never too late to be all you can possibly be. When you finish reading this, please send this peaceful word of advice to your friends and family, they'll really enjoy it! These words have been passed along in loving memory of ROSE. Remember, growing older is mandatory. Growing up is optional.