



KFCA Newsletter

www.kitsapfostercare.org

July 2007

KFCA CURRENT EVENTS

Please join us at the KFCA Dinner Meeting...

Maureen Bissell from Life Bridges Coaching
(www.lifebridgescoaching.com) will be joining us at the **July 25,**

2007 Dinner Meeting. She will present:

Conflict Resolution: Diffusing Arguments.

Please join us for these informative training sessions.

Share your experience as a foster parent...

Whaling Days is the weekend of July 27-29, 2007.

We are in need of individuals to volunteer a few hours at the Kitsap Foster Care Association booth at Whaling Days in Silverdale.

We have a booth both July 28 & 29. Contact Phyllis Bishop to sign up! Events@kitsapfostercare.org or 275-5725

2nd Annual "Tee it Up for Kids"

Registration is July 2, 2007!!!

Contact Nicole Edwards (475-3528) or

Damian Lonnee (475-3414)

Let's cheer on our team...

Chuck Converse and his team, representing and sponsored by KFCA will be golfing in "Tee it up for Kids" to raise money for The Dream Project.

If your foster children are in need of duffel bags to carry their belonging, please contact Debra@ 692-1927. Please don't send a child from your home or store their belongings in trash bags!

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!

2nd Annual

**"Tee it Up
for Kids"**

Golf

Tournament!

Where: Horseshoe Lake Golf Course, Port Orchard, WA.

When: Saturday, July 28, 2007

Check-in at 7:30am, Tee-off at 8:00am

Format: 4 person scramble, modified shotgun start, best ball

(beginners to advance players welcome)

Cost: Only \$70 per person – includes green fee, golf cart, barbecue, FUN!!

Don't miss out on the fabulous prizes! Proceeds raised by this tournament will turn dreams into reality for foster children in Kitsap County!



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

Debra Converse, *President*
president@kitsapfostercare.org

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

Chuck Converse, *Treasurer*
treasurer@kitsapfostercare.org

Erin Bowman, *Secretary/Membership*
secretary@kitsapfostercare.org

Sharon Williams, *Historian*
historian@kitsapfostercare.org

Lesa LeClair, *Child Care*
childcare@kitsapfostercare.org

Chuck Converse, *Webmaster*
webmaster@kitsapfostercare.org

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

Jennifer Martin, *Newsletter*
newsletter@kitsapfostercare.org

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

Laura Marshall, *Culinary Coordinator*
culinary@kitsapfostercare.org

Vacant, *Legislative*

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



Upcoming Training

PRIDE Pre-Service Training

July 10, 11, 12, (5:30-9:30pm), & 17, 18,
(5:30-9:30pm), & 21, 2007 (9:00-4:45pm)

OR

July 30, 31, & August 1 & 2 (9:00-4:00pm),
& August 3, 2007 (9:00-Noon)

OR

August 15, 16 (5:30-9:30pm), 18 (9:00-4:45pm),
22, 23, & 24, 2007 (5:30-9:30pm)

OR

October 3, 4 (5:30-9:30pm), 6 (9:00-4:45pm), 10,
11, & 12, 2007 (5:30-9:30pm)

Parenting the Child/Youth with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder

July 19 & 26, 2007
6:00pm to 9:00pm

Ansell-Casey Life Skills Assessment Program

July 24, 2007
6:00-9:00pm

Engaging Biological Families for Change

July 27, 2007 9:00-4:00pm
OR

November 1& 2, 2007 6:00-9:00pm

Sexually Aggressive Children & Youth

August 8 & 9, 2007
9:00am to noon

Physically Aggressive Children & Youth

August 28 & 29, 2007
9:00am to noon

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

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:

[Www.keepthebeatcpr.net](http://www.keepthebeatcpr.net)

Or call (253)217-1105

Grow and Go...Online Workshops for Foster Parents

[Www.pierce.ctc.edu/distance/ofpe/](http://www.pierce.ctc.edu/distance/ofpe/)

Check this website for fall 2007 updates!

DSHS Electronic Forms Link

[Http://www1.dshs.wa.gov/msa/forms/eforms.html](http://www1.dshs.wa.gov/msa/forms/eforms.html)

Check out this web site:

[Www.familieslikeours.org](http://www.familieslikeours.org)

KUDOS...

Kitsap Style Fashion Show &
Lucky Star Consignment
Clothing and Pinecone Gifts
for their hard work and the
money raised for the Dream
Project. Proceeds in the amount
of \$890.00 was donated to The
Dream Project! They are planning
on having another fashion show
next year to raise more funds for
the Dream Project.
Thank you so much for your
continued support!



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**
(360-692-1927)
*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

July 2007:

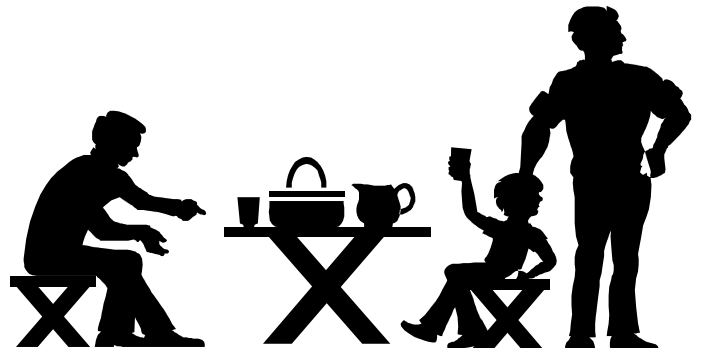
- 2: KFCFA Board Meeting
- 4: Fourth of July! Be Safe!
- 10: PRIDE Preservice Begins
- 19: Fetal Alcohol Spectrum...
- 24: Ansell-Casey Life Skills
- 25: KFCFA Dinner Meeting
- 27: Engaging Biological Families
- 28: Tee it up for Kids!
- 28: Whaling Days
- 30: PRIDE PreService Begins
- 31: **Deadline to register for Back to School Event**

August 2007:

- 7: KFCFA Board Meeting
- 8: Back to School Event
- 8: Sexually Aggressive Youth
- 15: PRIDE Preservice Begins
- 19: Annual KFCFA Picnic
No dinner meeting this month
- 28: Physically Aggressive...

September 2007:

- 3: Labor Day
- 4: KFCFA Board Meeting
- 26: KFCFA Dinner Meeting



Toddler Drownings Happen QUICKLY AND QUIETLY

With many private and public pools opening up by Memorial Day weekend, Safe Kids Kitsap County is strongly advising that homeowners and parents use layers of protection around the pool to prevent children from becoming a drowning victim. Each year, there are about 260 drowning deaths of children younger than 5 in swimming pools, and an estimated 2,725 children are treated in hospital emergency rooms for pool submersion injuries – mostly in residential pools.

Michele Jennings, Safe Kids Coordinator, says, “Parents may think that if their child falls in the water, they will hear lots of splashing and screaming, and that they will be able to come to the rescue. Many times, however, children slip under the water silently. Even people near the pool often report hearing nothing out of the ordinary. Many children have drowned in pools with adult supervision and/or a lifeguard present. People are unaware of what drowning looks like and that it can be silent.” Jennings also adds, “It isn’t uncommon for a child to drown when multiple adults are present. We tend to think – someone is watching the kids – when multiple adults are present adopt a policy where one adult is deemed the “Water Watcher” and when that adult needs to leave, they physically pass the duties onto another adult. Ensuring that before they leave another adult understands they have assumed the “Water Watcher” duties.” Safe Kids Kitsap County has “Water Watcher” tags available free of charge to help adults with physically passing along the duties of watching children in or around water.

It is important to always be prepared for an emergency by having rescue equipment and a phone near the pool. Also, all parents who own pools (even kiddie pools) should learn cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). Contact your local fire department about signing up for a CPR class.

There is also a growing danger with inflatable or portable pools, which range in size from small kiddie pools to pools up to 4-feet deep and 18-feet wide. Between 2004 and 2006, CPSC (Consumer Product Safety Commission) received 47 reports of deaths of children related to inflatable pools. Large inflatable pools are relatively inexpensive – large pools with water filters can cost under \$200. These pools are often purchased by consumers without considering the barriers, such as fencing and covers, necessary to protect young children.

In addition to barriers and **CONSTANT SUPERVISION**, Safe Kids offers these tips to help prevent drowning deaths:

- Since every second counts, always look for a missing child in the pool first. Precious time is often wasted looking for missing children anywhere but in the pool.
- Don’t leave toys and floats in the pool that can attract young children and cause them to fall in the water when they reach for the items.
- For above-ground and inflatable pools with ladders, remove or secure the ladder when the pool is not in use.
- Even if children can swim, it doesn’t make them drown-proof. Always supervise children using the pool.

KFCA Annual Back to School Event

August 8, 2007

11-1:00pm @ Evergreen Park

This event is open to all children in foster homes, in placement dependencies, and relative care placements. At this event each child enrolled in elementary, secondary, or high school will receive age appropriate school supplies. Each child must be pre-registered. This event is to help the families with some of the school supplies needed, this is not expected to be everything your child needs for school. We will have bags with crayons and color books for the preschool and younger children.

Deadline for registering children is July 31, 2007 (no exceptions).

Registration form available from DCFS Social Worker, at KFCA Dinner Meetings or www.kitsapfostercare.org.

Send completed registration form to your State Social worker or mail to KFCA P.O. Box 4542 Bremerton, WA 98312.

Questions call Debra Converse at (360)692-1927



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.

WEEKEND FOSTER HOMES NEEDED

Families are needed to provide care to foster children and teens for one or more weekends a month. Families receive a reimbursement to cover their expenses and sacrifice of time of \$50/day. Training and support provided by 24 hour on call support line.

We are currently looking for homes to care for all kinds of kids from younger children, to teens. We need both full time care homes and weekend care homes. You decide how you can participate in a child's life.

Join our team if you would like to explore another way to help children heal through treatment foster care. The process is easy.

**Call Kristine Clay Welch
Intensive Children's Services
Specialized Family Care
Kitsap Mental Health Services
at 360-479-4994**

New Child Restraint Laws...

The new laws related to child restraints go into effect 6/1/07. This impacts us and how we do business.

Some of the updates include:

- Children under 13 MUST ride in the back seat of the car where it is practical to do so
- Children up to their 8th birthday, unless they are four feet nine inches tall need to use the correct restraint system (car seat, booster seat, etc)
- Children 8 years of age or at least four feet nine inches tall who use a seat belt MUST wear it correctly (never under the arm or behind the back) or use a booster.

These are in addition to the existing requirements. Please be aware of this information not only as you transport children but as you have discussions with parents, relatives, and foster parents. For more information and the exact wording in the RCW, see the following website.

<http://www.800bucklup.org/parent/washingtons%20law.html>

KFCA Annual Summer Picnic

August 19, 2007

1:00-3:00pm

Evergreen Park, Bremerton, WA

This is a great opportunity to meet and socialize with other foster parents; let the kids play and have fun; and enjoy the sun! We will play games, BBQ, and of course there will be ice cream for ALL!

Please Join Us...

The purpose of the D.R.E.A.M. Project is to grand "dreams" to our children in foster and kinship care in Kitsap County. Each child is entitled to one request per year.

These requests come from the child themselves, and can be for items such as: Athletics, sports equipment, specialty classes and school memories (such as prom and graduation items). Dreams are granted for the actual cost of the item requested, not to exceed \$75.

The request form can be downloaded from

[Http://www.kitsapfostercare.org](http://www.kitsapfostercare.org)

After the form is completed, Mail to:

The Dream Committee @ KFCA

PO Box 4542

Bremerton, WA 98312

KFCA Newsletter
P.O. Box 4542
Bremerton, WA 98312

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