



KFCA Newsletter

www.kitsapfostercare.org

February 2008

KFCA CURRENT EVENTS

NOTE THE CHANGE!

The February 2008 KFCA Dinner Meeting and future monthly dinner meetings will be the 3rd Wednesday of the month through 2008

Menu: Spaghetti w/Marinara or Alfredo sauce
cream corn; garlic bread; salad bar
For dessert: CHEESE CAKE!

**The February speaker for this meeting is:
Linda Thomas from DCFS
The topic is: Update on the Happenings in the
Children's Administration**

**The Association will be accepting nominations for:
Vice President
Secretary**

YOU ARE INVITED!

Please join us for:

Family Skate Night!

February 24, 2008 5:00pm to 7:00pm

Let's all meet at Skate Land in Bremerton for a few
hours of skating, fun, and snacks!
(This event hosted by KFCA and CFSF)

**Just a reminder...Kitsap Foster Care Association Membership fees
were due in January 2008!**

Of course, we will still accept dues in February too!

If you see Jennifer, who so graciously agreed to step in and lend a hand with the newsletter (and ended up staying on the job for eight years !)

PLEASE shake her hand, pat her on the back and give her a

BIG THANK YOU! Thank her for her many years of service! She has done a terrific job and I must admit I am just a bit nervous to

follow in her talented footsteps. In advance, I will thank all you members and staff for being patient with me learning how to do the newsletter and to get it right,

Thank you,

Barbara Holbrook



KITSAP FOSTER CARE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

- **Where:** Silverdale Community Center, 9729 Silverdale Way NW, Silverdale, WA 98383
- **When:** Third 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:** Locations are subject to change, contact any board member for this month's location.
- **When:** First Monday of each month @ 6:00pm.
- KFCA Board Meetings are open, and all are welcome to attend. If you'd like to add an item to the agenda, please contact Debra Converse two days prior to the meeting.

(registration form on page 8)

Foster Parent Liaison Teresa Walton

is there to assist with your needs. Are you getting all your foster care needs met payments on time?

Do you know how to access resources in your community? Do you know how to get a hold of your social worker? Do you know how and when you can get mileage paid for? Call your Liaison Teresa Walton

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Debra Converse, *President*
president@kitsapfostercare.org

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

Chuck Converse, *Treasurer*
treasurer@kitsapfostercare.org

VACANT—*Secretary/Membership*
secretary@kitsapfostercare.org

Sharon Williams, *Historian*
historian@kitsapfostercare.org

Lesla LeClair, *Child Care*
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Chuck Converse, *Webmaster*
webmaster@kitsapfostercare.org

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

Barbara Holbrook, *Newsletter*
newsletter@kitsapfostercare.org

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

Laura Marshall, *Culinary Coord'*
culinary@kitsapfostercare.org

Mary Jones, *Legislative Liaison*
Phone 792-0249

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



Upcoming Training

Introduction to BRAIN GYM & Reflex Integration

February 1, 2008, 5:30pm to 9:30pm &
February 2, 2008, 10:00am to Noon

Engaging Families for Change

February 6, 2008
9:00am to 4:00pm

Eating Disorders

February 9, 2008
9:00am to 4:00pm

The Casey Life Skills Program

February 13, 2008
10:00am to 1:00pm

The above trainings will take place at
Bremerton First Methodist Church
1150 Marine Dr., Bremerton, WA

To register, contact Hildegard Stone
475-3499 or 800-423-6246
sth300@dshs.wa.gov.edu

Grow and Go...

Online Workshops for Foster Parents

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

Check this website for 2008 updates!

First Aid/CPR Training for Foster Parents

www.keepthebeatcpr.net
Or call (253)217-1105

LINKS TO RESOURCES/TOOLS AVAIL- ABLE TO FOSTER PARENTS & RELA- TIVE CAREGIVERS:

DSHS Electronic Forms Link

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

Check out these web sites:

www.familieslikeours.org

www.usfosterfamilies.com

www1.dshs.wa.gov/ca/fosterparents/

info@safekids.org

This site offers information on recalls related to child specific items as well as other kid related issues

info@adoptionreferralservice.com

ctboxnews@ku.edu

The Community Tool Box has a new look!

With over 7,000 pages of free material on essential skills for building healthy communities! We heard from users that the website has been very useful. Now, with feedback from many users, they have made the CTB even better





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** (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 (782-2409)**
Ethnic Hair Care
*Dewanda Evans welcomes any/all questions re: African American hair care. Located on 6th Street in Bremerton
- 12) **CHRISTINE NJOROGÉ (475-3527)**
*For foster/relative care providers needing support for FASD children
- 13) **Center for Children with Special Needs**
www.cshcn.org
- 14) **WWW.KIDSDIRECTORY.COM**
A great guide to services and events for Kitsap County Kids

Calendar of Events:

February 2008:

- 1 & 2: BRAIN GYM
- 4: KFCA Board Meeting
- 6: Engaging Families...
- 9: Eating Disorders
- 13: Casey Life Skills
- 14: Happy Valentines Day!
- 20: KFCA Dinner Meeting
- 24: Family Skate Night!

March 2008:

- 8: Understanding FASD
- More to be announced!

PRESERVICE TRAINING FOR FOSTER LICENSURE

March 2008 – Evenings & Saturday

- | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| 12 & 13 | Wednesday/Thursday | 5:30pm – 9:30pm |
| 15 th | Saturday | 9:00am – 4:45pm |
| 18—20 th | Tues/Wed/Thurs | 5:30pm – 9:30pm |

April 2008 – Days

- | | | |
|------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 7—10 | Monday—Thursday | 9:00am – 4:00pm |
| 11 | Friday | 9:00am – noon. |

April 2008 – Evenings & Saturday

- | | | |
|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| 23 & 24 | Wednesday/Thursday | 5:30pm – 9:30pm |
| 26 th | Saturday | 9:00am – 4:45pm |
| 29, 30th | Tues/Wed/Thurs | 5:30pm – 9:30pm |
| & 5/1 | | |

To Enroll, contact:

Hildegard Stone— 475-3586
Resource Family Training Institute
All Training @ Bremerton Methodist on Marine View Drive

Scholarship \$\$ for 7th & 8th graders who SIGN A pledge to graduate!

Coaching-to-College Middle School Program

As many of you may have heard, Washington State is now offering the College Bound Scholarship which covers the cost of college tuition, fees and books for low-income students who sign a pledge in 7th or 8th grade promising to graduate from high school (with at least a 2.0 GPA) and to demonstrate good citizenship. Students income eligibility will be checked again during their senior year to verify that they are still eligible. Students will still need to apply to and get into college (and fill out the FAFSA), but this scholarship assures them that they will not need to have finances be a stumbling block to attending. The website below does not yet have all of the details on it, but the application on it has been finalized and can be filled out to families. The HECB (Higher Education Coordinating Board) is doing a lot to market this to schools, etc., but the more people out there talking it up the better! Hard copies of the College Bound Scholarship materials will be available shortly—once they're finalized.

For more information visit the website:
<http://www.hecb.wa.gov/paying/waaidprgm/CollegeBoundScholarship.asp>

Treehouse

2100 - 24th Avenue South, #200
Seattle, WA 98144
Direct Phone: 206-267-5146
<http://www.treehouseforkids.org>

MONEY FOR COLLEGE! \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

Seniors Who Are Applying For Financial Aid:

- Website: www.fafsa.ed.gov get your pin #!
- If using a paper copy call 1-800-433-3243. You will need to request the 2008/9 financial aid form will be sent to your home address. It is no longer available at schools—takes 4-6 weeks!
- Males age 18 must register 4 selective service:

COLLEGE CORNER

Free Nursing Camp!

Multicare is offering a free 4-day camp to high schoolers who want to see if a medical career is of interest to them.

Date of the camp is July 29th to August 1st, 8am to 4:30pm

graduation ceremony Friday evening.

The application is at:

www.Multicare.org

In the search box, type Nursing Camp
Deadline is March 28th!

Governors' Scholarship & Make It Happen! applications are now available

Make it Happen! is an all expense paid summer program for Washington State foster youth interested in learning about college. You will experience college life by attending workshops, participating in fun activities, and living in the dorm for four days and three nights. All for FREE!

The **Governors' scholarship** is offered exclusively to foster or former foster youth. Up to \$5000 per year towards college

Interested? VISIT:

www.collegesuccessfoundation.org

Featured Scholarship websites:

WBFAA (Washington Burglar & Fire Alarm Association) Youth Scholarship smspokane@sisna.com or \$1,000 to \$10,000 www.washingtonbfaa.org

www.girlsgoingplaces.com—entrepreneurial girls 12—18

www.militaryscholar.com—Military careers

www.usbank.com/studentbanking—banking oriented

www.ans.org/honors/scholarships—nuclear engineering

www.independenceforyouth.wa.gov - a variety of opportunities for foster and former foster youth

Check This Out!!!

High -Wage Job Training

**A Program Of Metropolitan Development Council (MDC) & Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Youth Services
PRE APPRENTICE MASONRY AND PAINTING/TAPING SEMINARS**

Ready For Something New? Want To Make A Great Living? This Program Is For You!

MDC Will Conduct 2 Free (For Those Who Are Eligible) 4-Day 35-hour - 2 Separate Trainings

Pre-Apprenticeship Painting-Taping & Cement Masonry Trainings

Training Dates In: March Of 2008 call the number below for more information

Individuals May Choose One Training (Painting-Taping Or Cement Masonry)

Pre-Apprentice Painting-Taping Training

Trade Measurements, Painting Materials, Chemical Usage, Applications & Procedures Overview of Safety Standards-Practices, Taping, Mudding, Masking, Patching & Dry Wall Methods Union, 4-Year Apprenticeships, Tool-Equipment Identification & Usage Overview Of Painting-Taping Industry & Color Mixing-Matching Paints Hands-On Applications, Scaffold Erection & Man Lift Operations Painting Priming & Cutting In Methods

Pre-Apprentice Cement Masonry Training

Overview of Union, 4-Year Apprenticeships, Tool-Equipment Identification & Usage Overview of Cement Masonry Industry, Concrete Pouring & Finishing Methods Masonry Materials, Applications, Procedures, Trade Math & Measurements Concrete Patching, Repairing Methods & Hands-On Applications Slab-Form-Curb Construction, Safety Standards & Practices

Are You Eligible?

Have One Or More Barriers To Employment (Lack Of HS Diploma, Disability, ETC...)
Be A U.S. Citizen Or Non-Citizen Authorized By Immigration Services
Be Ages 17-21 (Out Of School Youth) Close To 18th Birthday
Be Low-Income, Defined By WIA Guidelines-Family Income
Need To Reside In Tacoma Or Pierce County

What Can This Training Do For Me? This Program Will Provide:

Resume, Interview Development & Short-Term Educational Programs
Job Readiness & Retention Training With Job Placement Assistance
HS Diploma/GED Certification
Union & Apprenticeship Entry
Employment Clothes & Tools
Transportation Assistance

Want To Know More? Take Charge Of Your Career & Learn A Trade!

**CONTACT: CYNTHIA NEUBAUER-LEE PHONE NUMBER:
(253) 284-9017**

ADDRESS: 2338 TACOMA AVENUE SOUTH TACOMA, WA 98402

Notice of Regional Quarterly
and State Wide

Foster Parent Consultation Meetings

Recently, you received a letter about the implementation of new legislation requiring Children's Administration to consult with foster parents. The goal of the legislation is to ensure foster parents participate directly or through a representative selected by foster parents, and have a meaningful opportunity to offer input at each stage of ongoing work regarding:

- Recruitment of foster homes.
- Retention of foster homes
- Effective training for foster parents
- Development of coordinated and comprehensive plans that strengthen services for the protection of children

The Quarterly Region 5
Consultation Meetings

February 25 – 10:00AM to Noon
Tacoma DCFS Office
Centennial I Bldg, Room # 348
1949 South State Street
Tacoma, WA 98405

March 17—10:00AM to Noon
Bremerton DCFS
Room to be announced
3423 6th St.
Bremerton, WA 98312

You are invited to bring your issues in person or be represented by Debra Converse, the Kitsap Foster Care Association President (360) 692-1927; by Teresa Walton, Foster Parent Liaison (360) 990-9995; Donna or Shannon at the Placement Desk (360) 475-3535, or your licensor.

Questions?

Contact Cherrie Druffel at (253) 983-6235.

CAN WE TALK?

Are you a foster/kinship care provider interested in receiving support from & networking with other foster parents our community OR interested in offering support to local foster parents??

**Kitsap Foster Care
Association Membership
is open to all foster/kinship
care providers, as well as
others interested in youth and
foster care!**

Annual dues of \$15, entitle you to a monthly dinner/training meeting; Annual events, such as:

The Back to School Event & Holiday Party as well as the monthly newsletters; other fun activities supportive of foster families, ample opportunity to network with and provide/receive support while parenting local children in need!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Cell: _____

Are You: (check all that apply)

Foster Parent

Kinship Provider

Other: _____

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

2008 LEGISLATIVE SESSION— By far & wide, paring down all the really useful information available about what is happening in the legislature that directly impacts kinship and foster care givers was a tough job. The following is just snap-shot of what is being proposed and discussed. Please, take the time to get involved and to visit the website listed to below to see more and to get a better understanding of what is going on in Olympia! Sorry it had to be such a small font—hope you have magnifying glass or really strong glasses!

ACTION OF THE WEEK!!

Contact your legislators and ask that they support key items related to improving the well being of foster children and youth,
HB2679, AN ACT Relating to improving educational outcomes for students in foster care. Sponsored by Rep. Roberts, HB2679 establishes a foster care program supervisor within the Puget Sound Educational Service District

Status: HB2679 was referred to the House Education Committee and is scheduled for a hearing on Jan. 25th at 1:30.

Position/Action needed: Support. Attend the hearing! Contact your Rep if on the Education Committee and ask that he/she support the bill.

SB6454, AN ACT Relating to improving educational outcomes for students in foster care. Sponsored by Sen. Tom, SB6454 is a companion (same as) to HB2679.

Status: SB6454 was referred to the Senate Education Committee and is scheduled for a hearing on Jan. 23rd, 8:00.

Position/Action needed: Support. Attend the hearing! Contact your Senator if on the Education Committee and ask that he/she support the bill.

Position/Action needed: Support. Attend the hearing.... Contact your Senator if on the Education Committee and ask for his/her support.

HB2760, AN ACT Relating to children's rights and participation in dependency and termination proceedings. Sponsored by Reps.

Dickerson, HB2760 states that a child who is age eight years or older and who is the subject of a dependency under this chapter has the right to receive notice of the proceedings and hearings, the right to be present at hearings, and the right to be heard personally, and at the request of the child, the guardian ad litem, or attorney, or upon the court's own motion, the court may permit counsel to be present at the interview.

HB2821, AN ACT Relating to reinstatement of parental rights hearing procedures. Sponsored by Reps. Kagi, HB2821 changes the standard which is used in reinstatement of parental rights proceedings from "it appears that the best interests of the child may be served by reinstatement of parental rights" to "the court finds by a preponderance of the evidence".

HB2834, AN ACT Relating to modify a foster parent license due to a change of residence. Sponsored by Reps. Roberts, HB2834 states that each agency shall make application for a license or renewal of license to the department of social and health services on forms prescribed by the department. Licenses must notify their licensor before a new location and may request a continuation of the license at the new location.

SB6435, AN ACT Relating to modifying a foster parent license due to a change of residence. Sponsored by Sen. Franklin, SB6435 is a companion bill (same as) HB2834.

HB2846, AN ACT Relation to voluntary out-of-home placement agreements to provide residential treatment for adoptive children in crisis. Sponsored by Rep. Kagi,

HB2846 authorizes limited voluntary placement agreements for the purpose of responding to severe mental and behavioral health needs of children adopted from the foster care system. These limited voluntary placement agreements are intended to be initiated only when the sole reason for the out-of-home placement is the adoptive child's mental or behavioral health needs and when the child's mental or behavioral health needs and when the child's behavioral difficulties exceed the parent's ability to effectively and safely manage the child.

SB6479, AN ACT Relating to screening and treating children with attachment disorders. Sponsored by Sen. Zarelli, SB6479 creates a single county pilot project that will deliver a comprehensive and integrated approach to the assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of reactive attachment disorder. **Status:** SB6479 was referred to the Human Service and Corrections Committee but has not been scheduled for a hearing.

SJM8025, Senate Joint Memorial 8025. Sponsored by Sens. Stevens, SJM 8025 requests that the United States Congress act quickly to reform the current federal financial structure for foster care to allow states the flexibility to use more of their federal financing for other effective child welfare services besides foster care maintenance; and to provide federal foster care funding for all children who are victims of neglect or abuse, regardless of income.

HB2900, AN ACT Relating to early intervention services for children with disabilities. Sponsored by Rep. Dickerson, HB2900 directs DSHS, in coordination with other funding sources for early intervention services, to contract with each county through the employment and day program to provide funding for early intervention services to all eligible children with disabilities from birth to 3 years of age who have been identified as needing services. The bill also adds infant toddler early intervention program to the definition of caseload.

HB2597, AN ACT Relating to creating a kindergarten readiness assessment. Sponsored by Rep. Sullivan, HB2597 requires the department of early learning and the office of the superintendent of public instruction to develop a kindergarten readiness assessment for use by all public elementary schools.

SB6448, AN ACT Relating to intensive behavior support services for children with developmental disabilities. Sponsored by Sen. Marr, SB6448 directs DSHS to create services intended to develop skills and supports designed for the child, family members, and others involved in the child's life to avoid disruption to the family and reduce the need for out of home placement. The services are intended to be locally based and offered as early as possible to avoid family disruption and out of home placement.

HB2863, AN ACT Relating to intensive behavior support services for children with developmental disabilities. Sponsored by Rep. Kagi, HB2863 is very similar to SB6448;

SB6536, AN ACT Relating to best practices for students at risk. Sponsored by Sen. McAuliffe, SB6536 directs every Educational Service District (ESD) board to implement best practices for students at risk to identify, intervene, and seek support for students showing emotional, social, or academic risk.

Information about bills and their progress can be obtained @ www1.leg.wa.gov

From the President...

Hello all,

January sure flew by in a blink of an eye. A quick reminder to start off with: The member dinner meeting schedule change. We will be starting to meet on the THIRD Wednesday of each month starting this month for our membership dinner meetings. The location and time remain the same (Silverdale Community Center at 6 PM). As the start of the year brought several changes, we have some additional ones to tell you about. Erin Bowman resigned from the position of KFCA Secretary due to location of job responsibilities out of the area. She was doing a great job and will be missed. I have appointed Jenny Brusco to KFCA Secretary for the remainder of this term with the approval of the Board. Welcome on board, Jenny! And speaking of Executive board positions, both the Vice President and Secretary's 2 year terms are up for reelection. Nominations have started for the May elections at our Annual business meeting. Your KFCA Board needs you! if you or someone you know would like to be nominated for one of these spots, please let one of the current Board members know.

If you were unable to attend the bowling party, you missed out on a good time. About 40 people showed up to attend the bowling party on Jan 13. We had "kids" of all ages (toddler thru adult) and skill levels trying their luck at striking out. Thank goodness for the bumpers which helped many a score! Thank you CFSF for providing the pizza, soda, and candy bags for us to enjoy.

It's time to mark your calendar for Feb 24th. On Sunday, February 24th, 2008 from 5-7 P.M. we are co-sponsoring (a.k.a. we pay, you come and join in the fun) a Skating and Pizza party at Skateland in Bremerton with CFSF. We hope to see you there!

Several other events and activities are in the works. We are currently working on along with some other agencies to put on another foster parent night out (date night) and are planning other events such as our annual trek to Seattle for a Mariner's game. We are excited about all the upcoming activities and events being planned. We will have more information in the coming months. Please watch for updates and hope to see you at these events.

Oh, and one last reminder, if you haven't paid your annual membership dues in January, please do ASAP. You can mail them to KFCA at P.O. Box 4542, Bremerton, WA, 98312 or pay them at the next activity you attend. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Debra Converse, KFCA President
President@kitsapfostercare.org

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

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