



YOU DID IT!

The February KFCA Dinner Meeting was well attended! It appears most folks made the change to the 3rd Wednesday. Dinner meetings will be continue to be the 3rd Wednesday of the month through 2008

MARCH DINNER MEETING IS THE 19TH

MENU: DINNER FOR BREAKFAST - Scrambled eggs; ham; bacon; sausage; biscuits and gravy and cinnamon rolls!

Guest Speaker:

Barbara Saur of RESPECT

Topic:

"Teen Dating Violence:
What you need to know"
This is a must attend training for parents of teens and for teens!

SAVE THE DATE!

The annual KFCA outing to see the Seattle Mariners is May 30th!
Call Luann Vail (360) 876-5207
to reserve your space now!

KFCA NEWSLETTER

Kitsapfostercare.org

March 2008

Have your voice heard & listen to what is happening @ the Children's Administration

Per HB1624

Foster parents, we have long been concerned over the lack of input we have into the state of foster care. This is OUR chance, let your voice be heard! OK, maybe you have to do so through your representative—our president, Deb Converse but your concerns will be voiced and HEARD!

Put the following dates and locations of the meetings on your calendar. Foster parents, have YOUR voice heard!

Region 5 Meeting

Quarterly Regional April 21, 2008
Tacoma Office 1949 South State St
Room 348 10:00 AM to noon.

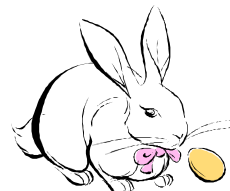
Statewide Meeting

April 23, 2008 Casey Field Office
1123 23rd Ave Seattle, WA 98122 (206)
322-6711 1:00 to 4:00

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU
TO:

CRYSTAL & FELICITY

**For your hard work in obtaining a huge gift
of clothing donations for foster youth!**



Great Things are Happening!

16TH ANNUAL

CHILDREN'S JUSTICE CONFERENCE

Monday /Tuesday **April 21 -22,**

Washington State
Convention & Trade Ctr. Seattle.
An assembly of multi-disciplinary
professionals committed to keeping
children safe from abuse & neglect.
Sponsored by the Washington State
Dept of Social and Health
Services—Children's Administration.
Registration information and inquiries at
<http://www.dshscjc.com>.

PLAYGROUNDS ON THE ICE

@ the BREMERTON ICE

SKATING CENTER

Wednesday, **January 2 -June 25,**
Noon -1:00PM/Adults Only, 1:00 - 5:00
PM. Free Skate Wednesdays! Pick up
a free skating pass at the Bremerton
Parks & Recreation office and present
the pass at the door of the Bremerton
Ice Skating Center located in East Park
and skate for FREE on Wednesdays.
Free admission with your pass.
Discounted skate rental: \$2.50.
Bremerton Ice Skating Arena is located
at 1950 Homer Jones Drive, Bremerton.
For more information, contact BIA at
360-479-RINK.

If you haven't yet expressed your opinion
on the choice of the new **recruiting logo**
now is the time!

Please type the link below into your web
browser and vote on your favorite recruit-
ing logo![http://www.zoomerang.com/
recipient/survey.zgi?p=WEB227E24ZRG6J](http://www.zoomerang.com/recipient/survey.zgi?p=WEB227E24ZRG6J)



GEMS + YOU = FUN! **Girls Exploring Math & Science!**

A great way to spend the day on
the Olympic College Campus
checking out careers that use math
and science! For more info con-
tact: britm@Yahoo.com or
call: (360) 396-4803



TEEN LEADERSHIP

March 31 - April 4, (Monday - Friday)
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM, ages 12-16,
Teens earn up to 40 volunteer hours
while helping with Action Camp. Teens
will also participate in performing and
visual arts activities as well as the
Friday performance. They will meet
local artists and tour downtown
galleries. There will be some extra fun
cooking, swimming, ice skating, and
more. Teens will receive a volunteer
certification on the last day. Registration
begins January 2nd. Cost: \$54/\$49*.



APRIL POOL'S DAY

Saturday, **April 2**. Free Safety Stations/1:30 - 2:30 PM, Free Public Swim/2:30 - 3:30 PM. The Jarstad Aquatic Center is pleased to continue it's participation in this one day statewide event to promote water safety education. Learn how to properly fit and put on a lifejacket and improve your water safety skills. Children under 6 must be accompanied into the water by an adult. Contact the Jarstad Aquatic Center at 360-473-5376 for more information. This event is free to the public!

EMPLOYMENT!

Drivers

There are currently openings at the Foster Care Resource Network to provide visitation transportation evenings and weekends. The ideal candidate will be at least 21 years old, have a valid driver's license; insurance; current CPR/First aid certification and at least 4 references.

Interested? Please call Lyn (253) 473-9252 for an application!

R & R Coordinator

(No, not Rest and Relaxation!)

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

COORDINATOR NEEDED FOR PIERCE AND KITSAP COUNTIES

Candidate will be available both days and weekends to attend meetings and provided needed support and guidance—flexible!

About 30 hours per week \$1800-\$2200

Please call Charlene Morrow (253) 82-5832

LINKS TO RESOURCES/TOOLS AVAILABLE TO FOSTER PARENTS & RELATIVE CAREGIVERS:

Mileage reimbursement is now **.505!**
To access the new form insert the link below into your web browser

DSHS Electronic Forms Link

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

Check out these helpful 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

ARE YOU CURIOUS WHAT IS 'NORMAL' SEXUAL DEVELOPMENT IN KIDS?

Type the link below into your web browser to access a very informative newsletter titled:

FAMILIES ARE TALKING

http://www.siecus.org/pubs/families/FAT_Newsletter_V3N4.pdf

It is full of useful information about what kids of different ages are experiencing and helpful tips to answer their questions.



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.KIDS DIRECTORY.COM**
A great guide to services and events for Kitsap County Kids

Training Opportunities:

March 2008:

8: Understanding FASD

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 & 5/1	Tues/Wed/Thurs	5:30pm – 9:30pm

To Enroll, contact:

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

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
Sthi300@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

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

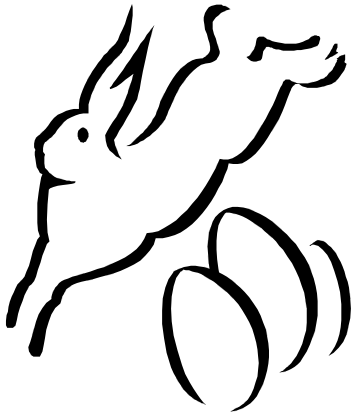
Other: _____

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

We don't get enough good news in our business. Here is a great example of the good things that can happen for youth in foster care. -

Rachel Brown is the current social worker and I'm sure has done a lot to support this young man. Thanks, Rachel, for your efforts to help this young man succeed. Thanks also goes to everyone in DCFS and DLR who touched this young man's life from the initial responding CPS worker through the foster home licenser and all of the other staff who may have assisted in some way. His foster parents and the Independent Living Skills program at Pierce County Alliance also clearly had a huge impact on him. Nancy Sutton

John Seals won the 2008 Youth of the Year award from the Boys and Girls Club of South Puget Sound. John had already won Youth of the Year honors at the D.A. Gonyea Club for 2006 and 2007 and was competing for the 2008 Youth of the Year for the entire Puget Sound region. He competed against six other Youth of the Year candidates from Boys and Girls Clubs all around the Puget Sound and had to give a speech that addressed his work in such areas as: moral character, home life, community involvement, and many others. This was no small task. John worked on his application for months and gave his speech in front of about 200 people made up of community members, Boys and Girls Club staff, business members, Boys and Girls Club board members and directors, schools personnel, and even Lt. Governor Brad Owen was in the audience! After a heart felt competition with many great speeches and touching moments, John was announced the winner!



SOUTH KITSAP COMMUNITY PARK'S 2008

EASTER EGG HUNT IN THE PARK

SATURDAY, MARCH 22, NOON

Signups open at 11 AM

Be a bunny and be a helper, or just come with the kids and enjoy the festivities!

The 2008 Plan

I. Sponsors and volunteers: Groups; Jobs & Contacts

Fathoms O' Fun Festival Assn (Lead Group): *Jessie Turner (871-5740), Dana Soyat (895-8489)*

Egg stuffing will be at Dana Soyat's, 4485 SE Firmont, the week prior to the event. Fathoms coordinates the project, reminding volunteers for egg stuffing, assembling necessary supplies, receiving stuffed animal donations, and coordinating set up on hunt day. The Fathoms O' Fun Royalty will greet the children on hunt day.

South Kitsap Community Park Kitsap County now controls park activities. We will need their approval to hold this event, the rest rooms opened, and advice as to whether the playground field will be ready for use.

The activity will need the full playground, all playground picnic areas, and the picnic area restrooms through 2 pm on hunt day.

Soroptimist International of Port Orchard: Contributes candy and/or \$, stuffed animals. Volunteers will stuff eggs, and work sign-in tables on hunt day. **Jessie Turner** will handle paperwork coordination duties, provides forms. Will do news releases.

Port Orchard Eagles: Lends the Bunny Suit; has contributions for candy, and volunteered to control traffic and parking. Karin Von Marbod, will coordinate with Eagles to obtain the Bunny suit, and invite them to participate in any other way they wish to help, particularly on Hunt Day.

South Kitsap Kiwanis: Karin Von Marbod 874-8565 Karin coordinates her club and will be the Easter Bunny! Works with Kiwanis for animal donations, and volunteers for the hunt.

Kitsap Live Steamers: Barbara Lanchester 895-4142 KLS provides train rides for the children that day. They will run the trains approximately 10 am to 2 pm. This is a special service for the event – regular runs do not start until later in April!

Kitsap Live Steamers provides Children's Train Rides 10 AM - 2 PM

Buck's A & W Family Restaurant: Jud Turner will contact them and have the master copy for the "free root beer" coupon to be placed in every egg, along with the candy.



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

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.

Board of Directors:

KFCA is now accepting nominations for Vice President and Secretary

Debra Converse, *President*
president@kitsapfostercare.org

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

Chuck Converse, *Treasurer*
treasurer@kitsapfostercare.org

Jenny Brusco, *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

Barbara Holbrook, *Newsletter*
newsletter@kitsapfostercare.org

Phyllis Bishop, *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



CAMP TO BELONG: Children's Administration Pre-Application Form

Camp To Belong, a nationally recognized five day camp, reunites brothers and sisters ages 8-18+ separated because they are not living with their biological families. Children's Administration Headquarters will support 45 campers between the ages of 8 and 18+, living separately from a sibling or siblings in out of home care (i.e. foster care, guardianship, adoption, etc) and at one point a part of the public child welfare system.

The northwest camp will be held in 2008 from June 16-21 on Lake Couer d'Alene in Idaho. Children and youth have had great experiences at this camp and it is a wonderful chance for brothers and sisters to spend time together in a summer camp setting.

Since we expect more than 45 siblings will want to attend, a committee including social workers, foster parents and others will review applications and select siblings to attend camp. We will especially be prioritizing children who have the most infrequent contact with their siblings, but all those who apply will be considered.

Tell us about the kids in your care, and how they will benefit from the experience. Please provide the requested information for each child you want to attend camp. If your children are chosen, there will be additional paperwork involved in making this happen, but it is worth it! The kids will have a great time!

Please fill in the information requested and submit it via:

Email to: Bob Partlow pbob300@dshs.wa.gov

OR

Mail to: Bob Partlow, Recruitment and Retention Program Manager
DSHS Children's Administration
Olympia, WA 98504 Mail Stop 45710
Washington Street S.E.

OR

Give the completed application to your social worker to forward to Bob Partlow

The pre-application deadline is March 14, 2008

You will be notified by April 15 whether your child has been selected.

Thank you for filling out this form and thank you for all you do for children -

Name Of Camper#1: _____

Person Completing Registration Form: _____

Relationship To Child: _____

Phone Number: _____ E-Mail: _____

CAMPER INFORMATION

Camper Is In: Foster Care ___ Adopted ___ Kinship Care ___ With birth parents ___

Birth Date _____ Age at camp: ___ Gender ___ Ethnic background _____

Current Address (Street, City State, Zip Code) : _____

Day Phone _____ Evening Phone _____ Cell _____

CAMPER'S CASEWORKER

Name _____

Daytime Phone _____ E-Mail Address: _____

Is the camper affiliated with a private agency? Yes ___ No ___

If yes, which one _____

Please note—this program is designed for sibling groups but due to space limitations the entire application cannot be reproduced here.

Hello All,

What a delight these early warm days are after such a cold winter. The anticipation of warmer days with the increased bustle of activities is greatly looked forward to as spring and summer arrive. With the changes in season KFCA has several activities planned so mark your calendar. In May, Foster Parent Appreciation Month we will be having a Foster Parent Date Night (Sat. May 10th) and annual Foster Parent Appreciation Dinner/KFCA business meeting at our monthly dinner meeting (Wed. May 21st). More information regarding these events will be available soon. Also, on May 30th we will have our annual trek to Seattle for a Mariner's game. Sign up now for tickets with Luanne Vail or Sharon Williams to save your spot.

On the business side of KFCA, we have two Executive board positions up for reelection. We are currently accepting nominations for Vice President and Secretary. If you (or someone you know) are interested in or would like to be nominated for one of these positions, please let one of the current Board members know.

I would like to express heartfelt appreciation for all the effort and hard work that went into the clothing drive spearheaded by two Bremerton High School Seniors, Krystal Membrere and Felicity Jaramillo as their community service project thru SkillsUSA. They set up a month long clothing drive, worked with community businesses as collection sites, organized and then distributed clothing, shoes and hygiene products they collected. They did this all to help support KFCA/Kitsap County foster children and foster families. The items were distributed at the KFCA February Dinner Meeting. Way to go! It's so great to see youth giving back to the community in which they live. Thank you, for a job well done.

On that note, I will say that if you missed the February monthly meeting, you missed out. Not only did we have the clothing drive items to give away, we had 2 complete X Box Systems with multiple games donated that were raffled off in a special raffle. We also had a very informative presentation on the current happenings in Children's Administration. We hope to see you at the March dinner meeting. Our presentation this month will be "Teen Dating Violence and how to recognize it."

Best Regards

Debra Converse

KFCA President

President@kitsapfostercare.org



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

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