



**KFCA June
Dinner Meeting**
Wednesday June 17
6 to 8pm
Silverdale Community
Center

Quarterly Regional & State Wide Foster Parent Consultation Meetings

House Bill 1624 is 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 chance to offer input at each stage of ongoing work regarding:

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

Quarterly Regional Consultation Meetings:
6/15/09 at 0900am in Bremerton
at the Bremerton Methodist Church

Quarterly Statewide Consultation Meetings
7/8 & 10/7 2009 1:00-4:00 PM
Tacoma DCFS 1949 South State Street—room 291

You are invited to bring your issues in person, or be represented by Debra Converse, KFCA President (360) 692-1927 ; Elizabeth Griffin Hall (360) 990-9955 Donna or Shannon at Placement Desk (360) 475-3535

Foster Youth and Alumni Leadership Summit

ONE UNITED VOICE FOR CHANGE
June 27 & 28, 2009 Seattle, Washington
Current and former foster youth ages 14 to 24 and their supporters will:

- Discuss the stigma related to growing up in care.
- Learn to use their voice effectively.
- Establish local youth and alumni action groups to address issues important to them.
 - ◆ Identify issues to discuss with state policy makers.

If you have any questions, e-mail Kara Sanders: kara@mockingbirdsociety.org or call 206-407-2134. Space is limited.
c e n t e r f o r C H I L D R E N & Y O U T H J U S T I C E
Better systems. Better lives.® Application available on-line at www.mockingbirdsociety.org

KFCA NEWSLETTER

Kitsapfostercare.org

JUNE 2009

Upcoming Events:

Educational Empowerment Workshops for Foster and Relative Parents

Treehouse believes that all children deserve a childhood and a future. In 2009, we are holding trainings this spring and summer for foster, relative, adoptive and birth parents to learn to advocate for their children's educational needs. Learn useful, practical skills to help you work with schools and get the services your child needs. The Educational Advocacy Peer Training project will hold community-based workshops throughout Washington State. In Kitsap County we are partnering with Children's Home Society in an effort to provide a strong advocacy foundation for caregivers & youth. There are 3 two hour workshops—for which attendees will receive 2 credit hours for attending.

The topics include:

- ◆ Early learning and interventions for birth to 5
- ◆ Advocating for School Age Children
- ◆ Older Youth and Young Adults

JOIN US FOR THE WORKSHOP: JUNE 25TH @ UNITED WAY 674 4TH ST. 6-8P ADVOCATING FOR SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN

Contact Barbara Holbrook 649-0414 or Elizabeth Griffin-Hall 990-9955 for more information!

EVENTS AT A GLANCE:

JUNE

06/01—Board of Directors Meeting—open to all @ Bayview Cafe, Port Orchard 6—8pm
06/06—Safety Saturday
06/15—Quarterly Regional HB 1624 Meeting
06/14—Father's Day
06/18—Caregiver Support Groups 6-8pm @ Bremerton First Methodist
06/27-28 Foster Youth Leadership Summit
06-30 "Tee it up for Kids" Golf Tournament
Registration deadline

JULY

07/04—INDEPENDENCE DAY!
07/18—Tee It Up For Kids Golf Tournament
07/24 & 25th—Whaling Days
07/30 Coffee & Conversation w/AA's @ DCFS

**Fun and Safety Go Hand-in-Hand at the
24th Annual Kids' Day**

June 6, 2009 ~ Kitsap County President's Hall

We understand that everyone's lives get so hectic that it is easy to forget to take time out for fire and safety prevention. That's why local fire departments and community organizations are doing our part to remind kids and families that safety is everyone's responsibility.

We know that when we provide children with fire prevention and life safety information, we are able to reach the heart of families.

Join us for a **free**, fun-filled day for kids and their families on **June 6, 2009**, at the Kitsap County Fairgrounds. Kids' Day is sponsored by Central Kitsap Fire & Rescue in conjunction with local organizations and businesses. Doors open to the community at 10:00 AM and the show runs until 2:30 PM. Kids' Day provides families with an opportunity to take a moment to have a good time while picking up tips and resources about ways to keep kids and families safe and healthy.

New to this year's event is a bike rodeo for kids put on by Leadership Kitsap with drawings for bike giveaways; a school bus rescue simulation sponsored by the Region One Life Safety Council; and an activity demonstrating the use of avalanche beacons in rescues by Olympic Mountain Rescue. Central Kitsap Fire and Rescue also provides live fire demonstrations and passenger vehicle extrications, along with indoor entertainment by the *Ride and Glide Stunt Team* whose daring athletes wow kids while spreading the message about bicycle safety, positive self-esteem, and healthy living. Over 45 booths provide fire and life safety information. Kids, come meet Sparky the Fire Dog and his buddies the Bloodhound Rescue Dogs.

Teens and adults are invited to practice your skills with a fire extinguisher on "real flames" at the Navy Region NW Fire and Emergency Services booth, challenge yourself to a rope rescue drill, or get fitted with a new bike helmet. Please contact Theresa MacLennan, Public Information/Public Education Officer, Central Kitsap Fire & Rescue for details: 360.447.3550.

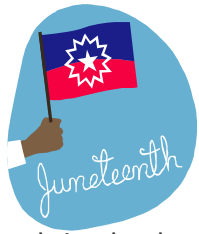
Theresa MacLennan, Ed.M.
Central Kitsap Fire & Rescue
Public Education/Information Officer
5300 NW Newberry Hill Road
Silverdale, WA 98383
360.447.3603 Direct
360.447.3550 Office

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) Who to call for help/support if you get a licensing referral 1-800-391-2273
- 4) **KITSAP FOSTER CARE ASSOCIATION**
*free duffel bags for foster children
WWW.KITSAPFOSTERCARE.ORG (692-1927)
- 5) **MARY BRIDGE Center for Child Safety**
(360-662-1198)
*Free child safety seat checks, bicycle helmet sales & fitting, free loaner life jackets
- 6) **NORTH KITSAP 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 Bremerton.
- 12) **Christine Njoroge (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**
- 15) **Child Care Referral 1- (800) 300-1247**
- 16) **Farrell's Home Health Care—Medical supplies including pull-ups free w/your child's prescription.**

**First Aid/CPR Training
4 Foster Parents**

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



JUNETEENTH— A CELEBRATION OF FREEDOM

Juneteenth is also known as Freedom Day or Emancipation Day, annual holiday celebrated on June 19 in the United States to commemorate the ending of slavery. For more than a century, Juneteenth was observed mainly in Texas and parts of Arkansas, Louisiana, and Oklahoma. In recent decades, communities across the nation have adopted the holiday.

June 19 marks the day in 1865 when word reached African Americans in Texas that [slavery in the United States](#) had been abolished. More than two years earlier, on New Year's Day, 1863, President [Abraham Lincoln](#) had issued the [Emancipation Proclamation](#). Delivered during the [American Civil War](#), this proclamation ordered the freeing of all slaves in states that were rebelling against Union forces. The proclamation had little effect in Texas, where there were few Union troops to enforce the order.

News of the proclamation officially reached Texas on June 19, 1865, when a Union general backed by nearly 2,000 troops arrived in the city of Galveston. The general, Gordon Granger, publicly announced that slavery in the United States had ended. Reactions among newly freed slaves ranged from shock and disbelief to jubilant celebration. That day has been known ever since as Juneteenth, a name probably derived from the slang combination of the words *June* and *nineteenth*.

Juneteenth celebrations began in Texas the following year. Within a few years they had spread to other states and became an annual tradition. Celebrations often opened with praying and religious ceremonies and included a reading of the Emancipation Proclamation. A wide range of festivities entertained participants, from music and dancing to contests of physical strength and intellect. Food was central to the celebrations, and barbecued meats were especially popular.

In the late 19th century, African Americans in the largely segregated South began migrating north and west in search of a better life. Many of these blacks transplanted their Juneteenth celebrations with them. African Americans continued to migrate from the South to other parts of the country during the late 1930s and 1940s. By World War II (1939-1945), however, Juneteenth celebrations began to decline. Historians cite several reasons for this. Many African Americans, removed by 70 years or more from the 1865 emancipation, were less inclined to carry forward the enthusiastic celebrations of earlier generations. In addition, some historians note that many African Americans wanted to distance themselves from vestiges of slavery.

Interest in Juneteenth celebrations further waned during the [civil rights movement](#) of the 1950s and 1960s, when the holiday was associated with past repression and [segregation](#). In some southern cities, Juneteenth was the only day each year when all-white local governments would permit African Americans to use city parks and zoos. In 1980 Juneteenth became an official state holiday in Texas. Since then, observance of Juneteenth has spread to other parts of the United States.

Today, Juneteenth celebrates freedom for African Americans in addition to many other themes, including education, self-improvement, African American accomplishments throughout history, and tolerance and respect for all cultures. Festivities may include parades, picnics, tributes and speeches, music, gospel performances, exhibitions, baseball games, rodeos, and other activities.





4th Annual Tee it up for Kids GOLF TOURNAMENT!

WHERE: HORSESHOE LAKE GOLF COURSE,
1250 SW Clubhouse

WHEN: SATURDAY, JULY 18, 2009 Arrive 7:30
am for tee assignments

FORMAT: 4-PERSON SCRAMBLE: Rules will be
provided on the day of the event.

START TIME: Tee-off at 8:00 a.m. SHARP If your
team is late you will forfeit your
tee time.

COST: Only \$75.00 PER PERSON (this includes
greens fee, golf cart, and barbe-
cue)

**For more info call Barbara Bofinger
(360) 475-3612**

Proceeds of this fun event benefit the Kitsap Foster
Association's DREAM Project and Pierce County
Foster Care Association's High Five for Kids!

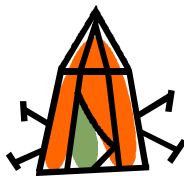
GOODBYE!

It is with sadness we say
goodbye to our secretary
Jennie Brusco. She served
us well but leaves us to fulfill
her ongoing duties @ CFSF. Thank you
Jenny for your time and efforts on behalf of the
Kitsap Foster Care Association.
We look forward to our continued relationship
with Community and Family Services
Foundation and will see you around!



HELLO!

KFCA welcomes Erin Bowman
back as secretary. Erin needed
a break to welcome a new
member to her family and is
now ready to resume her
duties. Welcome back Erin!



Free Pass to Summer Fun in Washington State Parks

Children's Administration's licensed foster parents and unlicensed caregivers accompanied by
foster children in their care are now able to receive free passes to Washington state parks and
campsites. Families will still be required to pay a reservation fee, but the overnight camping fee is
waived.

The free admission policy is the result of Senate Bill 5010 passed in the 2008 legislature that allows for reduced
price or free passes for qualifying seniors, people with disabilities, and Children's Administration's foster parents
and unlicensed caregivers accompanied by foster children. Beginning on May 23, 2008, these families will be able
to gain free use of campsites and free admission to most state parks in Washington.

**At the entrance of each state park, Children's Administration licensed
foster parents will need to provide:**

- Foster home license or foster parent identification card, and
- Valid driver's license.

Please contact your licenser if you would like a foster parent identification card.

Children's Administration unlicensed caregivers will need to provide:

- Caregiver identification card, and
- Valid driver's license.

Please contact Michael Luque', Foster Care and Kinship Care Program Manager at 360-902-
7986 or

lumi300@dshs.wa.gov to receive a caregiver identification card.

Just a reminder: While the overnight camping fee is waived, there is a reservation fee. Specific sites may have
additional site fees as well. For more information go to <http://www.parks.wa.gov/reserve.asp>.

Happy Camping and Picnicking at Washington State Parks!

For more information call: 1.888.CAMPOUT OR 1.888.226.7688 TO MAKE YOUR RESERVATION or visit
<http://www.parks.wa.gov>



MENTAL HEALTH LIAISON GUIDE:

What is the **role of the mental health liaison**?

- Ensure children receive access to necessary mental health supports
 - Provide consultation to parents and to principal child serving systems which ensures children receive the least restrictive/most normative intervention which will provide for child safety and meet identified clinical needs,
 - Preserve current living arrangements when possible (either with parents, relatives or foster parents),
 - Assist in discharge planning from intensive resources so that the discharge is timely and to the least restrictive, appropriate setting,
- Facilitate, mediate and resolve conflicts in case goals between principal child service systems so that the child and family have one coordinated treatment and service plan,

What types of activities can a mental health liaison do?

- ◆ Facilitate child access to appropriate mental health services;
- ◆ Provide consultation and technical assistance about multi-system intensive resources to: DCFS social workers, mental health counselors, parents, juvenile court, schools, youth, advocates, hospital staff, public health nurses etc.;
- ◆ Mediate and resolve differences between involved child and family service systems;
- ◆ Problem-solve emergent child and system issues;
- ◆ Facilitate or participate in meetings, case reviews and clinical staffings designed to review client progress toward goals; assist in identification of appropriate resources, trouble shoot safety concerns, and identify and resolve potential conflicts;
- ◆ Identify policy conflicts and work within DCFS and the mental health system to convene principal stakeholders to discuss and resolve;
- ◆ Serve as liaison with other child serving systems including but not limited to: Division of Developmental Disabilities, Juvenile Court, schools, Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration, hospitals and CLIP facilities;
- ◆ Monitor provider quality and sufficiency of services by participating in site reviews or contract monitoring activities;
- ◆ Provide training to parents and to the community on: Roles and available resources within the community; and developing comprehensive, coordinated community based plans of care for high needs children.
- ◆ Participate, as requested, in processes to resolve client grievances.
- ◆

How do I access mental health liaison support?

Social workers can contact the mental health liaison directly by phone or e-mail.

Kitsap County- Martha Crossover (360) 479-4994 Marthac@kmhs.org

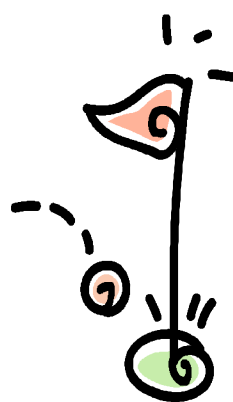
Pierce County- Lin Payton (253)798-3793 Lpayton@co.pierce.wa.us

MORNINGSIDE BAKERY

on Port Orchard's Bay Street is hosting a

CAKE DECORATING COMPETITION

to benefit the KFCA's DREAM project.
There are multiple categories and fun prizes. Entry fee is only \$10. Show your skills or just come and support DREAMS—June 20th, 10am to 4pm
For more information visit: http://web.me.com/morningsidebakery/Site/Cake_Decorating_Contest.html



MINI GOLF!

N.W. Golf Range
&
Timber Falls Mini
Golf
July 19 @ 3pm
Snacks and drinks
provided!

The resource unit staff may as ... do we really need a placement?

One of the challenges we face as a region is a lack of available placement resources for the children on our caseloads. Though we may not have an abundance of placement resources, we do have services and supports *available right now* that can positively impact the stability of children placed in out of home care.

If you have a child on your caseload that is at risk of a placement move, here are some options that may not require moving a child:

***Schedule an FTDM**, its *required* when there is imminent risk of a placement move or disruption.

***Foster Parent Liaisons**, The liaisons are an effective means of supporting and engaging foster and relative caregivers, providing resources, and troubleshooting any problems. Sheri Novak @ 253-983-6423 is the liaison in Tacoma and Luanne Vail @ 360-475-3516 is the liaison in the Bremerton office.

***Relative Support**- we have our own Bobbie Keys in Tacoma @ 253-983-6425 and Tewannah Johnson in Bremerton @ 360-475-3571 to provide support, concrete supplies, and referrals to relatives.

***Kitsap and Pierce County Foster Care Associations**- provides mentors and support to assist foster and relative caregivers. Here's the contact information for both associations:

- **Kitsap Association:** Kitsapfostercare.org
- **Pierce Association:** FosterCareResNet@aol.com

***Foster Family Critical Retention and Support Programs**- The resource units can assist with referrals to this placement stabilization service available in both Pierce and Kitsap counties. The critical retention and support program provides in home support and safety planning to foster and relative caregivers for children with behavioral issues in the home.

***Evidenced based practice resources** to prevent placement disruption for foster and relative caregivers including:

- Functional Family Therapy
- Parent Child Interaction Therapy
- Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy
- IFPS/Homebuilders program
- Crisis Family Intervention Services
- Evidenced based early intervention services such as Incredible Years, Fostering Families Program, and Promoting First Relationships.

The resource unit supervisors are the gatekeepers for many of these services and can assist you in locating a service in your area, making a referral, or connecting you with a provider. Here's the contact information for your resource unit supervisors:

- Barb Bofinger, BOBA300, (360)475-3612
- Kathy Keenan, KEEK300, (253)983-6241



Training Opportunities through RFTI

On-Line classes thru Pierce College for **Foster & Relative/Kinship Caregivers**

Topics include: Online Learning, Addiction Basics; Alcohol & chemical Abuse, Behavior Management, Caregiving for children w/Extreme Behavioral Issues, Cultural Identity:

Self-Esteem, Educational Advocacy for Caregivers, Introduction to Children's Administration for Kinship Caregivers, Maintaining a Connection: Importance of Birth Families, Multiple Placements-Impact on Children, Stuck in the Middle - Guide for Kinship Caregivers, Success Beyond Foster Care, Working with Developmentally Disabled Children.

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

Useful Links 4 Relative & foster caregivers:

DSHS Electronic Forms Link

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

Check out these helpful web sites & numbers:

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

[Www.usfosterfamilies.com](http://www.usfosterfamilies.com)

[Www1.dshs.wa.gov/ca/fosterparents/](http://www1.dshs.wa.gov/ca/fosterparents/)

24hr support line (800) 301-1868

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

A message from: the President

Hello all,

May flew by in a blink of an eye with all the planned activities in recognition of National Foster Parent Appreciation month. I hope you were able to attend at least one of the appreciation events. We had the Mariner's game, Fashion show benefit, FP night out, and the Kitsap County Foster Appreciation Dinner at the Kitsap Conference Center.

The fourth annual "Kitsap Style" Fashion show was put on by Lucky Star Consignment Clothing, Bremerton High School Fashion Marketing class, Kingston High School Key Club and KFCA. The benefit raised approximately \$2500 for the Dream Project. Way to go!! Thank you to all individuals behind the scenes who assisted to make this event happen. We want to extend a huge Thank You to our business sponsors and the community for supporting "our kids" in care thru the Dream Project.

At the annual business meeting, Chuck Converse and I were re-elected to our respective positions of Treasurer and President of the KFCA. Thank you for the continued opportunity to serve in these board positions.

We are looking for golfers for the 4th annual "Tee it up for Kids" golf tournament. The June 30th registration deadline is fast approaching. The golf tournament is on Saturday, July 18th, 2009 at Horseshoe Lake Golf course. For more information call Barb at 360-475-3612. Golf registration forms can be found at our website at <http://www.kitsapfostercare.org/events>. Funds raised from this tournament benefit Region 5 foster youth thru FCRN High Five for kids and the KFCA DREAM Project.

Reminder to mark your calendar for the upcoming events: Miniature golf, July 19th at Timber Falls Miniature Golf (off Wagga Way) at 3 PM and the June member meeting is on Wednesday, June 17th, be prepared for a great meal and to "shop" for clothes as we will have lots of items for you. Hope to see you there.

Best Regards,

Debra Converse
KFCA President
president@kitsapfostercare.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Debra Converse, *President*

president@kitsapfostercare

360.692.1927

Phyllis Bishop, *Vice President*

vicepres@kitsapfostercare.org

Chuck Converse, *Treasurer & Webmaster*

treasurer@kitsapfostercare.org

webmaster@kitsapfostercare.org

Erin Bowman—*Secretary/Membership*

secretary@kitsapfostercare.org

Elizabeth Griffin-Hall, *Historian*

historian@kitsapfostercare.org

Lesa LeClair, *Child Care*

childcare@kitsapfostercare.org

Debra Converse, *Education/ Training*

education@kitsapfostercare.org

**Sharon Williams and Luanne Vail,
*Resources***

resources@kitsapfostercare.org

Barbara Holbrook, *Newsletter*

newsletter@kitsapfostercare.org

Phyllis Bishop, *Special Events*

360.275.5725

events@kitsapfostercare.org

Jeff Bishop, *Culinary Coordinator*

culinary@kitsapfostercare.org

Luann Vail, - *Liaison*

Liaison@kitsapfostercare.org

JTVail@hotmail.com—(360) 990-9995 cell

Bremerton DCFS 475-3516 W/TH 9-3

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