



Fostering Positive Outcomes for Children

Illinois Foster and Adoptive Parent Association
and
Illinois Department of Children and Family Services
Present the

Knowledge is Power Conference

August 27-29, 2010

Oak Brook Hills Marriott Resort
3500 Midwest Road • Oak Brook, IL 60523



Conference at a Glance

Friday, August 27, 2010

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 7:45 a.m. - 1 p.m. | Pre-Conference CPR Certification Classes (Pre-registration required) |
| Noon - 6 p.m. | On-Site Registration Open |
| Noon - 5 p.m. | Exhibits Open |
| 1 - 2 p.m. | Opening General Session |
| 2 p.m. - 2:15 p.m. | Break |
| 2:15 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. | Concurrent Workshop Session 1 |
| 3:45 p.m. - 4 p.m. | Break/Hotel Check-In |
| 4 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. | Concurrent Workshop Session 2 |
| 6 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. | Networking Dinner |

Saturday, August 28, 2010

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|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| 7 a.m. - 2 p.m. | Registration Open |
| 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. | Exhibits Open |
| 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. | Continental Breakfast |
| 8:30 a.m. - 10 a.m. | Concurrent Workshop Session 3 |
| 10 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. | Break/Visit Exhibits |



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|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 10:30 a.m. - Noon | Concurrent Workshop Session 4 |
| Noon - 1:30 p.m. | Lunch |
| 1:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. | Break/Visit Exhibits and Health Fair |
| 1:45 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. | Advocacy General Session |
| 2:45 p.m. - 3 p.m. | Break/Visit Exhibits and Health Fair |
| 3 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Concurrent Workshop Session 5 |
| 4:30 p.m. - 6 p.m. | Networking Break |
| 6 p.m. - 10 p.m | Networking Dinner and Dance |

Sunday, August 29, 2010

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| 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. | Hot Breakfast Buffet/Hotel Checkout Begins |
| 8:30 a.m. - 10 a.m. | Concurrent Workshop Session 6 |
| 10 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. | Break/Complete Hotel Checkout |
| 10:30 a.m. - Noon | Concurrent Workshop Session 7 |
| 12:15 p.m. - 1 p.m. | Closing Luncheon |



Conference Information

Training Credit Information

Training credit will be given to everyone who attends conference general sessions and workshop sessions. To receive training credit, you must sign the attendance sheet and you must attend the entire workshop or training session. To preserve the educational environment for all participants, if you are more than 15 minutes late for a session, you will not be admitted. If you leave a session early, you will not receive credit for attending.

Lodging Expenses

Lodging costs for August 27th and 28th will automatically be billed directly to the Illinois Foster and Adoptive Parent Association for qualified participants who requested lodging. Other hotel expenses (phone calls, rental movies, room service and late check out charges) are your personal responsibility and must be paid to the hotel when you check out. Due to the limited number of available hotel rooms, and our need to accommodate the maximum number of participants, caregivers will be required to share rooms. The registration form offers the opportunity to identify the person you wish to share with. Training will make every effort to accommodate your request. If you do not identify a person to share with, one will be assigned for you. Please note that registered conference participants who do not attend workshop sessions will be billed for their lodging cost in addition to any other expenses they incur.

Travel Expenses and Childcare Reimbursement

The conference budget does not allow us to cover travel or childcare expenses. If you have made prior arrangements with your agency or region, please follow their direction regarding reimbursement.

Participants with Disabilities

Please feel free to sit near an aisle and quietly slip out five minutes before the close of each session to enable easier transition to the next event.

Grassroots Advocacy for Foster Parents

Saturday, August 28th • 1:45 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.

Margaret M. Berglind, President and CEO of the Child Care Association of Illinois, will lead discussion of specific tools to assist foster parents in talking with public officials, community members and the public about the needs of the foster care system.

IFAPA Membership Table

Everyone is invited to visit the IFAPA membership table which will be open throughout the conference. Come see what IFAPA is all about!

Networking Dinner and Breaks

Conference participants will be offered many opportunities to informally network with other conference attendees to share your vision for supporting and improving services to children and families throughout Illinois.

Due to liability issues, limited space, and the working focus of the conference, children of any age may not attend the conference.



Workshop Schedule

Pre-Conference CPR Training

This pre-conference program will be presented for five hours beginning early Friday morning. Caregivers who successfully complete the program will receive their CPR Certification certificates. Instruction will focus on performing CPR on children and infants.

Concurrent Workshop Session 1

1A Post Adoption/Guardianship

Kin Gap: a New Permanency Option for Long-Term Placements with Relatives

The Kinship Guardianship Assistance Payment Program is a new permanency option for children in appropriate, long-term foster care placements with relative caregivers. This workshop will help participants understand the purpose of KinGap, assistance available, and will assist them in navigating the process.

Presenter: June Dorn

1B Introduction to Trauma 101 (part 1 of 2; must also register for 2B)

This workshop will provide caregivers with an overview of the needs of youth in care that have experienced chronic exposure to trauma and adversity. It will provide them with specific skills to support youth with histories of exposure to chronic and/or multiple traumatic events, including family and community violence. It will also address the caregiver's needs for support and cooperative work within the child welfare system as they meet the challenges of the youth in their care.

Presenter: Dr. Kimberly Mann and Brenda Jennings

1C How Stressed Out are You?

This workshop will address our ability to meet our own self care needs in light of offering our lives and homes to children and youth in need of special care. Foster parents go above and beyond in assisting children and youth in need, thereby neglecting to care for themselves. This workshop will assist caring adults in understanding what stress is, how it impacts us, and learn ways to take care of ourselves so that we can continue to care for others. This workshop will provide foster parents many opportunities to learn and laugh together!

Presenter: Judy Strnad

1D Reunification: Helping Parents Strengthen and Rebuild their Families

This workshop will help caregivers understand the significant role they can directly play with parents to assist in successful reunifications that benefit children and families. Roles and responsibilities of the "Reunification Team" will be identified and participants will work to develop strategies to participate in shared parenting activities.

Presenters: TBD



1E Transitioning Older Youth

Youth who “Age out” of foster care often have very limited prospects and opportunities as they enter the adult world, restricting their capacity to function successfully as independent adults. This workshop will address ways to meet their previously unmet needs for skills that will last a lifetime. Topics will include Life Skills training, service planning and financial resources.

Presenter: Alisa Thomas

1F Early Learning Program: School Readiness

Caregivers are their child’s first teachers. In communities across the state, efforts are underway to build networks that support early learning. The most effective programs support the development of social, emotional and literacy skills of young children. This workshop will address how to access information about the resources that are available and ways to integrate this program into case planning for young children in care.

Presenters: Cherlynn Shelby and Mary Beth Corrigan

1G Teen Dating Violence

Teen dating violence can happen to anyone, regardless of gender, sexual orientation, race, age, or socioeconomic status. Many young people experience abusive behaviors, but do not identify the abuse as dating violence, accepting it as “normal.” This workshop will provide vital information and increase participant’s knowledge about the topics of teen dating violence and ways to support healthy relationships.

Presenter: Nisha Patel

1H Panel Discussion with Members of the DCFS Leadership Team

This session will give caregivers the opportunity to hear from certain members of the DCFS Leadership Team. A moderator will introduce the panelists and ask them questions that have been suggested by caregivers.

Presenters: Miller Anderson, Arthur Bishop, Shaun Lane, Jean Ortega Piron, and Kara Teeple

Concurrent Workshop Session 2

2A Post Adoption/Guardianship: 101 Ways to Enhance your Adoption

Parents will understand how healthy bonding and attachment can reduce challenging behaviors. They will increase their awareness of playful techniques to help to build developmental attachment and bonding with their children.

Presenter: Julia Friesen and Lauran Irvin

2B Introduction to Trauma 201 (part 2 of 2; must also register for 1B)

This workshop will provide caregivers with an overview of the needs of youth in care that have experienced chronic exposure to trauma and adversity. It will provide them with specific skills to support youth with histories of exposure to chronic and/or multiple traumatic events, including family and community violence. It will also address the caregiver’s needs for support and cooperative work within the child welfare system as they meet the challenges of the youth in their care.

Presenter: Dr. Kimberly Mann and Brenda Jennings



2C Reclaiming Our Children and Youth

This workshop will address our ability to meet our children and youth's basic needs through a reclaiming approach. Participants will learn how the four aspects of the Circle of Courage™, Belonging, Mastery, Independence and Generosity meet the needs of our children. Participants will also learn how not meeting these needs on a consistent basis can prove disastrous and how meeting these needs in a negative way can push our children and youth down paths of destruction.

Presenter: Judy Strnad

2D SSI for Children in Care

This workshop will discuss Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Benefits for Children in Foster Care. Topics addressed will include how children coming into care are screened for eligibility, ways SSI payments are applied to the board rate and trust funds, and how caregivers can access children's trust fund accounts to provide children with things they need.

Presenter: Nancy Haber

2E Nurturing Placements by Attending to Grief

This workshop will help parents understand how parental grief, compounded by the child's grief, interferes with the parent's ability to acknowledge their child's needs and respond effectively. Having understood the challenge, we'll work on solutions.

Presenter: Judith Stiggers

2F Sexually Transmitted Diseases

Youth involved with the child welfare system appear to be at higher risk than their high school counterparts of engaging in early sexual activity and experimenting with alcohol and other drugs. These factors increase their risk for sexually transmitted diseases. This workshop will help caregivers identify high risk behaviors, recognize signs and symptoms of a disease, and understand various treatment approaches.

Presenter: Nadia Qureshi, MD

2G Youth Panel: What it's Like to be in Care – How Caregivers can Serve Older Youth

In today's society, many young people do not become self-sufficient adults until well after their 18th birthdays. They often depend on their families for emotional and monetary support until they have sufficient education or training to obtain good jobs, support themselves, and establish their own homes. Without strong, stable connections with parents or other significant adults, youth leaving foster care are often left on their own to face key developmental tasks. This panel will address ways to support youth as they make the transition to adulthood without family relationships to support them, with fewer financial resources, and without the family safety net most other young people possess.

Presenter: Jeremy Harvey, Amy Jachna and Michael Simelton

2H Medical Providers/Medicaid

This workshop will help caregivers identify providers who accept the medical card, especially dentists, orthodontists, optometrists, psychiatrists and other specialists. It will provide guidance and resources to help caregivers find this out on their own. It will address the rules around medical providers accepting the card and the feasibility of getting their family physicians to accept the medical card for your foster child.

Presenter: Vince Champaign



Concurrent Workshop Session 3

3A Post Adoption/Guardianship: Communicating with Your Child, the Generation Gap

Parents will be offered ways to understand their child's/adolescent's "modes of communication." They will learn strategies to initiate conversations with their child, recognize differences in perspectives, and to create opportunities to be an active participant in their child's world.

Presenter: Freda S. Hardaway

3B Financial Assistance for College-Bound Students

This workshop will discuss managing the transition from high school to college and determining when college is the appropriate path. To be considered for financial aid, students must complete a new FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) application every year. This workshop will discuss when to start looking for financial aid, where to get the FAFSA, timelines, and offer a hands-on demonstration of how it is completed.

Presenter: TBD

3C Foster Parent Reimbursement

The Foster Parent Reimbursement Program is designed to reimburse foster parents when their personal or real property has been damaged by foster children in their care. The program may also cover damages or injury to other people and their property. This workshop will address requirements that foster parents work with their child's case worker to submit claims in a timely manner. Certain other documentation must also be submitted. Caregivers who attend this workshop will learn all the details of this process and how to make best use of it.

Presenter: Bruce Hirsch

3D Constant and Never Ending Improvement (CANEI): Working with Children & Youth Who Use Aggression to Chart Their Course in Life

CANEI is an innovative program for adolescents with histories of aggressive, defiant or violent behavior. CANEI is a strength-based program, focusing on the three pillars of CANEI—restorative justice, literacy, and spirituality—and is a cost-effective alternative to group/residential care, incarceration and hospitalization.

Presenter: Judy Strnad

3E Parenting Children with Autism (REPEATED in 4E)

Children with autism have differences in the development of their thinking, language, behavior and social skills. Parenting an autistic child can be a very challenging experience leaving parents confused and frustrated. However, with the proper education and support systems, families can learn to thrive. This workshop will discuss the signs of autism, how it is treated, and where caregivers can find help. The main focus will include indications, care, treatments, progression, and prognosis. The goal is to provide what caregivers need to know in order to interact with and advocate for a youth with autism.

Presenter: Michael Wonderlich

3F Educational Advocacy (part 1 of 2; must also register for 4F)

This two-part workshop will help you identify your child's learning strengths and challenges and will teach you ways to work as educational team members. It will help you develop an understanding of the special education process and your role in the process. It will offer direction as to how to utilize the services of the educational advisors as mentors, partners, and assistants in actively advocating for a child, and the training will address ways to improve understanding between parents and professionals as they come to mutual agreement on IEP's and other issues related to education for students with disabilities.

Presenters: Rhonda Best and Rebecca Lawrence



3G Fetal Alcohol Syndrome: Diagnostic Overview and Resources

This workshop will help you identify the signs and symptoms that suggest a diagnosis is needed and steps you can take until you access treatment. Presenters will discuss differential diagnosis and ways to successfully navigate systems to find diagnostic resources.

Presenter: Dr. Ira Chasnoff

3H Health Fair

The Health Fair is an educational and interactive event designed to promote health awareness and to encourage individuals to assume responsibility for their own health. Various providers will be on hand to share important information and, in some cases, offer free screenings.

Coordinator: Jerry Welenc

Concurrent Workshop Session 4

4A Post Adoption/Guardianship: Seeking Support for Your Adopted Child

This presentation will enhance the knowledge of post adoption/guardianship families regarding the structure and services provided through post adoption statewide. Specific programs will be discussed and you will learn ways to navigate the post adoption system.

Presenter: TBD

4B Foster Parent Law

This workshop will discuss tenets of the Foster Parent Law and ways it can be helpful to caregivers. You will learn how to get a copy of your agency's implementation plan and grievance process and how to utilize both. You will learn ways to get involved in the process of developing the plan with your agency and how to educate your workers about the value of the Foster Parent Law. The discussion will include considerations for case planning and management; foster parents' rights versus agencies' need for compliance with rules and practice protocol.

Presenter: Ruth Jajko and Ray Gates

4C What to do When a Child or Youth Runs Away

Caregivers will learn specific steps to take if their child runs away. This workshop will provide information about the Child Location and Support Unit (CLSU). This unit provides 24-hour accessibility to support and document workers' efforts to locate and return every child missing from care. Presenters will provide an overview of the services that Comprehensive Community-Based Youth Services (CCBYS) offers in the community, and which cases qualify for CCBYS services.

Presenters: Lorne Garrett and Deb McCarrell Haacke

4D Wills and Powers of Attorney

This workshop will describe the importance of planning for the future. The presenter will address the benefits of and procedures for creating a will, a power of attorney for property, a power of attorney for health care and a living will. Participants will learn to distinguish between a "regular" will and a "living" will and will understand how powers of attorney work. In addition, the new law regarding reinstatement of birth parent rights post adoption will be discussed.

Presenter: Kelly Hancock



4E Parenting Children with Autism (REPEAT of 3E)

Children with autism have differences in the development of their thinking, language, behavior and social skills. Parenting an autistic child can be a very challenging experience leaving parents confused and frustrated. However, with the proper education and support systems, families can learn to thrive. This workshop will discuss the signs of autism, how it is treated, and where caregivers can find help. The main focus will include indications, care, treatments, progression, and prognosis. The goal is to provide what caregivers need to know in order to interact with and advocate for a youth with autism.

Presenter: Michael Wonderlich

4F Educational Advocacy (part 2 of 2; must also register for 3F)

This two-part workshop will help you identify your child's learning strengths and challenges and will teach you ways to work as educational team members. It will help you develop an understanding of the special education process and your role in the process. It will offer direction as to how to utilize the services of the educational advisors as mentors, partners, and assistants in actively advocating for a child, and the training will address ways to improve understanding between parents and professionals as they come to mutual agreement on IEP's and other issues related to education for students with disabilities.

Presenters: Rhonda Best and Rebecca Lawrence

4G Fetal Alcohol Syndrome: Short and Long-term Treatment Approaches

This workshop will provide a brief overview of treatment options. Caregivers will learn how to find, access, and pay for treatment. Presenters will discuss the unique aspects of caring for and comforting affected children. Presenters will discuss long-term ramifications and how it affects judgment – especially in teens.

Presenter: Dr. Ira Chasnoff

4H Health Fair

The Health Fair is an educational and interactive event designed to promote health awareness and to encourage individuals to assume responsibility for their own health. Various providers will be on hand to share important information and, in some cases, offer free screenings.

Coordinator: Jerry Welenc

Concurrent Workshop Session 5

5A Post Adoption/Guardianship: Transitioning Parents and Youth from the Adoption Assistance Program

Presenters will establish a framework that will assist families and older youth in accessing support systems and services in the community as they transition out of the adoption assistance program. Specific resources will be addressed, and caregivers will learn how to navigate the system in accessing these resources.

Presenters: TBD

5B Reunification Special Service Fee

This workshop will reinforce the importance of the parent-caregiver partnership in successful reunification. It will explore the elements of reunification and how it can be achieved. Integral to this goal are the introduction of the Caregiver Self-Assessment for Reunification Support and the Family Reunification Support Special Service Fee.

Presenter: Jane Hastings



5C Working with Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered and Questioning (GLBTQ) Youth

This workshop will provide caregivers with the opportunity to learn basic information, issues and challenges that GLBTQ youth experience in the foster care system. Presenters will specifically address identity formation. The workshop will provide an overview of the opportunities and challenges in providing care to GLBTQ youth. Participants will also learn the appropriate vocabulary in working with these youth and essential skills for working with youth who are in the process of “coming out”.

Presenter: Larry Small

5D Stop It! Teaching Children to Wait and Self-Regulate

The workshop will address our ability to meet our children and youth’s basic needs through a reclaiming approach. Participants will learn how the four aspects of the Circle of Courage™—belonging, mastery, independence and generosity—meet the needs of our children, how not meeting these needs on a consistent basis can prove disastrous, and how meeting these needs in a negative way can push our children and youth down paths of destruction.

Presenter: Judith Stiggers

5E Medical Issues and High-Risk Behaviors in Teens

“Sex, drugs and Rock ‘n Roll.” Risk taking is a natural part of teenagers’ lives and they need to take some risks in order to grow and develop. However, they can also get into trouble with their risk taking when it involves behaviors such as drinking, smoking, sex, violence, and drug use. This workshop will examine typical behaviors of concern and the role that decision making plays in adolescents’ involvement in high-risk behaviors.

Presenter: Jerrilyn Pearson-Minor, MSN, RN

5F Psychotropic Medications: Benefits and Risks

There continues to be debate in the field regarding the degree to which psychotropic medications should be prescribed to children. There is also concern regarding the off label use of these medications. This workshop will address signs and symptoms which might indicate the need for psychotropic drugs and case management implications for children and youth with mental illness.

Presenter: TBD

5G Childhood Depression

Children may suffer from depression just like adults. Unlike adults, however, they may not be able to articulate what they are feeling and ask for help. It is important for their caregivers and others around them to understand the basic facts about childhood depression so they can help the children in their care dealing with this illness.

Presenter: TBD

5H Health Fair

The Health Fair is an educational and interactive event designed to promote health awareness and to encourage individuals to assume responsibility for their own health. Various providers will be on hand to share important information and, in some cases, offer free screenings.

Coordinator: Jerry Welenc



Concurrent Workshop Session 6

6A Post Adoption/Guardianship: When to Talk to Your Young Child about Adoption

The process of coming to terms with being adopted and incorporating this into one's sense of self should begin when children are young and continue to be woven throughout the different developmental stages children go through. Beginning this process when children are young can create wonderful opportunities to help parents shape attitudes and provide knowledge before other people and experiences can influence their adopted child. This workshop will help parents and caregivers prepare themselves to communicate effectively about adoption issues with their children and to develop the capacity to understand adoption through their child's eyes.

Presenter: TBD

6B Adult Guardianship

Some youth who age out of guardianship may never be able to safely take care of their own life affairs. This workshop will assist caregivers in developing a fundamental understanding of adult legal guardianship. The presenter will address ways to identify decision making alternatives to guardianship and limitations to these alternatives. Participants will achieve a fundamental understanding of Illinois Guardianship & Advocacy Commission/Office of State Guardian services.

Presenter: Laura Sakas

6C Love Is Not Enough Parent Café (REPEATED in 7C)

At the "Taking Care of Yourself" parent café, parents get the opportunity to participate in intimate conversations led and facilitated by other foster parents and discuss what it means for them to keep their families strong. An intimate "Café" type setting is created and throughout the workshop, parents will discuss three key questions that contribute to parents building protective factors that help them stay strong.

Presenter: Angela Barber and Strengthening Families Illinois

6D Developing Cultural Competency: Hair Care for African American Children (REPEATED in 7D)

Many families foster and adopt outside their own race and knowledge about proper hair care is important. Learn how to care for African American and Bi-racial hair. Presenters will demonstrate simple black hair care tips and steps to caring for African American hair.

Presenter: Luster Hair Care

6E What Caregivers Need to Know about the Behavioral Challenges of Teens

Some adolescents and teens in care are challenged with behaviors that make life difficult for themselves and for their caregivers. Behaviors can range from minor issues to very difficult situations that make it difficult to care for these children. This workshop will present caregivers with some ideas around how to manage this behavior and provide them with insight about when to contact a professional for advice and, perhaps, treatment.

Presenters: Dr. Janet Chandler and Dr. Leone Legan

6F Licensing Issues

Presenters will discuss voluntary & involuntary holds and GALS putting holds on homes. Procedural information will be addressed, including the process around placing a home on hold, how long it takes to come off hold, what steps caregivers can take to get their home off hold etc.

Presenter: Steven Minter



6G Internet Safety

This workshop will address ways parents can monitor kid's Internet usage. The presenter will help parents understand how to look into the history to see where children have been online. She will demonstrate how to set direct or indirect controls on computer usage.

Presenter: Patti Welander

6H Screening Assessment and Support Services (SASS)

This workshop will provide participants with information about the SASS program, including who is eligible for services, a description of the main goals of the programs, and what a foster parent can expect if they receive SASS services for one (or more) of the children in their care.

Presenter: Jane Hastings

Concurrent Workshop Session 7

7A Preparation for Independence: Everyone has a Role in Helping Youth Move Down the Road to Independence

One of the main challenges for child welfare professionals is preparing children for a good quality life, from their entry into substitute care until they exit the child welfare system. This is true whether or not a child is reunified with his or her family, in private guardianship, in adoption or independent living. The Department has chosen the "life time approach" concept to meet this challenge. One major aspect of this approach is preparing youth to achieve balances in their lives through teaching life skills, both formal and informal. Participants in this workshop will learn how vital life skills are in all phases of the life cycle when looking at such components as education, vocation, recreation, hygiene, health, spirituality, self-esteem, money management and parenting from a person who lived it.

Presenter: Michael Simelton

7B Complex Trauma, Attachment and How Caregivers Can be "Healing Parents"

Presenters will discuss how traumatic experiences impact children, especially with regard to attachment. They will examine attachment issues in the context of Differential Diagnosis since frequently children are diagnosed with attachment/bi-polar. Participants will learn ways to recognize signs and symptoms of a child having attachment issues and what to do about it as part of case management and service planning. They will recognize typical challenges foster parents face with children in their care and will learn specific ways to respond while maintaining their own mental health.

Presenters: Jennifer Marett, Marcia Weflen, Ruth Jajko and Monique Smith

7C Love Is Not Enough Parent Café (REPEAT of 6C)

At the "Taking Care of Yourself" parent café, parents get the opportunity to participate in intimate conversations led and facilitated by other foster parents and discuss what it means for them to keep their families strong. An intimate "café" type setting is created and throughout the workshop, parents will discuss three key questions that contribute to parents building protective factors that help them stay strong.

Presenter: Angela Barber and Strengthening Families Illinois



7D Developing Cultural Competency: Hair Care for African American Children (REPEAT of 6D)

Many families foster and adopt outside their own race and knowledge about proper hair care is important. Learn how to care for African American and Bi-racial hair. Presenters will demonstrate simple black hair care tips and steps to caring for African American hair.

Presenter: Luster Hair Care

7E Accessing and Understanding Psychiatric Services

This workshop will help caregivers understand the decision process behind a psychiatric referral and how to identify psychiatric providers. It will address what information parents should take to the initial appointment, how to monitor the child's progress and when to call the doctor.

Presenters: Dr. Janet Chandler and Dr. Leone Legan

7F Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services

What would it take for you to parent a Deaf or Hard of Hearing child? This workshop will provide information to help caregivers make an informed decision. The presenter will discuss some of the differences in the Deaf culture and will demonstrate some basic American Sign Language (ASL) signs.

Presenter: Marsha Northrup

7G Mobilizing Community Stakeholders to Eliminate Racial Disparities in Child Welfare

Over the past three years, Illinois has been at the forefront of child welfare practice and policy reform. "Permanency Enhancement Action Teams" and anti-racism "Transformation Teams" are fully engaged in every region of the state for the purpose of identifying solutions and removing barriers that prevent African American children from achieving family stability and permanence. This presentation will provide a 3-year update on the outcomes and impact of the Illinois Permanency Enhancement Project (PEP), including a discussion of successes, challenges, and work yet to be done. Presenters will also discuss the implications of addressing "racial disparities" vs. "racial disproportionality" and discuss ways that caregivers can have an impact on this work.

Presenters: Angela Baron-Jeffries, NIU and Dr. Terry Solomon, IL African American Family Commission

7H System of Care

SASS is a cooperative program supported by DCFS, HFS, and DMH that conducts pre-psychiatric screenings for youth in Illinois and provides care coordination for an initial period of up to 90 days. Additionally, SASS provides immediate crisis stabilization and support services. This workshop will address ways caregivers can access and utilize these services and supports.

Presenter: Jane Hastings



CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM • 2010 IFAPA/DCFS CAREGIVERS CONFERENCE
Knowledge is Power - Fostering Positive Outcomes for Children
August 27 - August 29, 2010
Oak Brook Hills Marriott Resort • 3500 Midwest Road, Oak Brook, IL 60523

Please print legibly or type to complete this conference registration form to apply for enrollment. All registration forms must be received by July 30, 2010. Each region has been allocated slots to enable equal opportunity for foster parents to register and attend this conference. All applications will be processed as received. Space is limited and confirmation is on a first come first served basis, **so early registration is advised.**

You may return your conference registration by fax at 217/557-4349, or mail to: DCFS, Station #122, 406 E. Monroe Street, Springfield, IL 62701. The registration form may also be sent via E-mail to: dcfstraining@illinois.gov. All registered participants are expected to arrive at the conference before the opening session and attend the full 3-day conference. Once your application form is processed and accepted, you will receive a confirmation by email or by mail confirming your registration. **After you receive your confirmation letter, you must personally call the hotel to confirm and guarantee your own room reservations.**

Check Appropriate Category: Foster Parent Adoptive Parent Guardianship Parent

Type of Foster Parent: DCFS related DCFS unrelated POS related POS unrelated Adopt only Other _____

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____ Last 4 Digits of Social Security #: _____

Home Street Address: _____ City: _____ Zip Code: _____

County (Important): _____ Day Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____ Foster Care License # (if applicable): _____ Expiration Date: _____

In Case of Emergency Contact: Name: _____ Phone: _____

Licensing Agency Name: _____ Agency Phone Number: _____

Licensing Agency Address _____ City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Check meals you will attend: (Meals are provided at NO COST to Conference Registrants).

Friday Dinner Saturday Breakfast Saturday Lunch Saturday Dinner Sunday Breakfast Sunday Lunch Request Vegetarian Meals

Lodging requested: Yes No **Arrival Date:** _____ **Departure Date:** _____ **I prefer to share a room with:** _____

Check here if under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) you require auxiliary aids or services. Please attach a description of the requirements to this form.

Upon receipt of your confirmation letter, you must personally call the hotel by the deadline stated in your confirmation letter to guarantee your room reservation with a credit card, check or other means. If you do this but do not attend the conference, and do not call to cancel your room reservation, the hotel will bill you for your room.

WORKSHOP CHOICES

Workshop Selections: Please make two choices per session.

Space is limited for some workshop sessions. Your second choice will be used if one of the sessions is already filled.

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

| | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | Preference |
|--|--|---|---|--|---|--|---|--|--|
| Pre-Conference CPR Training 7:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. | | | | | | | | | |
| Session 1 Friday 2:15 p.m. | Post Adopt Kin Gap: A new Permanency Option | Introduction to Trauma 2-part session – You must register for both parts. | How Stressed Out Are You? | Reunification: Helping Parents Strengthen & Rebuild | Transitioning Older Youth | Early Learning Program/School Readiness | Teen Dating Violence | The DCFS Leadership Team Works with Caregivers | 1 st Choice _____ 2 nd Choice _____ |
| Session 2 Friday 4:00 p.m. | Post Adopt: 101 Ways to Enhance Your Adoption | Reclaiming Our Children and Youth | SSI for Children in Care | Nurturing Placements by Attending to Grief | Sexually Transmitted Diseases | Youth Panel: What it's Like to Be in Care | Medical Providers/Medicaid | 1 st Choice _____ 2 nd Choice _____ | |
| Session 3 Saturday 8:30 a.m. | Post Adopt: Communicating with Your Child | Financial Assistance for College-Bound Students | Foster Parent Reimbursement | Constant and Never Ending Improvement | Parenting Children with Autism Repeated in 4E | Educational Advocacy 2-part session – You must register for both parts | Fetal Alcohol Syndrome: Diagnostic Overview | Health Fair | 1 st Choice _____ 2 nd Choice _____ |
| Session 4 Saturday 10:30 a.m. | Post Adopt: Seeking Support for your Adopted Child | Foster Parent Law | What to do When a Child or Youth Runs Away | Wills and Powers of Attorney | Parenting Children with Autism Repeat of 3E | Psychotropic Medications | Fetal Alcohol Syndrome: Treatment Approaches | Health Fair | 1 st Choice _____ 2 nd Choice _____ |
| Session 5 Saturday 3:00 p.m. | Post Adopt: Transitioning from Adoption Assistance | Reunification Special Service Fee | Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered and Questioning Youth | Stop It! Teaching Children to Wait and Self-Regulate | Medical Issues and High-Risk Behaviors in Teens | Licensing Issues | Childhood Depression | Health Fair | 1 st Choice _____ 2 nd Choice _____ |
| Session 6 Sunday 8:30 a.m. | Post Adopt: When to Talk About Adoption | Adult Guardianship | Love Is Not Enough Parent Café Repeated in 7C | Hair Care for African American Children Repeated in 7D | Mental Health/Psychiatry | Internet Safety | SASS Services | SASS Services | 1 st Choice _____ 2 nd Choice _____ |
| Session 7 Sunday 10:30 a.m. | Preparation for Independence | Attachment How Caregivers can be "Healing Parents" | Love Is Not Enough Parent Café Repeat of 6C | Hair Care for African American Children Repeat of 6D | Accessing and Understanding Psychiatric Services | Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services | Eliminating Racial Disparities in Child Welfare | System of Care | 1 st Choice _____ 2 nd Choice _____ |