



# KFCA Newsletter

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

May 2006

## KFCA CURRENT EVENTS

### In Celebration of National Foster Care Month

**Saturday, May 13:** Noon–5pm at the base of the Space Needle  
For youth transitioning out of foster care: Come and learn how to fulfill your dreams. Find out about education and employment opportunities. Get pointers on preparing to age out of the system and hear from alumni of foster care who have found success in music, fashion, comedy, and motivational speaking.

**Tuesday, May 15:** 10 AM – 12 PM, Columbia Room at the Capitol Building, Olympia  
Official State Foster Care Celebration  
Come join as we recognize and celebrate foster parents and foster care.

**Saturday, May 20:** Noon–5pm at the base of the Space Needle  
Learn what you can do to make a difference in the lives of children in foster care. There are many ways to help. Hear from motivational speakers and participate in fun activities for children.

### *Upcoming Dinner Meeting Training Topics...*

Join us at the KFCA Dinner Meetings for updated information and training topics...**May 24, 2006**, is Kitsap Foster Care Association's Annual Business Meeting. The Membership will vote on nominee's for Vice President and Secretary. **June 28, 2006**, Renee Arcement, from the Youth Suicide Prevention Program, will speak about Stress and Depression including the warning signs of suicide and what caregivers can do to intervene.

**Check it out...**Kitsap Foster Care Association's web site has undergone some major revision and has great updated information. [Http://www.kitsapfostercare.org/](http://www.kitsapfostercare.org/)

### **KFCA's Annual Mariner's Event**

Friday, June 2, 2006  
@ 7:05pm

There are only a few weeks left until game day! If you haven't reserved your tickets, contact Luanne Vail @ 876-5207 for

information about tickets still available. Tickets are available to active foster parents, relative care givers, and the children in their homes. This event is to support foster and relative placements, please do not invite friends, relatives, or have your children invite friends.

Reserve your last minute tickets now! Don't forget to reserve your seats on the bus leaving from the Walmart parking lot in East Bremerton. Please join us for this fun, family event. Thank you for all that you do!

Contact Luanne Vail @ 876-5207 for information.



### Join Us Now!

Kitsap Foster Care Association membership is open to foster parents and others interested in foster care.

Make \$15 check payable to: KFCA, PO Box 4542, Bremerton, WA 98312

#### Thanks!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

foster parent      agency staff      renewal?

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

## KITSAP FOSTER CARE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

### • GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

- **Where:** Silverdale Community Center, 9729 Silverdale Way NW, Silverdale, WA 98383
- **When:** Fourth Wednesday of each month, Dinner 6pm, Guest Speaker and Discussion 7pm.
- Free child care available on site.
- Members pay \$4 for dinner (50% off) and receive a free raffle ticket to win great prizes (additional raffle tickets may be purchased in support of KFCA).

### • BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

- **Where:** Changing locations, contact any board member for this month's location.
- **When:** First Tuesday of each month @ 5:30pm.
- KFCA Board Meetings are open, and all are welcome to attend. If you'd like to add an item to the agenda, please contact Rick Williams two days prior to the meeting.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### **Rick Williams, *President***

president@kitsapfostercare.org

### **Jeff Bishop, *Vice President***

vicepres@kitsapfostercare.org

### **Sharon Williams, *Treasurer***

Phone 876-1994 treasurer@kitsapfostercare.org

### **John Vail, *Secretary/Membership/***

### ***Community Awareness***

Phone 876-5207

secretary@kitsapfostercare.org

### **Luanne Vail, *Resources***

Phone 876-5207

resources@kitsapfostercare.org

### **Karen Randleman, *Dream Project***

Cell 731-9052 dreamproject@kitsapfostercare.org

### **Henry Castanares, *Historian***

Phone 692-0207

historian@kitsapfostercare.org

### **Diane Castanares, *Child Care***

Phone 692-0207

childcare@kitsapfostercare.org

### **Debra Converse, *Education/Training***

training@kitsapfostercare.org

### **Chuck Converse, *Webmaster/Com. Awareness***

webmaster@kitsapfostercare.org

### **Teresa Walton, *Foster Parent Liaison***

Cell (360) 990-9995

liaison@kitsapfostercare.org

### **Jennifer Martin, *Newsletter***

newsletter@kitsapfostercare.org

### **Phyllis Bishop, *Special Events Coordinator***

events@kitsapfostercare.org



## Upcoming Training

### PRIDE Pre-Service Classes

May 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, 2006

5:30pm to 9:30pm; May 6, 9:00am to 4:30pm

Orientation: May 3, 2006 @ 9:00am to noon

June 2, 3, 9, 10, 2006

9:00am to 4:30pm

Orientation: June 7, 2006 @ 9:00am to noon

June 14, 15, 16, 20, 21, 22, 23, 2006

5:30pm to 9:30pm

Orientation: June 7, 2006 @ 9:00am to noon

Location, Port Orchard, TBA

First Methodist Church

1150 Marine Dr., Bremerton, WA 98312

Orientation @ Bremerton DCFS Office

To register, contact Hildegard Stone

1-800-423-6246

Sthi300@dshs.wa.gov

### Grow and Go...Online Workshops for Foster Parents

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

**Check out this web site:**

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

### First Aid/CPR Training for Foster Parents

The Resource Family Training Institute sponsors

First Aid training free of charge to all currently

licensed and perspective foster parents. For a

complete schedule and registration please visit the

website at:

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

Or call (253)217-1105

### DSHS Electronic Forms Link

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

### Multiple placements-Impact on Children

With Dinah Martin (item #5775)

June 10, 2006 @ 9:00am to 4:00pm

Pierce College

Pre-registration is required

Space is limited to 30 people. Fax or mail your registration to Pierce. Forms will be available through your trainer or online at:

[Http://www.pierce.ctc.edu/Distance/ofpe/index.php3](http://www.pierce.ctc.edu/Distance/ofpe/index.php3)

### 2006 ANNUAL CAREGIVER CONFERENCE

**September 17-19, 2006**

Subcommittees have been identified and volunteers are needed to participate. The Subcommittees are: Volunteer Coordination, Workshops, Fund Raising, Entertainment, Regional Meetings, Food, Vendors and Keynote. If you would like to participate or know someone who would like to participate in any of the subcommittees, please contact

Barb Bofinger at (360) 902-7986 or

[boba300@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:boba300@dshs.wa.gov)

The committee unanimously is recommending that the conference be at the Mirabeau Park and Convention center in the Spokane Valley.

The website if you would like to have a look is:

[www.mirabeauparkhotel.com/](http://www.mirabeauparkhotel.com/)

FOSTER PARENT/CAREGIVER

CONFERENCE PLANNING

COMMITTEE MEETING DATES:

May 15<sup>th</sup>, June 19<sup>th</sup>, July 17<sup>th</sup>, August 21<sup>st</sup>,  
September 18<sup>th</sup>, October 16<sup>th</sup> (for debriefing  
after the conference)

All meetings will be in the KENT DCFS  
Office, Federal Way 9:30 – 12:00

If you have information on valuable trainings to share with fellow foster parents, please contact Jennifer...



## 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) **GALAXY LIMOUSINE INC. (874-2565)**  
(1-800-874-2565)  
\*offers discounts to foster families
- 5) **KITSAP FOSTER CARE ASSOCIATION**  
(475-3513 or 876-1994)  
\*free duffel bags for foster children  
WWW.KITSAPFOSTERCARE.ORG
- 6) **MARY BRIDGE Center for Child Safety**  
(360-662-1198)  
\*Free child safety seat checks, bicycle helmet sales & fitting, free loaner life jackets
- 7) **NK FOSTER PARENT SUPPORT GROUP**  
(206-842-2362) or Sufisher@aol.com  
\*meets @ Eagle Harbor Congregational Church; 105 N. Winslow Way, BI 98110  
11:30am to 1:30pm
- 8) **NORTHWEST ENTERAL SUPPLY**  
(1-888-885-2386)  
\*free pull-ups for foster children
- 9) **OLYMPIC PHARMACY & HEALTH CARE**  
(1-253-858-9941)  
\*free delivery of diapers, medical supplies
- 10) **PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS (337-4738)**  
Youth Services Program
- 11) **SKILLS CENTER (478-5168)**  
\*free hair cuts for foster children

Kitsap Foster Care Association is attempting to keep an ongoing list of resources in the newsletter each month. Your contributions are vital to the resource page. Please email Jennifer with additional resources you would like to share with foster parents. Thank you for taking the time to share your information.

## Calendar of Events

### May 2006:

- 2: KFCA Board Meeting
- 4: PRIDE PreService Training
- 6: Care-Giving for Children with Extreme Behavioral and other mental health issues Training
- 11: NK Foster Parent Support Meeting
- 21: Kitsap Style Fashion Show
- 24: KFCA Dinner Meeting Association Votes
- 25: 2006 Graduation Tea

### June 2006:

- 2: KFCA Mariner's Event
- 2: PRIDE PreService Training
- 6: KFCA Board Meeting
- 8: NK Foster Parent Support Meeting
- 10: Multiple Placements...
- 14: PRIDE PreService Training
- 25: Bowling @ Bremerton Lanes
- 28: KFCA Dinner Meeting

**Cuddle Bug carriers** will provide all foster parents with infants and toddlers, free or low cost baby slings. Call Marybeth @ 360-779-8139

# 2006 Graduation Tea

## May 25, 2006 @ 3pm

The Gig Harbor Wesley Inn

We will be celebrating graduations from High School, Vocational School or completion of the GED by our youth in foster care. Foster parents, please plan on attending! You are very much a part of that success; because of your support and efforts our youth has accomplished this major benchmark. Congratulations Seniors and thank you foster parents, for all of your support.

*Put these dates on your calendar...  
details on these events to follow in  
upcoming newsletters*

June 25, 2006 3-6:00pm  
Bowling at Bremerton Lanes

July 16, 2006 3pm  
Putt Putt Golf/Rock Climbing @  
Wagga Way Golf Course

August 13, 2006 12-4pm  
KFCA Annual Picnic @ Evergreen Park

December 16, 2006 1-3pm  
KFCA Annual Holiday Party @ Silverdale  
Community Center

Summer & December 2006  
Foster Parent Night Out (actual dates TBA)

### **BE SAFE AND GET A FREE SUBWAY® SANDWICH!**

***Program Rewards Kids for Wearing Helmets; Local Agencies Provide Low-Cost Helmets & Life Jackets at Annual Countywide Sale on May 13***

(KITSAP COUNTY, Washington) – Kitsap Safe Kids Coalition and many of its member agencies are announcing their participation in a program that pairs good safety practices with good “eats” -- in the form of a free Subway® sandwich. And, they're making it easier for kids to be safe and win by making low-cost, custom-fit helmets available.

Thanks to the generosity of Subway® stores around the region, local safety advocates can add another tool – a tasty reward -- to their efforts to encourage children to wear helmets when enjoying bicycles, skateboards, inline skates and scooters. Participants will award cards when they spot kids doing the right thing; the “Safe Rider Citations” treat the bearer to one free deli-round sandwich at Subway® in recognition of their safe habits.

Many local agencies distribute free or low-cost helmets to the public on a regular basis. On Saturday, May 13 from 9:00am until 1:00pm, Kitsap SAFE KIDS Coalition is sponsoring special helmet and life-jacket fitting opportunities at sites around the county:

**Poulsbo** (Poulsbo Fire Department at 911 NE Liberty Rd)

**Kingston** (North Kitsap Fire & Rescue at 26642 Miller Bay Rd)

**Silverdale** (Mary Bridge Children's Health Center in the Silverdale Harrison Memorial Hospital building at 1780 NW Myhre Rd, Ste G220)

**Subase Bangor – Military Families Only** (Subase Bangor Chapel parking lot)

**Port Orchard** (South Kitsap Fire & Rescue at 1974 Fircrest Dr SE)

Cost is \$7.00 per helmet, and \$12.00 per life jacket. Wearers must be present for custom-fittings.

The cities of Bainbridge Island, Bremerton and Poulsbo have ordinances in place that require the use of helmets. The “Safe Rider Citation” program, launched here five years ago, provides an opportunity to positively reinforce kids' safe choices.

For more information about Kitsap Safe Kids Coalition, helmet and life-jacket distribution sites or the Subway “Safe Rider Citation” program, contact Michele Jennings at Mary Bridge Children's Health Center in Silverdale, (360) 662-1198.

*Michele Jennings*

Child Safety Educator, Center for Childhood Safety

Mary Bridge Children's Health Center - Silverdale

Kitsap Safe Kids Coordinator

360-662-1198

## EVERY DAY COUNTS

You are already making a difference in the lives of children.

Intensive Children's Service-Specialized Family Care is a private agency serving many of these children affected by abuse, loss and trauma by offering them case management, therapy, case aid time, 24 hour after hours staff who knows you and your child, regular respite and trainings specific to the needs of your foster child. ICS-SFC professional foster parents are a vital part of the treatment team and an important advocate for the child they know so well.

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

**The process is easy. Call Kristine or Samantha at 360-479-4994**

### BRS LICENSOR/TREATMENT-LEVEL AGENCY SOUGHT

We are trying to identify a private licensing agency (preferably in Kitsap) which has a Behavioral Rehabilitation Services (BRS) contract with the State (WA), which also licenses therapeutic/treatment-level foster homes. Our child is a King County child, so a King County agency would also be appropriate should the agency feel the distance was not prohibitive. We are soliciting referrals to agencies that offer excellent support services for BRS level kids and that would be comfortable with the fact that we are a same-sex couple. The agency would also need to know that we are transferring our licenses, along with the established case management of our, long-term placement, 11 year-old child.

Please contact:  
Van-John & George  
vanjohnsf@comcast.net  
360-377-6178

### *You know you're a foster parent when....*

You have three parent/teacher conferences, all in the same day, all for the first grade, in two different grade schools.

You have three beautiful daughters all named Heather.

**A fun and creative event is in the works to show off**

**Kitsap style and at the same time, acknowledge Foster Parent Month in May.**

Stacy Patrick from Lucky Star clothing shop at Kingston Crossing and Susan Rogers from Design Connection, a Kingston-based interior designer, have teamed up to produce Kitsap Style, a fashion show to benefit Kitsap County Foster Care Association's Dream Project.

The event will take place at 3 p.m. Sunday, May 21 in the Indianola Clubhouse.

The Dream Project provides grants to foster children, allowing them to purchase special items they want or need including swim and music lessons or clothing such as prom dresses and tuxedos, shoes or coats.

"With the growing Meth problem in Kitsap County, the need for foster parents is huge. We would like to raise awareness and have some fun at the same time!" Patrick explained. The fashion show will be styled by Patrick, using clothes off the racks of Lucky Star which include new and gently-used contemporary fashions. She'll combine outfits in five different themes, to be modeled by local women, men and children. The themes of the runway show will include Boho Chic, All Kids, All Men and Boys, Pencil-Bottom Pants and Ruffles, and Prom Dresses and Evening Wear.

A representative from the Dream Project will open the show by talking about the project and why there's such a great need to fund it.

Information on foster parenting will also be available. Coastal Coffee will cater the event and Rodgers will serve as emcee. Diane Young, sewing teacher at Lucky Star and textile administrator for Washington state will give a talk on how to update an existing wardrobe to reflect current clothing trends and the correct way to wear garments for individual body shapes. Kitsap Mail & Print is donating printing services for the programs. Tickets for the Kitsap Style fashion show are \$18, which includes hors d'oeuvres, and are available in advance at the Indianola Country Store, and Lucky Star, Pine Cone Gifts and Coastal Coffee in the Kingston Crossing shopping center at Highway 104 and Hansville Road. For more information, contact Stacy Patrick at Lucky Star, (360) 297-6721.

At the end of 59 days, the 59th Legislative Session adjourned after passing a supplemental budget that improved the DSHS budget by \$131 million.

Children's Administration received the following considerations:

Children's Administration is in the midst of major reform to keep children safe and better provide services and support to children and families. The supplemental budget provides WHAT THE LEGISLATURE FUNDED TO IMPROVE CHILDREN'S SERVICES over \$20 million to phase-in the hiring of an additional 197 FTEs statewide. We think the Region 5 share will be near 50 new positions. This will help to continue improving our 24-hour response to critical abuse and neglect referrals and our 72-hour response to all other referrals. New staff provided for in the budget also will enable social workers to visit children every 30 days who remain in their own homes while under DSHS care. These are major child safety priorities for Gov. Gregoire. New money also is available to begin replacing the aging CAMIS with a new statewide automated child welfare information system. The supplemental budget included money to pay for 22 chemical dependency counselors in children's services offices throughout the state. The Legislature approved the continuation of foster care for youth to age 21. A pilot program provides for 50 young people a year for 3 years to remain in foster care until they are 21, if they are attending college or a vocational school. Children's Administration is to collaborate with the Mental Health Division and Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration to establish a pilot program to provide evidenced-based mental health services to children. The legislature also funded Adoption Support to allow us to meet our current contractual obligations with adoptive families.

***You know you're a foster parent when....***

You put names on the bedroom doors to remember who you have and where you put them.

You wind up spending more time talking to the therapist than your kids do.

***From the President...***

*April is my gateway month to sanity. Summer is coming, no, no, it's here! None too soon for this guy and to top it off, Sharon and celebrated our 35th wedding anniversary! Not long ago, I wasn't even that old! With my parents gone, and close friends beginning to pass on, I find myself with the knowledge that life is almost as short as the seasons and I had better cherish the fact that God has allowed me to make it this far. Time is wasting! Did I say appreciation? April was Staff Appreciation month and KFCA did a wonderful job of showing it. Food aplenty as well as cute pencils with hearts, individual thank you messages and great food. Phyllis Bishop planned and instituted the event with help from Sharon Williams, Maydeana Pattison, Laura Marshall, Karen Randleman, Diane Castaneres, and Luanne Vail. I just showed up to look pretty. Nice job everyone! I should add that we foster parents really do appreciate Bremerton DCFS staff and Workers. We are a team and partners in a very complicated and demanding business. We thank all of you for your efforts! We may not always show or say it but we really do! Thank You! May is a very big month. It is KFCA's annual business meeting coupled with Foster Parent Appreciation events. Here is what the next meeting will look like. A catered dinner served by Social Workers and Staff. They are also bringing dessert! Now they really having us eating out of their hands and we couldn't be happier! There is more to it but I will keep that for you to find out. At 7PM, they can go home and we will get on with the business of elections. John Vail runs unopposed for Secretary and Jeff Bishop and Kay Arens vie for Vice President. Cast your ballot for your choice. We will approve our Standing rules and Budget and cap the night off with our raffle and 50/50. Be there or be "square"! On a much different note, our beloved, behind the scene newsletter editor, Jennifer Martin has requested we get our articles in this weekend because Monday she will be giving birth to her second beautiful child. She will have done this by the time you read this. I very much appreciate her dedication to KFCA and can't wait to see the new arrival! Best wishes Jennifer! I am trying very hard to remember what else to report on but my "old timers" has kicked in but not to worry, if it's not in the newsletter, then Chuck has everything on our terrific web site. [www.kitsapfostercare.org](http://www.kitsapfostercare.org) KFCA helps to sponsor the upcoming Graduation Tea and this special event is for the very few that attain their diploma or GED. Be sure that your graduating teen gets to the celebration. It is coming up soon so be prepared to get them there. I do not want to hear that someone was too busy to take them. This is a rare occasion for a foster kid. There will be no excuses. Right? This is a very big deal and want them to have a great memory. Be part of that! As our numbers continue to dwindle and our work becomes more demanding as well as ever important, remember that you are a most rare person. Your heart and long hours are appreciated by many but never more so than by another Foster Parent. We need to support one another in small as well as big ways. Being part of KFCA and the community that we are is important to our mission and self identity. KFCA as a whole, appreciates each and everyone of you. You are chosen to do this work and you have answered that call. God will bless each of you.*

*Your President,  
Rick Williams*

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P.O. Box 4542  
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