

April 2008

KFCA NEWSLETTER

Kitsapfostercare.org

April KFCA Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, April 16th—6:00PM

Guest Speaker: Jessie Banks, DDS of Kitsap Kids Dentistry—will discuss special dental needs for special kids and foster children. Please attend and learn how you can support kids in having all their oral health needs met.

KFCA NEEDS YOU!

KFCA is seeking nominations for the positions of:
Vice President & Secretary

Nominations will be accepted at both the April and May meetings and likely be voted on at the May business meeting. Step up and take a greater role in the governance of KFCA—you'll be glad you did!

Need time to 'Reconnect'?

Or maybe you would like to just grocery shop alone for a change! This is your lucky Day! KFCA is sponsoring another "date night".

Take advantage of this opportunity for your kids to have fun in a safe and fun location—the Bremerton YMCA

When, you ask?

Saturday May 10th, 5:30 to 9:30.

PREREGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!

Contact Debra Converse: (360) 692-1927 to reserve spaces for all of your little angels.

Age appropriate activities and supervision will be provided to all from infants to teens.

TAKE THE PLUNGE!

Sunday, April 27th 4:00 to 6:30pm

Bring the kids and the floaties to the South Kitsap High School Pool for a family swim. Sponsored by KFCA so, as always there is **NO COST!** No pre-reservations required, just show and up and enjoy!

KFCA WANTS TO TAKE YOU OUT THE BALL GAME!

Join us Friday May 30th for a fun family outing to see the Mariner's take on the Detroit Tigers @ Safeco Field. Relax and ride the bus with the group, or meet us there! Call Luann Vail (360) 876-5207 to reserve your spot on the bus and tickets for the game
FREE FREE FREE FREE

Re-establishing Orphanages???

NO WAY!

A big organization like Children's Administration is always subject to rumors, so let's clear this one up right here and NOW!

Children's Administration has no plan to go back to a time when children were placed in orphanages. Children need to grow up a family. Children's Administration is committed to Family Foster Care as the placement resource when children cannot live with their parents or other relatives. Region 5 continues to see families as the best resources for children needing out of home care.

Thank you for making room in your family for children who cannot live with theirs.

Notice of Regional Quarterly & 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

Region 5 Meeting

(Quarterly Regional)

April 21, 2008

Tacoma Office

1949 South State Street,

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 PM

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.

Looking 4 Summer Fun?

Directory of Summer Camps

For kids with special needs

Is the resource for you!

The e-catalogue be found on the department of Health's website:

www.schcn.org/resources/campcalendar

Royal Family Kids' Camp

FOR FOSTER CHILDREN 7-11 YEARS OLD

Sponsored by Peninsula Bible Fellowship

is now accepting applications!

Ask your social worker for the forms

9590 Radcliff Avenue N.E.

Bremerton, WA 98311

June 23 – 27, 2008

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>.

CA'S REGION 5 STAFFING GUIDE

Who to contact at CA If You need help

Children's Administration staff is committed to being responsive to the needs of foster parents and relative caregivers. Your needs are important to us and our goal is to provide you with prompt and responsive answers to your questions and concerns.

If you have a question or need assistance from your social worker, give them a call. If you don't reach them when you call, leave a message so they can follow up on your specific concerns. If you don't receive a call back within 24 hours, call their supervisor. If you still don't receive a response call from the supervisor within 24 hours, call the area administrator. It's okay to move up the chain of command so that the needs of the child in your home are met. If supervisors and administrators don't know a social worker isn't calling back, we can't intervene to help you. Remember, our goal is to get your question answered so you can provide for the child in your home.

In Bremerton you can contact:

Resource Unit Supervisor-

Barb Bofinger (360) 475-3612
boba300@dshs.wa.gov

Placement Desk Social Workers

Donna Smith (360) 475-3560
smdm300@dshs.wa.gov
Shannon Dempewolfe (360) 475-3562
dmpps300@dshs.wa.gov

Foster Parent Liaison

Teresa Walton (360) 990-9995
tew5300@dshs.wa.gov

Foster Parent Association Representative

Debra Converse (360) 692-1927
president@kitsapfostercare.org

Relative Support Program Manager

Tewannah Johnson
(360) 475-3571
joht300@dshs.wa.gov

In Tacoma you can contact:

Resource Unit Supervisor-

Holly Mathews (253) 983-6241
znho300@dshs.wa.gov

Placement Desk Social Worker

Heather McLellan (253) 983-6311
mclh300@dshs.wa.gov
Larisa Simurdak (253) 983-6212
simu300@dshs.wa.gov

Foster Parent Liaison

Sheri Novak (253) 983-6423
nosh300@dshs.wa.gov

Foster Parent Association Representative

Lyn Okarski (253) 473-9252
fostercareresnet@aol.com

Relative Support Program

Bobbie Keys (253) 983-6425
albo300@dshs.wa.

30 Day Dependency Case Conferences are held within 30 days of the dependency petition being filed to discuss CHET recommendations, family services, and the case plan. **Child Protective Team Staffings (CPT)** are held when any child 0 to 5 has been in care longer than 72 hours and the plan is reunification or on high risk CPS or CFWS cases.

Family Team Decision Making (FTDM) are held (1) whenever there is an imminent risk of placement, (2) whenever there is a placement change including exiting out of home placement (preferably prior to the change) or (3) within 72 hours of an emergency placement.

Local Indian Child Welfare (LICWAC) Staffings – for Native American children. LICWAC staffings are considered shared planning meetings and are held every 12 months throughout life of case.

Shared Planning Staffings From the date of placement, this staffing occurs at 30 days, 180 days, between 9 and 12 months and every 12 months thereafter throughout the life of the case. The staffing addresses issues related to safety, permanency, and the well-being of the child.

Guardianship Staffing is held at any point in a case when it is determined that guardianship would be the best permanent plan. This staffing should be held prior to making a recommendation of guardianship in court.

First Adoption Planning Review staffing is held when petition for Termination of Parental Rights (TPR) is filed.

Second adoption planning staffing is held within 30 days of termination of parental rights.

Multiple Placement staffing is held when a child has been in 5 or more placements since their placement in out of home care. Staffing has a special focus on planning for placement stability in addition to considering permanency.

Sexually Aggressive Youth (SAY) Staffing is held to determine SAY eligibility. Staffing is held every 6 months thereafter if SAY funding needs to be renewed.

Behavioral Rehabilitation Services (BRS) Staffings – CA social worker and contracted providers hold monthly staffing for each child receiving BRS services. Permanency planning issues are discussed in-depth at 90 days of BRS placement and every 6th months thereafter if the child continues to receive BRS services.

Adoption Consortium Staffing is held to locate a potential adoptive placement for children that are legally free .

Adoption Placement Committee Staffing is held when a child is legally free and the department is identifying the approved adoptive placement.

Missing Children Staffing is held within 72 hours of a child leaving care and five days of a child's return to care from being on the run.

Almost 18/Coordinated Services/Open Door Staffing is held with other DSHS divisions 6 months before a child exits foster care

Chronicity Staffings. Staffing is held at the request of a social worker or supervisor when shared decision making would be helpful in case planning for chronically referring families who have not responded to previous Children's Services interventions.

Administrative Review Staffings - Staffing is used to review Voluntary Placement Agreements (VPA). Staffing is held when a child is on a VPA for 6 months without a formal court review. Due to shortened time frames for services, this staffing is now seldom used.



**LINKS TO RESOURCES/TOOLS
AVAILABLE TO FOSTER PARENTS
& RELATIVE CAREGIVERS:
DSHS Electronic Forms Link**

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](http://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

From Early Learning to School Readiness:

THE MAGICAL YEARS

Children make predictions, do experiments, try to explain what they see, and formulate new theories based on their knowledge. Come and listen as Dr. Meltzoff explains his research and experiences about what children are thinking as it relates to school readiness.

Guest Speaker—Andrew Meltzoff, PhD author of the *Scientist in the Crib* and a researcher from the University of Washington Institute for Learning and Brain Science.

Wednesday, April 23rd, 2008 7:to 9pm

Bates South Campus 2201 S. 78th Tacoma

This is a free event and open to the public—supported by the Pierce County Library System

For more information contact the Home & Family Life program @ (253) 680-7500 or www.bates.ctc.edu

Training Opportunities:

April:

16 & 17 —Engaging Families for Change
10am—1pm Brem 1st Methodist
Register with Hildegard Stone—(360) 475-3586
Sthi300@dshs.wa.gov

May:

20th Managing High Risk Behavior 9a-4p
DCFS Tacoma
22nd Physically Assaultive Youth 9a—4p
DCFS Tacoma
Register w/Linda Falcocchio (253) 983-6474
Fali300@dshs.wa.gov

**PRESERVICE TRAINING
FOR FOSTER LICENSURE**

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
26th Saturday 9:00am – 4:45pm
29, 30th Tues/Wed/Thurs 5:30pm –9:30pm
& 5/1

To Enroll, contact:

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

The Pre-Service 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

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

Join KFCA!

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Debra Converse, *President*

president@kitsapfostercare.org

Phyllis Bishop, *Vice President*

vicepres@kitsapfostercare.org

Chuck Converse, *Treasurer*

treasurer@kitsapfostercare.org

Jennie Brusco, *Secretary/Membership*

secretary@kitsapfostercare.org

Sharon Williams, *Historian*

historian@kitsapfostercare.org

Lesla 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, *Special Events
Coordinator***

Phone 275-5725

events@kitsapfostercare.org

Laura Marshall, *Culinary Coordinator*

culinary@kitsapfostercare.org

Mary Jones, *Legislative Liaison*

Phone 792-0249

Teresa Walton, *Foster Parent Liaison*

Cell (360) 990-9995

liaison@kitsapfostercare.org

3RD Annual
Tee it up for Kids
GOLF
TOURNAMENT!

WHERE: HORSESHOE LAKE GOLF COURSE,
1250 SW Clubhouse Ct., Port Orchard,

WHEN: SATURDAY, JULY 12, 2008 Arrive 7:30 am
for tee assignments

FORMAT: 4-PERSON SCRAMBLE: Rules will be pro-
vided 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 green
fee, golf cart, and barbecue).

For more info call Barbara Bofinger (360) 983-6445

RETRO HOLLYWOOD

3RD ANNUAL

KITSAP STYLE FASHION SHOW

Presented by:
LUCKY STAR CONSIGNMENT CLOTHING

SUNDAY MAY 4TH
KINGSTON HIGH SCHOOL COMMONS
TICKETS \$10 ADULTS / \$ 7 STUDENTS

Tickets available @ Kingston High; Lucky Star Con-
signment Clothing; Pine Cone Gifts; Kitsap Bank;
American Marine; Bank; Liberty Bay Books

Benefits:

KFCA DREAM PROJECT

KFCA IS ACCEPTING DREAM APPLICATIONS!

Do the kids in your care have dreams of
playing sports or taking music lessons? The
KFCA would like to encourage you to apply
on behalf of your kids.

The Dream Project provided up to \$75 to-
wards a variety of enrichment activities!

Find the application @ [www.
Kitsapfostercare.org](http://www.Kitsapfostercare.org)

FOSTER CARE MONTH

**MAY IS NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH-
WASHINGTON CELEBRATES MAY 6, 2008**

Each May, the nation salutes the compassionate people
who make a difference by serving as foster parents, rela-
tive caregivers, mentors, advocates, social workers, and
volunteers. Washington will honor and recognize foster and
relative caregivers in **Olympia on May 6, 2008 from 10:00
to 12:30 at Capitol Campus Legislative Building, Co-
lumbia Room.** Come join your fellow foster and relative
caregivers, Children's Administration, Casey Family Pro-
grams and the community to celebrate. The agenda in-
cludes:

Presentations by John Seals foster youth, Passion to Ac-
tion youth, foster parents and other dignitaries

- Catered Lunch
- Door prizes
- ♦ Music and lots of fun

For more information contact your regional Children's Ad-
ministration contact or Michael Luque, Foster Care & Kin-
ship Care Program Manager (360) 902-7986 or
lumi300@dshs.wa.gov.

Are you a

NATURAL BORN RECRUITER?

*If your answer is yes, you can earn \$100 for
every family you refer to the FOSTER CARE RE-
SOURCE NETWORK who licenses with DCFS.
Contact Lyn @ www.FosterCareResNet@aol.com*

FOSTER CARE TO 21

Is accepting applications for youth who are nearly
18 and wish to stay in care to participate in a pro-
gram of post secondary education. Whether it is col-
lege; university or technical school youth pursuing
their educational goals are welcome to apply. First
contact is the youth's assigned social worker or so-
cial worker supervisor to receive forms. Forms can
also be forwarded to you if you contact
newsletter@Kitsapfostercare.org or for more infor-
mation contact Jim Pritchard, Passport to College
Program manager @ (360) 902-8487

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Soroptimists International of the
Greater Bremerton Area for their Pajama
drive for Kitsap foster youth. They collected
and donated 108 pairs of new pajamas sizes
7 and up. Thank you so much ladies!

Hello all,

At last spring has arrived! I hope all of you had a good Easter holiday and are surviving spring break with the kids at home.

Come join us for the April 16th KFCA members dinner meeting and training. This month we have Jessie Banks DDS from Kitsap Kids Dentistry coming to speak on Dentistry for special needs and foster children. I have heard great things about her previous presentations and I'm sure that we are in for a real treat. (You will receive 1 hour of FP training and childcare is provided).

Please mark your calendars for April 27th from 4:00-6:30 P.M. for a KFCA swimming party at the South Kitsap High School Pool. For those of you who do not know, this pool has an adjustable floor. This feature makes the pool more kid friendly (not as deep water) but not to discourage the older and more experienced swimmer, they still have the deep end with a diving board. Hope to see you there! Last year a fun time was had by all.

The "Kitsap Style" Fashion Show tickets are now on sale (\$7 students/youth & \$10 adults). The event will be held on Sunday, May 4th at 2PM at the Kingston High School Auditorium. The proceeds from this event go to The Dream Project which benefits Kitsap foster children (the children in your homes). Let's get the word out to help raise funds for the foster children's "little" dreams. The show was quite entertaining last year and is expected to be even better this year and who knows you may even see a few people you recognize in it.

May is a busy month with it being Foster Parent Appreciation Month. There will be a State celebration event commemorating fostering, in Olympia on Tuesday, May 6th and we will be having our annual Foster Parent Appreciation Dinner/KFCA business meeting at our monthly dinner meeting (Wed. May 21st). We also will be having a Foster Parent Date Night on Saturday May 10th

(Pre-registration required by May 2nd, so that we will be prepared with adequate staffing to watch the children). Also, we have purchased tickets to a Mariner's game on May 30th. Tickets are going fast and the buses are filling up quickly so sign up NOW for tickets with Luanne Vail at 876-5207.

I would like to extend a thank you to the Soroptimist of Greater Bremerton Area in their Pajama drive for Kitsap foster youth. They collected and donated 108 pairs of new pajamas sizes 7 and up. Their focus was on larger sizes for the older children who are often overlooked. We distributed them at our March member dinner meeting. Thank you, Soroptimist for giving back to the foster children in your community.

It's a busy time right now and we hope to see you at the planned activities and events. For the kids it's an activity or outing, but more importantly for us as adults, it's a great opportunity for added support thru networking and socializing together with other fostering families.

Best Regards,

Debra Converse,
KFCA President
president@kitsapfostercare.org

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

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