



July KFCA Dinner Meeting

Wednesday the 16th—6:00—8:00pm

MENU:

Keepin' Cool in the Summer

Sub Sandwiches

With assorted meats & Cheeses

Vegetable and fruit bar

Deviled eggs, potato salad & chips

Mini cream pies and tapioca pudding

Mmm-mmm

GUEST SPEAKER: Paige Robinson, Job Corps Admission Counselor; Topic: Job Corps Program—

CONGRATULATIONS NEW BOARD MEMBERS!

Phyllis Williams—Vice President

Jenny Brusco—Secretary

Volunteer Opportunities!

Do you want to lend a hand and attend Whaling Days and/or the Blackberry festival? Please consider volunteering a few hours of your day to help populate the booth and talk to prospective foster parents. If you would like to assist in this please contact Elizabeth Griffin to sign up.

Email is elizanngriffin@aol.com or phone: 360-876-7515

KFCA extends a *Very Special Thank You* to *Scott and Shirley Newman*

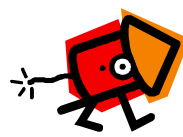
for their tireless effort in the child care room. With out Scott and Shirley, it would sure be tough to enjoy the benefit of the trainings available at the dinner meetings.

KFCA has free duffel bags for kids!

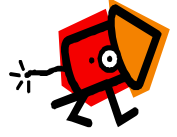
Please don't send kids off to camp; their next placement or back home w/o proper luggage. Just say 'No!' to garbage bags.

KFCA NEWSLETTER

Kitsapfostercare.org



July 2008



Activity!

Come spend the afternoon playing golf with the family!

Mini golf at the NW Golf Range on Wagga Way on for July 20,2008 from 3-5 pm There will be a light snack of cookies, crackers, juice and water.

“AGENCY FOCUS”—

Getting to Know. . .
Kitsap Mental Health

Multi-Dimensional Treatment Foster Care

The Multidimensional Treatment Foster Care (MTFC) program at Kitsap Mental Health Services offers a special opportunity for at-risk youth and their families to receive intervention services with a proven track record of success. Our program provides youth ages 12 through 17 with 6 to 9 months of foster care in specially trained treatment homes that receive daily behavioral tracking and staff support including 24/7 consultation and crisis intervention services. Our young clients receive weekly individual therapy and skills coaching to improve their social and behavioral skills. The youth's family members attend weekly sessions aimed at increasing parenting skills and reducing conflict to create an aftercare environment that sustains the gains made during MTFC. Three months of aftercare support are provided to the family to help with a successful transition home.

The MTFC staff includes: Carol Lambias (Supervisor), Pamela Rhodes (Therapist), Leatha Goar (Foster Home Developer), Michelle Shanks (Skills Trainer) and, most importantly, Foster Parents! All team members work in close collaboration to provide the extensive training and support that make the MTFC experience life-changing for youth and their families.

For more information about the Multidimensional Foster Care program at Kitsap Mental Health Services contact Leatha Goar at (360) 479-4994.

Resolve Concerns

Anyone who is unhappy with a social worker's actions or decisions should first talk to the social worker. If one continues to be unhappy after talking with the social worker, contact the social worker's supervisor. If a conversation with the supervisor does not help, contact the Area Administrator.

There is also a formal DCFS complaint process that may be used. The formal complaint process requires that one initiate the complaint with the local unit supervisor before involving the Area Administrator. If contact with the Area Administrator does not resolve the issue, one may contact the Regional Administrator.

Anyone who needs help to resolve problems and to understand the formal complaint process may call the Children's Administration Office of Constituent Relations in Olympia at 1-800-723-4831.

Anyone may contact the [Office of the Family and Children's Ombudsman \(OFCO\)](#) when they have a complaint or are unable to resolve a complaint about the Children's Administration. The term "ombudsman" refers to a public official who serves as an independent voice for citizens who believe they have been treated unfairly by their government. The OFCO is an independent office within the Office of the Governor and can be reached at 1-800-571-7321.

3RD Annual Tee it up for Kids GOLF TOURNAMENT!

WHERE: HORSESHE 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
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
green fee, golf cart, and barbecue).
For more info call Barbara Bofinger (360) 475-3612

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 @ <Http://www.schcn.org/resources/campcalendar>



Summer activities for teens?

What is your teen doing this summer?

Here are 4 sites to visit as potential resources for older youth & teens:

YMCA Camp Seymour:

<http://www.campseymour.org/FinancialAid.htm>

Camp Kindness – The Humane Society

<http://www.thehumanesociety.org/2006/08/introducing-camp-kindness-for-kids-pr/>

Camp Fire USA – often offers scholarships for day and residential camp

<http://www.campfireusaorca.org/>

Campfire US Orca Council: Teen Outreach Program: The Teen Outreach Program connects homeless, street-involved and at-risk youth to academic, social, health, and community resources. It addresses basic needs such as housing, food, clothing, and hygiene items, as well as secondary needs such as education, employment, healthcare, and transportation. The program strives to remove barriers—either actual or perceived—that prevent youth from becoming self-sufficient, productive adults. The impact of the program is intended to be life long.

Boys and Girls Clubs:

<http://www.bg-clubs.com/>



Next State wide HB1624 meeting is:

Tuesday July 15 in Spokane. For more information or to have your thoughts put forth by the KFCA President, contact Debra Converse @ 692-1927

THE STAR CARD IS COMING SOON!

Look for it in the mail—good for discounts at your local merchants. For More info check the Fostering Family Connections website:

www.fosterfamilyconnections.org

HELPING CHILDREN PREPARE FOR DISASTERS

Through the eyes of a child, natural disasters and other emergencies can be a frightening and confusing experience. Talking with children about disaster preparedness and involving them in the planning process can calm their fears and prepare them to deal with an emergency if one occurs. A number of organizations offer useful resources for children to learn about disasters and disaster preparedness:

Ready Kids

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

www.ready.gov/kids/

Features step-by-step instructions for children in Grades 4-5 on how families can prepare for an emergency and the role children can play in this effort. Children can learn how to create an emergency supply kit and family communication plan, understand different types of emergencies, and take a quiz to graduate from "Readiness U."

FEMA for Kids

Federal Emergency Management Agency

www.fema.gov/kids/

Presents information children may want to know about disasters, including creating a disaster supply kit and family plan, different types of disasters, protecting your home and pets, and common feelings experienced during a disaster. Children who pass a quiz can download a "Disaster Action Kid" certificate.

Playtime for Kids

National Weather Service

www.nws.noaa.gov/om/reachout/kidspage.shtml

Provides links to games and other activities for children to learn about natural disasters such as hurricanes, winter storms, tornadoes, thunderstorms and lightning, and floods. Downloadable activity books offer information on ways to prepare, safety tips, and a quiz for children to test their knowledge.

Masters of Disaster®

American Red Cross

www.redcross.org/disaster/masters/

Presents a curriculum for both educators and families that includes downloadable toolkits, coloring books, and activity sheets to teach children how to prevent, prepare for, and respond to disasters and other emergencies. The goal is to create a culture of preparedness in the community, in school, and at home.

Summer is here and it's time to visit Washington State Parks -- FREE! FREE! FREE!

Children's Administration's licensed foster parents and unlicensed caregivers who provide out of home care for children are entitled to free passes to Washington state parks and campsites for the year.

This can mean a huge savings. Campsite fees, which range between \$20 and \$37 a night depending on the campsite, are waived for qualifying families. There is a \$9 reservation fee which still applies for foster parents and unlicensed caregivers, but the \$10 per night Parks Pass fee is waived for those qualifying families.

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, Children's Administration licensed foster parents and unlicensed caregivers with children in their care.

Children's Administration's licensed foster parents and unlicensed caregivers who are accompanied by a child receiving out-of-home care are entitled to free use of campsites and free admission to most state parks in Washington.

Children's Administration's licensed foster parents must provide foster parent identification or foster home license and driver's license at the entrance of each state park. Please contact your licensor if you would like to be provided with a foster parent identification card.



Thinking ahead. . . .

to the 2008-9 school year & legislative session
It's also not too early to begin thinking about another opportunity for young people to learn about how their State Legislature works - by participating as a Senate Page!

During each week of the legislative session, approximately 50 students aged 14 to 16 from all over Washington State get to take time off from their regular education to participate in the legislative process for the week and observe the Legislature and other branches of state government in action.

Pages spend a full work-day - 7:45 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. - performing a variety of tasks including deliveries to Senate offices, working in the Senate chambers, and attending two hours a day of Page School learning the legislative process.

Pages are paid \$35 for each day worked, including their attendance at the Page Orientation on Sunday.

The next session of the Legislature runs from January - April, 2009. If you know of a young person who would be interested in learning more about how to become a page, please have them visit the website: <http://www.leg.wa.gov/senate/administration/pageprogram/>

QUICK, EASY & DELICIOUS DINNER ENTRÉE CHICKEN DIVAN

3 cups steamed broccoli
2 to 3 cups cooked cubed chicken (thighs or breast)
2 cans cream of chicken soup
1/2 teaspoon curry powder
1 cup mayonnaise
1 cup shredded cheddar cheese
1 teaspoon lemon juice
Bread crumbs

Place chicken and broccoli in a 9x12 pan. Mix chicken soup, mayo, cheese, curry and lemon. Pour over chicken & broccoli. Sprinkle the top w/bread crumbs. Bake @ 350 degrees for about 30 minutes.

Delectable, delightful and totally Yummy!!!!!!

First Aid/CPR Training 4 Foster Parents

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

Or call (253)217-1105



Training Opportunities: Resource Family Training Institute

Orientation for Licensing:

1st Wed of the month, 10:00a – 12, at DCFS Bremerton.
register @ 360-475-3598.

Pride Pre-Service Training for Caregivers

July 1, 3, 8, 10th, 9:00a – 4:00p & 15th, 9:00a – noon.
August 5, 6, 7, 13, 14th, 5:30p – 9:30p & Sat. 9:00a – 4:45p.

Sept. 3, 4, 5, 6th, 9:00a – 4:00p & 10th, 9:00 – noon.

On Site Classes for Caregivers in Kitsap County:

Engaging Biological Families for Change

July 17 & 18th, 6:00p – 9:00p

Parenting Sexually Aggressive Children & Youth

Aug. 1st, 9:00a – 4:00p

Parenting Physically Assaultive Children & Youth

Aug. 22nd, 9:00a – 4:00p

Ansell-Casey Life Skills—for teens and older youth

Sept. 19th, 9:00a – 1:00p

There is no charge for classes.

classes are at Bremerton 1st Methodist 1150 Marine Dr.
Register w/ H. Stone, 360-475-3586; 800 423-6246, or
sthi300@dshs.wa.gov

FREE 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 or 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>

Check out these helpful web sites & numbers:

www.familieslikeours.org

www.usfosterfamilies.com

www1.dshs.wa.gov/ca/fosterparents/

24hr support line (800) 301-1868

nfo@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

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

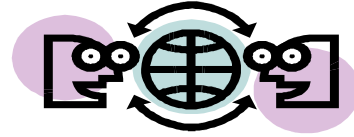
Other: _____

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

YOU ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!

Board of Directors Meetings are open to all members of the Association and visitors are welcome. The meetings are held the first Monday of every month—generally in a local restaurant from approximately 6 to 8pm. If you would like to attend please contact any board member for the exact location of the next meeting.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:



Debra Converse, *President*

president@kitsapfostercare.org

Phyllis Bishop, *Vice President*

vicepres@kitsapfostercare.org

Chuck Converse, *Treasurer*

treasurer@kitsapfostercare.org

Jenny Brusco—***Secretary/Membership***

secretary@kitsapfostercare.org

Sharon Williams, *Historian*

historian@kitsapfostercare.org

Lesla LeClair, *Child Care*

childcare@kitsapfostercare.org

Chuck Converse, *Webmaster*

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Debra Converse, *Education/ Training*

education@kitsapfostercare.org

Barbara Holbrook, *Newsletter*

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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



Kitsap FOSTER CARE ASSOCIATION

Serving and Supporting Kitsap Foster Families

Back to School Event Registration:

At this event, each child enrolled in elementary, secondary, or high school will receive age appropriate school supplies. Each child must be pre-registered. This

Event is to help the families with some of the school supplies needed, this is **NOT** expected to be everything your child needs for school. We will have bags with crayons and color books for the preschool and younger children.

Open to all children in foster care; in-home dependencies, and Relative (kinship care) placements.

Event: August 13th, 2008
Location: Evergreen Park
Time: 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Registration Deadline: Weds. July 30 (no exceptions!)

Questions: contact Debra Converse at 360-692-1927

Return this form to your Social Worker or send to KFCA @ P.O. Box 4542, Bremerton, WA 98312

Caregiver: _____ Phone: _____

Child: _____ Grade 2008-9 _____ Social Worker: _____

Social Worker phone #: _____

Child: _____ Grade 2008-9 _____ Social Worker: _____

Social Worker Phone #: _____

Child: _____ Grade 2008-9 _____ Social Worker: _____

Social Worker Phone #: _____

Child: _____ Grade 2008-9 _____ Social Worker: _____

Social Worker Phone #: _____

Hello all,

Summer is finally here and I hear the excitement of the kids and the groans of the parents. Hopefully, the weather will cooperate and act like summer so those kids can get the sunshine and fresh air they need (and we adults can have a few moments to catch our breath and relax). I hope that your summer is starting out on a positive note and you can squeeze in some fun times or a family vacation. Speaking of which, have you heard that foster and relative care givers can camp for free in Washington State Parks. For more information, you can go to the state parks and DSHS websites. In addition to this, we have the new Star Card for foster and relative caregivers to benefit from. If you haven't heard, the Star Card is discount card for local businesses in Region 5 (Pierce and Kitsap County). The Star Card is anticipated to be delivered to your home via mail in July 2008. It's an exciting time with several new programs to benefit foster and relative caregivers. Programs like these are some of the ways the State is trying to appreciate and assist you in everyday ways to benefit your family and the children you care for in your homes.

In May, State Headquarters in Olympia kicked off the new "Foster Parenting, you can too" slogan and recruitment campaign. This is the new statewide branding message for recruitment of foster home and families. We at KFCA assist in helping to recruit foster homes in our area by having recruitment booths at both Whaling Days (July 25-27th) and Blackberry Festival (Aug 30- Sept 1) each year with FCN recruiters. If you would like to assist in this and volunteer at the booth for a few hours please contact Elizabeth Griffin to sign up. Her email is elizanngriffin@aol.com or by phone at 360-876-7515.

Well, I know that school just got out a few weeks ago but it is time once again to think about the KFCA Back to School event. Registration forms need to be filled out and returned by Wednesday, July 30th and the event is Wednesday, August 13, 2008 from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM at Evergreen Park in Bremerton.

And one last thing, a reminder to mark your calendar for Miniature golf on Sunday, July 20th at Northwest golf range (next to Wagga Way) from 3 to 5 PM. See you there.

Sincerely,

Debra Converse,
KFCA President

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

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