



Resource Family Connection

News, Events and Information Benefiting
the Children of Waukesha County

May / June, 2016



Mandatory Out of Home Care Provider Training Coming Summer 2016

Federal Legislation has been passed which requires all Out of Home Care Providers who have a court ordered placement to receive **MANDATORY** training on the Reasonable and Prudent Parenting Standard in 2016. Below is a Frequently Asked Questions section which will explain what the standard is, how it affects you as a caregiver and when training will occur. Additional information will be mailed to your home in the near future and more information will be provided at the Foster Care Annual Meeting and Appreciation Event in May. It should be noted that this standard and training does not apply to voluntary Kinship Care.

What is the Reasonable and Prudent Parenting Standard (RPPS)?

The Reasonable and Prudent Parent Standard is a standard of decision making that allows an out-of-home care provider to make certain parenting decisions for a child placed in their care. The standard is built on careful and sensible parental decisions. As an out-of-home care provider, you will use this standard on a child specific basis to allow children place in your care to participate in age and developmentally appropriate activities that encourage normalcy and emotional and developmental growth, while still maintaining the health, safety, best interest, and cultural, religious, and tribal values of a child.

Where did the Reasonable and Prudent Parenting Standard come from?

The Federal "Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act" of 2014 requires that all states implement a Reasonable and Prudent Parent Standard to increase normalcy for children placed in out-of-home care.

Who does this apply to?

This new Standard applies to all licensed foster parents including all Level 1 and 2, legal guardians, court-ordered kinship care providers, licensed and unlicensed relatives, unlicensed non-relatives, group homes, residential care centers, and shelter care facilities that have placement of a child in out-of-home care.

When can I start making these decisions?

Every out-of-home care provider **MUST BE TRAINED ON THE STANDARD** prior implementing the use of reasonable and prudent parenting decision making. All Waukesha County providers will be required to be trained by the end of August 2016 via an in-person training.

Who and when will I be trained?

The Waukesha County Foster Care Team has scheduled several opportunities for training throughout the months of June, July, and August. The dates will vary in day of the week, time of day, location, and the availability of child care. The training will be an in-person training that will include viewing of a webinar followed by general discussion regarding how this affects the cares you provide. All providers must register by June 1st and pick which date they would like to receive training on.

How do I sign up to be trained?

Every provider which will need to be trained will receive a letter in the mail with the dates listed and the web link to register for the training in the near future.

CANS Corner Notes

Hello! We are pleased to introduce the "Your CANS CORNER Notes" worksheet. This worksheet in the center insert of this newsletter. The worksheet is for you to capture your thoughts about the child you have been caring for. Within the first weeks of placement your social worker will need to complete the CANS (Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths) Assessment. This assessment is a tool and the first assessment needs to be completed within 30 days a child is out home and at least every 6 months after. The CANS is used to get a clear picture of the child, to help in planning and is the tool the State of Wisconsin uses to determine the rate that is reimbursed to caregivers with court ordered placements.

The CANS can be overwhelming so the worksheet is a place for you to jot down some notes. Your social worker will be asking for input on the following areas:

- Daily Living (sleeping, eating, hygiene, mood, development, etc)
- Social Interactions (friends, peers, family, caregivers)
- Safety Concerns Inside or Outside Your Home (aggression, self-harm, impulsive, etc)
- Best Things About the Child? What is Going Well?
- How is the Child Adjusting?
- Anything Seem Unusual?
- Top 3 Focuses You Think Should be Addressed?
- Appointments/Meetings
- We Haven't Forgotten about YOU! How Are You Doing?

We hope you will find this worksheet helpful and understand your input counts as you are with the child on a daily basis.

Thank you to our CANS Breakthrough Series Collaborative Family Partner (Ruth Graczkowski) and Social Workers (Megan Fishler and Chelsey Nisbet) for creating this valuable tool.

Please see the last page of the newsletter for a copy of the notes!



Thank You, Catholic Study Club, Inc!



We would like to thank the Catholic Study Club, Inc., for their generous donation. This community organization collected and donated 257 items which will be used for various activities and programs that help serve our foster youth. Some of the donated items include books, puzzles, hangers, mittens, and hats, just to name a few. Generous donations like this have a tremendous impact on our foster youth in Waukesha County.



Spring Bird Count

Join Benjamin Goss Bird Club in their annual spring bird count. Teams observe and count the different species of birds found at the Retzer Nature Center.

Date: Saturday, May 14, 2016
Time: 7:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Free



Milwaukee County Zoo Events

May 8: Mother's Day at the Zoo
Treat mom special on Mother's Day with a Zoo visit! All moms receive FREE admission. (Regular parking and concession fees still apply.)

May 14 & 15: Party for the Planet
What does it really mean to go "green" and why is it so important to our planet and its natural resources? Find out these answers and many more through a variety of activities!

May 20: Endangered Species Day
See how many of our Zoo animals serve as ambassadors for their counterparts in the wild.

May 28 - September 5: BUGS! Larger than Life

June 4: Scouting the Zoo
The Three Harbors Council Boy Scouts show off their skills at the Zoo!

June 11: Animal Enrichment Day
Learn how Zoo animals are kept active and healthy through daily enrichment interactions.

June 19: Father's Day at the Zoo
Now it's dad's turn... Treat dad special on Father's Day with Zoo visit! All dads receive FREE admission. (Regular parking and concession fees still apply.)

June 29 & July 6, 13, 20, 27 & August 3: Sunset Zoofari
Dance the night away to popular live bands on the Zoo's Flamingo Patio, 6 PM to 9 PM. See the animals at night!

Camp To Belong

Camp To Belong - Wisconsin's summer camp will be August 13 - August 19. For more information: <http://www.ctb-wi.org/> We are now accepting camper applications: <https://app.campdoc.com//home/auth/email?r=campbelong%20camper-wi>

Our Sibling Groups and Teens Need You!

The Waukesha County foster care program is experiencing a surge in the need for out of home care placements; specifically for teens and larger sibling groups. In addition, our program is consistently receiving respite requests for in home youth as well as those youth who are currently placed in out of home care. If you are willing to open your home to a new age group, or are available to provide occasional weekend respite care we would love to hear from you. Our foster care coordinators are happy to answer any questions or concerns you may have in accepting this new challenge. We strive to make each foster parent's journey successful as you are our most valued resource. Would you like more information on what is defined as "respite care" and the benefits of both giving and receiving respite? The link below is for an article entitled: "Respite Care Makes a Tremendous Difference for Some North Carolina Foster Parents" by John McMahon
This article was presented for group discussion at our last Waukesha County foster parent support group, held on April 6, 2016. http://www.fosteringperspectives.org/fp_vol4no1/respite_care.htm



The Clothing Closet is Busting at the Seams!!!



The Clothing Closet is running out of room with donations of infant and toddler clothing. Pictured here are the racks and bins of clothing we have for families! Our wonderful volunteer, Carrie, has gone through the clothing to assure you that all the clothing is in good condition with no stains or imperfections. We have some really nice things in there, and many items still have store tags on them!! We are hoping that Kinship and Foster Families will use this resource. Please contact Linda Finn, one of our Human Services Support Specialists, at 262-548-7254, to arrange a personal appointment to come in and "shop" in the clothing closet!



Annual Foster Care Appreciation Event

This event for Level 1 and Level 2 providers will have a different feel and look in 2016.

Date: Thursday, May 12th, 2016
Time: 5:00 to 7:00 PM

Where: Center of Excellence
N4W22000 Bluemound Road, Waukesha

Daycare and a light dinner will be provided. These hours will count toward your annual training requirements.

Please RSVP by May 6th at
<https://waukeshacountyfostercare.eventbrite.com>

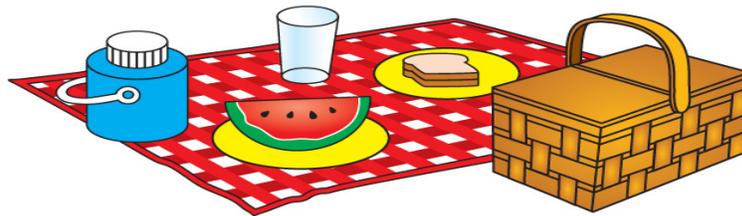
Annual Resource Family Picnic

Date: Saturday, July 23rd, 2016
Time: 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM
Where: Minooka Park, Picnic Area 1

Games, crafts, face painting, and make-your-own tie dye t-shirt! Lunch will be provided!

For all foster care, relative care, and kinship care providers!

Please RSVP by July 15th at
<https://resourcefamilypicnic.eventbrite.com>



Training and Events



Training Offered By Waukesha County

Parent Café

Parent Café's are an educational opportunity for parents to come together and deal with the stressors, worries and challenges of parenting in a supportive environment.

June 7, October 4, December 6, 2016
5:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Center for Excellence

N4W22000 Bluemound Road, Waukesha
To register for childcare, RSVP or for questions call, 262-521-0317.

Relative Caregivers Support/Education Group

May 17, July 19, September 20, November 15, 2016

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Parents Place

1570 E. Moreland Blvd., Waukesha, WI

Free childcare available. Please call Parents Place to reserve your spot at 262-549-5575.

Waukesha County Relative Resource Families
Please RSVP to Libby (262-548-7277)

Foster Parent Support Group

First Wednesday of each month

May 4, 2016

June 1, 2016

6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Parents Place

1570 E. Moreland Blvd., Waukesha, WI
262-549-5575

On-site daycare is available, but you must register in advance to secure a slot as there may be a cut-off depending on the number of children.

Support Group For Dads

This is a new group to enhance group members' experience as fathers. Topics of discussion will include coping with stress; developing a better relationship with partner/spouse/child's mother; identifying positive role models in your life; identifying how you are a positive role model for your child(ren); discussing your role as a father and what you would like to change or improve.

Fourth Tuesday of each month

May 24, 2016

June 28, 2016

6:00PM - 7:30PM

Parents Place

1570 E. Moreland Blvd., Waukesha, WI
262-549-5575

Waukesha County Foster Parent Orientation

Waukesha Department of Health and Human Services invites you to attend a foster parent orientation meeting. These meetings are open to anyone who is interested in learning about our foster care program. **If you are currently in the process of becoming a licensed foster parent, you are required to attend an orientation session prior to approval of your foster care license.**

We encourage you to complete the online foster parent pre-placement training prior to attending this information session. The training can be found online at <http://wcpwds.wisc.edu/foster-parent-training/>. Please save the certificates after you have completed each module. These are required to become licensed.

When:

Second Tuesday of each month

May 10, 2016

June 14, 2016

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Where: Human Services Center, 514 Riverview Ave., Waukesha, WI 53188

To register for an orientation session, contact your foster care coordinator.

Training

Parents Place Programs

262-549-5575 www.ppacinc.org

- **Positive and Negative Effects of Video Games**
Tuesdays, May 3 - 17; 5:30 - 7:00 PM
- **Kids Managing Anger (Parent and Child Class)**
Mondays, May 2 - 23; 5:30 - 7:00 PM
- **Creative Play and Learning**
Tuesday, May 24; 5:30 - 7:00 PM
- **Love and Logic®**
Mondays, June 6 - 20; 5:30 - 7:30 PM
- **Strong Willed Child**
Tuesdays, June 7 - 21; 5:30 - 7:30 PM
- **Mindful Parent = Happy Child**
Tuesdays, June 21 & 28; 5:30-7:30 PM
- **Picking Up The Pieces After Loss**
Monday, June 27; 5:30-7:00 PM

Coalition for Children

www.coalitionforcyf.org

For other training opportunities, see the Coalition for Children, Youth & Families website: www.coalitionforcyf.org. They offer interactive webinars that count toward the required face to face training hours.

Contact Numbers:

Waukesha County
Health & Human Services
262-548-7212

Vickie Smith, Foster Care
Licensing Supervisor
262-970-4761

Susan Peck, Foster Care Level 2
Coordinator
262-896-8574

Libby Sinclair, Relative Foster
Care Level 1 Coordinator
262-548-7277

Megan Quandt, Kinship & Foster
Care Community Enrichment
Coordinator
262-548-7373

Jessica Morris, Kinship & Foster
Care Training Coordinator
262-548-7256

Eve Altizer, Ongoing Social Work
Supervisor
262-548-7272

Rebecca Hollister, Ongoing Social
Work Supervisor
262-548-7271

Social Workers:

Tracy Clark 262-548-7270

Megan Fishler..... 262-896-8570

Danita Graham 262-548-7341

Laura Jahnke..... 262-548-7359

Jamie Kasten..... 262-548-7265

Becca Kuester 262-896-6857

Jessica Larsen 262-548-7346

Maria Maurer 262-548-7345

Chelsey Nisbet..... 262-896-6896

Rachel O'Sullivan 262-548-7639

Stacy Pawlak..... 262-548-7262

Eugenio

Quantro-Plaga 262-548-7684

Elizabeth Russo 262-548-7349

Kim Sampson..... 262-548-7273

Linda Senger 262-548-7698

Children's Mental Health Outreach

262-548-7666

Medical Emergency: 911

Family Emergency: 211 or

262-547-3388

Foster Parent Mentors

David & Jen Mersfelder

262-542-2926



*You might be temporary in their lives.
They might be temporary in yours.
But there is nothing TEMPORARY
about the love or the LESSON."*

Tonia Christle



If an Allegation of Abuse or
Neglect has been made
against you, please call:

FASPP
Norma Schoenberg
920-922-9627

YOUR CANS CORNER-Notes

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Daily living (sleeping, eating, hygiene, mood, development, etc.)	Social interactions (friends, peers, family, caregivers)	Safety Concerns inside or outside your home (aggression, self-harm, impulsive, etc.)
Best things about them? What is going well?	How are they adjusting?	Anything that seems unusual?
Top 3 focuses (you think should be addressed)	Appointments/Meetings	We haven't forgotten about YOU! How are you doing?

The CANS can be overwhelming so here is a place for you to jot down some notes. These are some of the areas the social worker will be asking about. Your input Counts as you are with the child on a daily basis.