

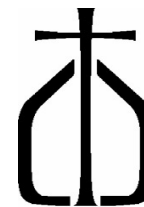


The Communication Link

Catholic Charities

Serving Allen, Cass, Fulton,
Kosciusko, Miami & Wabash County

All services are provided without regard to race, age,
color, religion, sex, disability, national origin or ancestry.



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Need a Form? Need Information?

If so, check out the foster care page on our web site at:
www.ccfwsb.org

These resources and others may be found there:

- ◆ Alternative Training Resource List and Verification Form
- ◆ FP Training Credit Form
- ◆ Child's Information Sheet
- ◆ Behavior Observation Form
- ◆ Medication Log
- ◆ Clothing Inventory
- ◆ Court Report Form
- ◆ Previous Editions of "The Communication Link"
- ◆ Physical Environment Checklist
- ◆ DCS Child Welfare Manual

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Free Tickets to See Tutankhamen: The Golden King and the Great Pharaohs



Indiana foster families enrolled in The Children's Museum Foster Family Membership program are eligible to receive free tickets for members of their households to visit the museum's exciting new exhibit *Tutankhamen: The Golden King and the Great Pharaohs*, which runs June 27 - Oct. 25th. This exhibit will feature legendary artifacts like Tutankhamen's golden sandals, jewelry, furniture, weaponry and statuary such as the largest image of King Tut ever found - a 10-foot statue! Families must call by May 15th and follow these simple steps to secure tickets:

1. Call the museum (800- 820-6214) to RSVP for a visit time slot.
2. On the day of your visit, bring photo identification and your museum membership card to the museum's concierge desk. Without it, tickets will not be issued. **Note:** Tickets are only available for pick up on the day of your scheduled visit.

Indiana foster families who are not currently a member of The Children's Museum may visit the museum to sign up for their free one year membership! Foster families must present a valid Indiana foster home license (or statement on DCS letterhead that gives your license number and expiration date) to the museum box office staff when completing the application. For more details visit www.childrensmuseum.org/fosterfamilies or call (800) 820-6214. The free membership program for Indiana foster families is being sponsored by the Indiana Department of Child Services and runs through Aug. 31st. **Note:** If you apply prior to Aug. 31 the membership will be valid for one year from the application date.

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Registration Instructions:

All E-mail Registrations Must Include the Following Information
Registrations sent without it will not be accepted!

Your Name	Address	Phone No.	Licensing Co.	Training Topic & Date
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Important Information :

- * To register via phone contact Robin Springstead @ 260-422-5625.
- * To register via e-mail send the above noted required information to robins@mchsi.com
- * If the class is full you'll be contacted, otherwise you may not be.
- * Reminders will only be sent for classes that are at least 3 hours in length.
- * Classes marked SN are special needs topics but may be attended by any foster parent who is interested in the topic regardless of their license type.
- * If you are no longer able to attend a class that you registered for please be sure to contact us immediately so that someone else may attend in your place!
- * Do not register to attend a class unless you can commit to being at that class!

Training Opportunities

First Aid and Universal Precautions (A Licensing Requirement: No In-service Hours)

Note: First Aid is valid for three years. Universal Precautions is required initially & during the re-licensing year.

Sat., Apr. 18 th	Allen County DCS, Fort Wayne	UP: 9:00 a.m.	FA: 9:45 - 11:00 a.m.
Tue., July 7 th	Catholic Charities, Fort Wayne	UP: 6:00 p.m.	FA: 6:45 - 8:00 p.m.

Adult & Pediatric CPR (A Licensing Requirement: No In-service Hours)

Note: CPR is valid for 1 or 2 years based upon the provider. Check expiration date on your certificate or card.

Sat., June 6 th	Children's Cottage, Fort Wayne	9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Sat., June 13 th	Rochester Library, Fulton Co.	10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Sat., July 18 th	Children's Cottage, Fort Wayne	9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Alternative In-service Training Policy

Up to four hours (eight hours if maintaining a special needs license) of in-service training credit may be earned per training year by foster parents who review state approved resources such as movies and books but only if they submit a completed Alternative Training Verification Form. One form must be completed for each item reviewed and a form must be completed by each person who reviews the item (They may not be submitted as a couple). The approved resource list and the verification form may be found on the foster care page of the Catholic Charities' web site at www.ccfwsb.org.

Note: Catholic Charities does maintain a small library of resources that are available to borrow for up to ten days at a time but the items must be requested in advance with pick up arrangements being made with Robin or Sherina. Many of the items on the list are also available through your local library, video store and/or book store.

Completed Verification Forms Must Be Submitted To:
 Robin Springstead, FAKT Coordinator
 315 E. Washington Blvd.
 Fort Wayne, IN 46802



Child Burn Victims: Caring for The *Whole* Child (2 SN Hours)

**Did you know that
about 1/3 of children with burn injuries are in the foster care system?
and
that these same children are faced with a multitude of problems on social,
developmental, emotional, and physical levels?**

Children with burn injuries need guidance through grief issues, self control & anger issues and any number of complications resulting from the initial incident.

Please join us for this important training where we will hear representatives from The People's Burn Foundation of Indianapolis discuss these issues and also teach us about the science of the skin and the many types of burn injuries.

Common burn hazards found in the home will also be highlighted and discussed with methods of prevention being taught.

Date: Saturday, April 18th

**Time: 9:30 a.m. to 9:55 a.m. Registration & Refreshments
10 a.m. to Noon Training Presentation**

**Place: IVY Tech Community College
Enter Through Door 3 By the Flag Poles
3800 North Anthony Blvd.
Fort Wayne, IN 45805**

NOTE: Space will be limited at this training as it is being offered as a collaborative effort among the following child and family serving agencies: Indiana Department of Child Services, Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Fort Wayne - South Bend, Children's Sanctuary, Dockside Services, Mentor Homes, Phoenix Institute, SAFY of Fort Wayne, and White's Residential and Family Services, Inc.

Cutting and Other Self Harm Behaviors (2 SN Hours)

From 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Wed., May 6th Marjorie Burns, a therapist specializing in addressing the needs of teenagers and adults, will present information on these behaviors and why children utilize them as a means of dealing with their internal pain. This class will be held at Catholic Charities. Space is limited.

A Case Manager's Perspective (2 Hours)

Join us as we hear an Allen Co. Case Manager speak about their role in the foster care system and how you can work together for the best interest of the child. Bring your questions as there will be a question and answer time. This session will be held from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Thurs. May 14th at the First Assembly of God Christian Center, 1400 W. Washington Center Rd., Door 15, Room 37, Fort Wayne.

Identifying & Managing Stress in Children & Adults (4 SN Hours)

There is so much stress in the world today. Some is perceived and some very real but both can affect our disposition, our relationships, and our health. Join Sharon Mowrer for this class that will focus on recognizing stress in the children we service as well as ourselves and learning techniques for managing that stress. This class will be held from 10:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Sat., May 16th at the Rochester Library (320 W. 7th St., Rochester - Fulton Co.).

Community Training Opportunities

Note: A Foster Parent Training Credit Form must be submitted to receive credit for all of these classes except the Allen Co. Foster Parent Association meetings!

Allen County Foster Parent Association Meetings (Up to 2 Hours Each)

These monthly meetings are currently being held at Children's Cottage in Fort Wayne, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month except December. Child care and a light supper are provided. No registration is required. Up to two hours of in-service credit may be given when an approved speaker presents a program. Some sessions may be considered SN depending upon the presenter and their topic. Refer to your newsletter from Cathy Bosk for topic information.

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Support & Education Group (2 Hours - Most SN)

On the second, third and fourth Monday of each month (except July & December) starting at 6:30 p.m., Child Life Center facilitates 2-hour training sessions for interested persons and caregivers of children diagnosed with a fetal alcohol spectrum disorder. Childcare is provided for a small fee. To receive in-service credit, a copy of the certificate they give you (small fee charged) **or** a completed and signed Foster Parent Training Credit Form must be submitted to Catholic Charities. Call 447-7116 for details or just show up these evenings at Parkwood Church of God, 3320 Trier Road, Fort Wayne.

Resources For a Healthier You

The Dupont Resource Center is opening their doors to individuals wanting to research health topics and talk with staff regarding a health concern or diagnosis. To learn about their classes, events, and support groups, visit DupontResourceCenter.com or call 260-416-3009. If appropriate classes are attended or 1:1 information sessions occur, training credit may be awarded if a Foster Parent Training Credit Form is signed in part C by the educator and appropriate documentation is included.

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Most Frequently Asked Questions

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1. How many hours of in-service training must a foster parent complete per year?

Ten in-service hours are required per training year. Those with a Special Needs license must complete 20 with at least 10 hours being special needs specific. This requirement is per foster parent and not per household.

2. Is child care provided at training sessions offered by Catholic Charities?

No, it is not, and children may not attend training sessions regardless of their age.

3. How do I get credit for sessions I attended that were not offered by Catholic Charities?

You must complete and submit a **Foster Parent Training Credit Form** to the FAKT Coordinator being sure to attach a training flyer or agenda and a certificate if received. This form is available at www.ccfwsb.org.

4. How do I get credit for training I received specifically for a particular foster child?

If trained by a medical or mental health professional on issues related to a specific child in your care, in-service training credit may be awarded if a statement is completed by that professional indicating the date, length of time spent, topic covered, and the reason for the session. This information may be handwritten or typed onto letterhead or a prescription pad. Credit for this method of instruction will be determined by the Training Coordinator and will be the same as a classroom session, minute for minute. This time will be considered classroom training and not alternative training.