

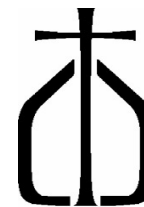


# ***The Communication Link***

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.**



**Volume 15, Issue 2**

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## ***Calling All Foster Parents:***

### ***An Invitation to Become a Member of Your State Foster Care Association***

The Indiana Foster Care and Adoption Association is a resource to help you while you foster children. For only \$30 per family per year, members may access the hotline, seek guidance, get important policy information, & have the ability to purchase foster parent (professional) liability group insurance.

**Bonus Offer:** If you join now, then your membership will be valid through December 2010!

This will allow you to attend the November IFCAA Conference at the reduced member rate, saving you money while earning foster parent in-service training credit.

Contact IFCAA at 1-800-468-4228 or go online at [www.ifcaa.org](http://www.ifcaa.org) for membership information & an application.

## ***Trauma: From Tragedy To Triumph***

The 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Indiana Foster Care and Adoption Conference will be held at the Lilly Conference Center (1801 W. 86<sup>th</sup> St.) in Indianapolis on Nov. 19, 20, & 21.

One, two or three days may be attended.

In-service credit will be given based upon sessions attended.

For information & registration instructions contact IFCAA at 1-800-468-4228.



## ***A Special Training Opportunity For You and a Child***

Kwanzaa is a holiday that honors African American people and their past. It is celebrated each year beginning Dec. 26 and lasting for 7 days with each day focusing on a different principle. In an attempt to assist families in understanding this holiday and the importance of cultural awareness, we have purchased Kwanzaa workbooks that families may keep as a gift from us after they 1) review the workbook, 2) complete at least one of the activities in the book with a child in their home, and 3) submit appropriate documentation for that activity. One hour of alternative training credit will be awarded to each parent who completes this process.

Workbooks may be obtained by contacting Robin at 260-422-5625 or via e-mail at [robins@mchsi.com](mailto:robins@mchsi.com).

Workbooks must be picked up at Catholic Charities, they will not be mailed. Supplies are limited!

## ***Moms & Friends of Special Needs Children Support Group Opportunity***

On the third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at Courthouse Coffee East in Warsaw (near Elder– Beerman), this group meets to provide support and information to those providing care for special needs children.

The group is open to all whether from the Warsaw area or elsewhere.

For additional information, you may contact Jennifer Gunder at 574-268-4252 or via e-mail at: [jennifer\\_gunder@yahoo.com](mailto:jennifer_gunder@yahoo.com)

**Note:** In-service credit is not available for these meetings.

**PRE- REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR ALL CLASSES!**

TO REGISTER, YOU MAY:

1) USE THE FORM ON PAGE 4    2) CALL (260-422-5625 EXT. 223) OR    3) E-MAIL ROBIN ([robins@mchsi.com](mailto:robins@mchsi.com))

WHEN REGISTERING YOU MUST PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION OR YOU WILL NOT BE REGISTERED  
(NO EXCEPTIONS):    1. YOUR NAME    2. ADDRESS    3. PHONE #    4. TRAINING TITLE & DATE

## Training Opportunities

Reminders will be mailed or e-mailed only for classes **4** hours in length or longer.  
SN Classes are special needs topics but may be attended by any DCS foster parent.

### **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 & at re-licensing.

Tues., Dec. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Catholic Charities, Fort Wayne	UP: 6:00 p.m.	FA: 6:45 - 8:00 p.m.
Sat., Jan. 16 <sup>th</sup>	Winona Lake Grace Brethren Church	UP: 1:30 p.m.	FA: 2:15 - 4:00 p.m.
Sat., Feb. 20 <sup>th</sup>	Allen County DCS, Fort Wayne	UP: 9:00 a.m.	FA: 9:45 - 11:00 a.m.

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

**Note:** CPR taken with us is valid for 2 years. The expiration date is noted on your certificate.

Sat., Jan. 9 <sup>th</sup>	Children's Cottage, Fort Wayne	9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Sat., Jan. 16 <sup>th</sup>	Winona Lake Grace Brethren Church	9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Sat., Feb. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Children's Cottage, Fort Wayne	9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

### **Childhood Asthma: Recognizing the Signs & Knowing Treatments (2 SN Hours)**



On Mon., Nov. 16<sup>th</sup>, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Villa of the Woods (Off Paulding Beside Bishop Luers) Vicky Lacy of the Allen County Asthma Coalition will be presenting this informative session relevant to all foster parents as this is a common medical issue in foster children. Asthma is a condition that often requires immediate medical intervention and the use of breathing devices. This training will teach how to be both proactive & preventative.

### **Kosciusko Co. Support Group Training & Meeting:**

#### **Preserving A Child's History Through Life Books (2 Hours)**

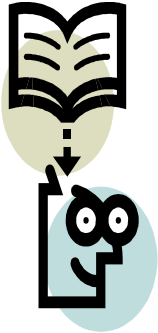
This session will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Tues. Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> at the Winona Lake Grace Brethren Church, 1400 Kings Highway in Winona Lake (near Grace College). We'll be having our annual carry- in cookie/snack potluck so bring your favorite treat to share!

### **TWO IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR ALLEN COUNTY FOSTER PARENTS:**

The Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> Allen County Foster Parent Association Meeting has been cancelled

**AND**

there will be no meeting in December due to the Christmas party!



### **Foster Family Resource Guide (3 Hours)**

Have you ever wondered what your rights are as a foster parent? Do you know the definition of a CHINS (status of your foster children) and understand the legal process pertaining to them? Do you know how to prepare if you've been subpoenaed? May you say no to foster placements? Is your home the safest it can be? Do you understand your role in visitations? Have you been documenting properly? Do you have a copy of the resource guide?

If you don't know the answers to some of these questions or if you could use a refresher, then you should plan to join us at Catholic Charities from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Sat., Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>.

### **Adoption Support Group Training: Preserving History Through Life Books (2 Hours)**

*(Open to All Foster & Adoptive Parents)*

This session will be held from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Thurs., Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> at the First Assembly of God Christian Center, 1400 W. Washington Center Rd., Fort Wayne (Door 15 - Room 37 B). This session is part of the adoption support group series and so it will include a light holiday potluck. Please bring your favorite treat to share!

### **Say Yes to No: Special Sessions for Our Foster Families (2 Hours Per Session/6 Total)**

Say Yes to No is a powerful parenting tool developed by Dr. David Walsh and his team at the National Institute on Media and the Family. Say Yes to No empowers parents to set boundaries and expectations for their children. Say Yes to No teaches communities why it is important that children learn the word "no" and how to deal with being told "no." Say Yes to No give practical ways to tell children no. Finally, it also shows how when implemented consistently, Say Yes to No helps children realize the value of "yes."

According to The National Institute on Media and the Family: "Over the last decade, screen time has been the most significant lifestyle change for our kids. Children are exposed to over one million Yes messages a week, with an average of 44.5 hours spent in front of a screen per week. Dr. Walsh paints a powerful picture of how Yes media messages screaming "More, Easy, Fast and Fun" undermine the critical character traits kids need to succeed in school and life. With warmth, experience and humor, Dr. Walsh argues that learning how and when to say No is crucial to raising healthy, self-reliant kids." Our youth in foster care deserve to be healthy and self-reliant!

Join us from 6 to 8 p.m. on these Tuesdays: Jan. 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, and 26<sup>th</sup> to learn about this valuable tool. Pre-registration is required for these sessions which will be held in Fort Wayne with the location to be announced later. Attendance is required at all 3 sessions. Some light reading may be required between sessions.



### **Alternative In-service Training Policy**



Up to 4 hours (8 if licensed special needs) of annual in-service training credit may be earned **per training year** by foster parents who review state approved resources and submit a completed Alternative Training Verification Form that answers questions about that review. One form must be completed for each item reviewed; a form must be completed by each person who reviews the item; forms may not be submitted as a couple; and forms may not be written for someone else without prior approval. An **updated** approved resource list and the verification form can be found on the foster care page of the Catholic Charities' web site at [www.ccfwsb.org](http://www.ccfwsb.org). Be sure to print and complete all pages. Completed verification forms must be submitted to Robin Springstead at 315 E. Washington Blvd. Fort Wayne, IN 46802 for credit review.

## TRAINING REGISTRATION FORM

To register via mail, just complete the following information about yourself, your spouse or companion (if applicable) and the training you would like to attend and then return it to the address at the bottom. **These must be received at least one week prior to the first class date.**

### **1st Person**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Your e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency that maintains your license: \_\_\_\_\_

Training Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Training Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Training Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### **2nd Person**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Your e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency that maintains your license: \_\_\_\_\_

Training Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Training Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Training Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Return this form to:**

**Robin Springstead  
Catholic Charities  
315 E. Washington Blvd.  
Fort Wayne, IN 46802**

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