

June 2011 Foster and Adoptive Newsletter

Important Reminder: The FPA is sponsoring an Ice Cream Social at Imagination Station in Bazetta Twp on June 23, 2011 at 5:30 pm. Families should bring a "topping" for the ice cream. The ice cream and beverages will be provided by the FPA. Please call Cathie Metz at (330) 876-0283 if you need further information.

Welcome to our New Foster/Adoptive families

Brenda Peeples of Liberty

Happy Anniversary

Thanks for another great year of service to children to the following foster families...



Dennis and Deborah Davis
Gary and Melissa Davis
Frederick and Shirley Greene
James and Rebecca Hall
Richard and Trina Kneubehl
Harlan and Patricia Nolan
Mattie Shannon



May you continue to be a blessing to all the children and their families.

Congratulations to our Adoptive Family

Samuel and Lauren Postlethwait

From the desk of Cynthia Mason...

I just wanted to take the time to thank the Foster Parent Appreciation Dinner Committee for a job well done. A dinner was held on May 16, 2011 in honor of all 100 foster families. Thirteen families were recognized for their years of service and presented with awards by their Resource Worker.

5 Years

Dennis and Deborah Davis
Don Hall
Jeffrey and Lillie Hubbard
Samuel and Lauren Postlethwait
Neal and Michele Shaffer
Dana and Dawn Srbnovich
William and Sarah Troyer

10 Years

David and Sherry McClimans-Davis
Eric and Grace Wilson

15 Years

David and Gennifer Bahn
Alice Farris
Debbie Provitt
Duane and Deborah Sackett



There were 120 in attendance at Ciminero's Banquet Centre Niles and Channel 21-WFMJ covered the event.

Special entertainment for the evening was, the "Family Feud Game Show" hosted by Rev. Alton Merrell, President of the Children Services Board (aka Steve Harvey). The Foster Parent Association and agency staff put together questions for the game that applied to foster parent policies. The teams were: Foster Dads vs Foster Moms. Nick Kerosky and Renee Bastounis participated on the teams. Dee Dee Prezioso did the commercial breaks. The show was excellent!!! (Including an appearance by "Big Bertha", foster parent Becky Hall). We even had a "homemade car" as the grand prize for the winning "Moms" team. (Becky Peters was the driver of this vehicle). Special recognition is also given to foster parent, Jason Metz, for designing and constructing the "Family Feud Game Board". We also extend thanks for all staff who donated items for the gift baskets and who participated in any activity for the event not listed. Every foster family left the event with a smile and full belly!

I really appreciate the teamwork effort from our committee who is listed below:

Marcie Bashir, Renee Bastounis, Erica Beil, Heather Bentley, Nancy Boley, Calliope DeVengencie, Debbie Gregory, Becky Hall, Kathryn Heagerty, Stephanie Kennedy, Cynthia Mason, Sherry McClimans-Davis, Cathie Metz, Becky Peters, Dee Dee Prezioso, Kimberly Walker

Congratulations on a job well done. You are awesome!!



2011 Foster Parent Association Meetings

The FPA is a group of foster and adoptive parents who organize activities for our children, offer information on the journey of fostering and adopting, always keeping you updated on any changes in laws, rules and classes regarding foster/adopting. They also hold fundraisers to help fund the children's activities that are not fully funded by CSB. New members are always needed, so don't hesitate to join us on the second Tuesday of 8 months out of the year! See you there!

Mark your calendar for the following FPA Meetings held at CSB in the Coffee Room once a month at 6:30 PM. We look forward to seeing you there!

June 14 @ 6:30 (special presentation about the use of fire extinguishers)

Sept. 13 @ 6:30

Oct. 11 @ 6:30

Nov. 8 @ 6:30



FPA Support Meetings

Our monthly support meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of each month. However, due to several activities and events that will take place during the Spring and Summer, the Support Meetings will be postponed until September. This is a time of fellowship to support each other as we care for the children placed in our homes. At times, we all face trying and difficult situations with the children we care for and talking to other foster parents gives us the encouragement that we are not alone on this journey. Volunteers are needed to host a support meeting, so pick a month & please call one of the officers to let them know you are willing to help out. Thank you in advance!

FPA Officers

Cathie Metz	330-876-0283	Sherry Davis	330-373-6622
Marci Bashir	330-369-8346	Pat Nolan	330-898-3145
Becky Hall	330-876-0649		

Conferences 2011

Do you want to learn more about Foster Parenting? Here are some conference dates and financial assistance is available through FPA and CSB Board.
OFCA in Columbus at the Fort Rapids Resort on June 17-18
NPFA in Alabama on June 25-27
NACAC in Denver on August 4-6

FPA ~ FAST TEAM

The following are members of our FAST team who are a foster parent to advocate, support and guide you when you have questions, concerns, or problems with your journey as a foster/adoptive parent. Never hesitate to call and gain from the wisdom and encouragement they offer, always in confidence.

Marci Bashir	330-369-8346	Sherri Davis	330-373-6622
Becky Hall	330-876-0649	Cathie Metz	330-876-0283

Upcoming Events

June 14 at 6:00 pm – FPA meeting at CSB
June 23 at 5:30 pm – Imagination Station in Bazetta, Ice Cream Social
July 8 – RSVP to any FPA officer for Pioneer Waterland (More info forthcoming in a flyer)
July 23 at 10:00 am – Pioneer Waterland, Chardon, OH
July 28 at 6:00 pm – Set up for Garage Sale
July 29 and 30 – Garage Sale, contact Beth Lehman for drop off of any donations, like new donations only please, 330-883-6690
October 1 – Fall Harvest Festival
December 3 – Christmas Party



June Foster Parent Trainings

Please register by calling (330) 372-2010 x 1403

DADDY DEAREST:

THE IMPACT OF FATHERS ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES - 949

Date: Saturday, June 4, 2011 **Time:** 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Trainer: Cathy Tiggs-Johnson **Location:** Trumbull County CSB

Objectives:

- Explore how the social opinions of fathers within the family unit have been influenced over the years.
- Identify how fathers are perceived and treated by women, society and helping agencies.
- Recognize the importance of fathers in child development and case planning services.

THE IMPACT OF ADOPTION ON BIRTH CHILDREN IN THE ADOPTIVE HOME - 948-PA03-S

Date: Thursday, June 9, 2011 **Time:** 6:00 - 9:00 PM
Trainer: Ann Bagley **Location:** Trumbull County CSB

Objectives:

- Examine the needs of birth children which can easily become “neglected” in the effort to meet the intense needs of traumatized adopted children.
- Learn strategies to assist adoptive parents in finding a balance in meeting the needs of all children in the family.

INTERVENTIONS WITH LYING AND STEALING - 925

Date: Thursday, June 16, 2011 **Time:** 6:00 - 9:00 PM
Trainer: David Zidar **Location:** Trumbull County CSB

Objectives:

- Understand why foster children lie or steal.
- Understand the importance of developing empathy for children who lie or steal.
- Explore interventions that work best for children who lie or steal.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE, CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY AND KIDS - 988-9

Date: Wednesday, June 22, 2011 **Time:** 6:00 - 9:00 PM
Trainer: Brian Lowery **Location:** Trumbull County CSB

Objectives:

- Learn about the process of addiction and the effects of chemical dependency on foster care.
- Learn about several categories of drugs (stimulants, depressants, hallucinogens, etc.) and examples of each.
- Understand prevention and treatment for chemically dependent persons.

Special Training Opportunity

The Child Advocacy Center offers a Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Training called “Stewards of Children”. It educates adults to prevent, recognize and react responsibly to child sexual abuse. It is designed for the leadership, staff and volunteers of child-serving agencies and organizations. The curriculum for the three-hour training includes a video, workbook for each participant and group discussion.

Agency foster parents will have an opportunity to participate on Thursday, June 23, 2011, 6:00-9:00 pm at the agency. Please register for this training by calling (330) 372-2010 x 1403