

From the Director's Desk...



Dear Families,

It has been a difficult month for us after losing 4 of our team players. We want to acknowledge and appreciate Linda, Jill, Ariel and Rachel for the tireless efforts they gave to our foster families and to the agency. They are all very much missed and we wish the best for them.

We are well into the summer months now and feeling the heat! I have enjoyed so much visiting with kids in the office and seeing

how they have grown in their social skills and maturity over the months in your care. Our families continue to do amazing things with incredible kids! I applaud those families who regularly participate in family adventures such as going to parks, camping, day camp and other activities that help kids learn social skills, coping with others, and how to have fun. Kids from the city have a special appreciation for nature when placed outside of the city. And kids from the country gain many

cultural experiences when living in the city. There is much to gain for all.

Stay tuned for information on an upcoming agency event being planned especially for our foster families. It should be a *roaring* good time for all!

For all that you do...

for all that you are...

you are making a difference...

Cindy

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INDEPENDENT LIVING CLASSES

Independent Living skills classes also present. Additional staff were conducted on June 15, 16, and included: Bryan Forney, Alicia Aji-17. Eight teenagers attended some of the classes and received **stipends for each day's successful completion.** Our appreciation and recognition to Christina Kappen and Patty Jatczak for organizing the 2 1/2 days of education to help prepare the teens for emancipation. Special volunteers from the community included: Josh Kappen, Amber Johnson, Wendy Russell, Carol **Zetter Hoelle, and De'Marco Kidd.** Representative from National City Bank and Cincinnati Works were

Class topics included: transportation, communication services, home management, money management, education, self image/self esteem, personal care, and personal decision making skills. On the last day of classes, attendees were given certificates during a reception with cake and punch.




Hope you have a safe summer!



Foster Parent Honor Roll

<u>10+ Years</u>		<u>2 years to Less than 5 years</u>		<u>Up to 2 years</u>	
Sylvia Pagliaro	1/95	Rodney & Elaine Berry	9/04	Brett & Allison Harpel	7/07
Tonda Lyons	3/95	Randy & Billie Walters	8/05	Marc & Rebecca Corsmeier	8/07
Spencer & Cynthia Doughman	8/95	Steve & Dianne Connell	11/05	Mark & Kathy Warner	8/07
Alta Music	11/95	Tim & Karen Lehmkuhl	2/06	Gwen Johnson	12/07
Stan & Gerri Benge	2/96	Jim & Diana Matthews	3/06	Dan & Krystal Marsh	2/08
Pat Hawkins-Burley	8/96	David & Kim Feck	11/06	Eric & Sheila Kluesener	5/08
Vernon & Brigitte Montgomery	5/97	Doug & Anita Outcalt	11/06	Tom & Cynthia Anglin	7/08
Charles & Linda Carney	6/97	Cheryl Carney	12/06	Tremaine & Tracy Davis	8/08
Kevin & Kimberly Bennett	10/97	Tanyika Prather	2/07	Vernon & Ann Fleming	10/08
Theresa Spain	2/99	Bob Weireter	3/07	Rhonda Terry	2/09
<u>5+ Years</u>		Scott & Jennifer Sharrett	4/07		
Rodney & Melissa Began	8/99				
John & Crystal Moore	9/99				
Derek & Susie Wagner	3/00				
Amy Richburg	8/02				

Birthday Corner

Scott Sharrett	
Gwen Johnson	
Chyanne W.	
Rhonda Terry	
Trent S.	
Lauren S.	
Logan S.	
Ann Fleming	
Spencer Doughman	
Chimaobi W.	



Goodbyes

Families who said goodbye to a youth this month

Charles & Linda Carney
 Scott and Jennifer Sharrett
 Randy & Billie Walters
 Tonda Lyons
 Tim & Karen Lehmkuhl
 Cheryl Carney
 Sylvia Pagliaro



Kids Helping Kids



On June 18, 2009, Focus on Youth hosted our training and support group for biological and adopted children of foster families. It was wonderful to see so many new faces in the group. The participants shared their thoughts and feelings through art, game-play, book making, and a wild **obstacle course!** This summer's group focused on building relationships with one another, learning about foster

care experiences, and making a book about ourselves and our families. The kids worked hard on this project and hope their books will help future foster placements feel welcome and safe in their homes. We look forward to seeing you all at the next group!

"How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world." - Anne Frank

-Tracy Krebs, MSW, LI SW-S



Nurtured Heart Moments

As you read these special Heart Moments, take a moment to be encouraged by this glimpse at the difference you are making.

Lauren - You have done an excellent an excellent job in school. **All of your hard work is paying off as you'll be going to the next grade level.** ~Alicia

Tai'je - Thank you for listening to your foster mother and serving your time outs. This shows that you are respectful. ~Jess

Cindy & Tom Anglin - Every day the two of you provide security, patience, and love for the youth you work with and seek to understand and meet his individual needs. Thank you. ~Kim

Stephanie - Even though you were upset with the news I gave you, I appreciate that you maintained your cool. You showed much self control. ~Chrissy

Rodney Berry - I really enjoyed having you in class. You provided such great input and insight into our class topic. ~Bryan

Heather - I know sometimes it can be annoying to have a younger sister around, one who shares your room, gets into your things, and bothers you. I really appreciate your willingness to compromise! This shows your increasing maturity. ~Rachel

Rodney & Elaine Berry - Your ability to cope in difficult & stressful times is amazing. You have consistently put **others' needs before your own.** **Your dedication to children's needs is greatly appreciated.** ~Shana

Nurtured Heart Corner



Here is a fun NHA activity created by one of our clinicians, Tracy Krebs. Our staff recently participated in this game with each other and really enjoyed it. This can be modified for a family, with great results. It is another way to build each other up by sharing the strengths you see in each other. **This game has some similar features to the game "Apples 2 Apples".**

How to play:

Develop an extensive list of all the positive traits you value as a family. (i.e. hard working, kind to others, sacrificial, caring, etc.)

Create cards with each of these traits, one trait per card.

Distribute the entire positive traits deck of cards evenly to all family members.

Choose which player goes first. **The player who goes first is "it."**

All other players go around and choose a positive trait from their cards that best describe the **player who is "it".**

Players share which card they chose and explain how they see that trait in the person who is "it".

Play passes in a clockwise direction, with the player to the left being the next "it".

Thanks Tracy for such a creative and fun way to grow as a family!

Wellness Tips:

PRACTICE SAFE SUN!

Did you know that just one blistering sunburn can double a child's lifetime risk of developing skin cancer? As the temperature heats up and the sun's rays grow more intense, the Sun Safety Alliance (SSA) encourages you to follow sun-safety tips to help prevent serious skin damage, and possibly avoid future skin cancer. Be sure to apply a broad-spectrum sunscreen with an SPF of 15 or higher whenever you are outdoors. Look for one that contains ingredients like Avobenzone (Parsol 1789) or zinc oxide. And don't forget to apply sunscreen to your neck, ears, lips and scalp (especially if you have thin hair).

CHOCOLATE MILK: THE NEW SPORTS DRINK

Serious and recreational athletes alike are returning to a childhood favorite-chocolate milk-in place of more common sports drinks. When pitted against commercial sports recovery drinks, several new studies have found that chocolate milk is the superior beverage when it comes to post-exercise recovery and fluid replacement. Chocolate milk is 90 percent water, so it's ideal for rehydration. It also has the perfect combination of carbohydrates and protein to refuel a tired athlete's body, and it's packed with many other nutrients including calcium and vitamins A & D.

Web MD tip:

On June 16, 2009, the FDA advised people not to use Zicam intranasal products that contain zinc, because of the risk of anosmia (loss of the sense of smell), which may be long-lasting or permanent.

The FDA's warning only applies to the following Zicam products:

- Zicam Cold Remedy Nasal Gel
- Zicam Cold Remedy Gel Swabs
- Zicam Cold Remedy Swabs, Kids Size

"Consumers should stop using these products immediately and should discard or return them," Deborah Autor, director of the FDA's Office of Compliance, said at a news conference. Autor notes that Zicam Cold Remedy Swabs, Kids Size is no longer on the market, but consumers shouldn't use the product if they still have it at home.

Zicam's maker -- Matrixx Initiatives, Inc. -- has voluntarily withdrawn Zicam Cold Remedy Swabs and Zicam Cold Remedy Gel from the market, telling consumers to discard any of the affected products or request a refund by calling 877-942-2626 or visiting Zicam's web site.



Because every child
deserves a family



RECRUITMENT

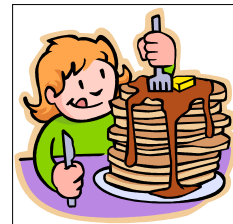
During the month of June, Focus on Youth participated in

a recruitment event, A Child's Hope, held at Landmark Theatre. We want to recognize and thank Kim Feck and Kaitlyn for volunteering to talk with prospective foster parents during this event. Your help is needed to look for events in your community that will allow us to set up a display table to introduce people to Focus on Youth. If you have any suggestions, please call Diane.

FUNDRAISING

Please remember the following upcoming event:

Pancake Breakfast



Saturday
August 22
8 AM - 12:00
PM

Ongoing Fundraising
Kroger cards: if you need additional cards please check with Penny.
GoodSearch: remember to Keep GoodSearching and GoodShopping,



Ongoing Training Calendar

July 2009:

Topic: Behavior and Anger Management/Crisis Intervention, Tier I

Presenter: Bryan Forney

Date: Tuesday, July 7, 2009

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Topic: Behavior and Anger Management/Crisis Intervention, Tier I

Presenter: Bryan Forney

Date: Saturday, July 11, 2009

Time: 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Topic: Behavior and Anger Management/Crisis Intervention, Tier II

Presenter: Bryan Forney

Date: Saturday, July 11, 2009

Time: 1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

****You must have completed "Behavior & Anger Management/Crisis Intervention, Tier I" to attend this class****

Topic: Heartsaver First Aid

Presenter: Andy Dodds

Date: Tuesday, July 14 & 21, 2009

Time: 5:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. BOTH NIGHTS

****This is a two part class. Participants must attend both nights to receive credit.****

****Due to the nature of this course, participants who arrive late will NOT receive credit. Please remember to dress appropriately for this class as you will be on the floor demonstrating on manikins.****

Remember to register with Andy at least 2 days in advance for training EXCEPT for the FP Meeting.

You must call at least 1 week before the FP Meeting because of direct deposit & child care.

Topic: FP Meeting – One Foster Parent to Another

Presenter: Foster Parent Panel

Date: Thursday, July 16, 2009

Time: 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. OR 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Topic: Focus on Youth, Inc. FP Policies, ODJFS Rules, and MEPA Standards

Presenter: Diane Brown

Date: Tuesday, July 28, 2009

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Topic: Behavior and Anger Management/Crisis Intervention, Tier III

Presenter: Bryan Forney

Date: Tuesday, July 28, 2009

Time: 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

****You must have completed "Behavior & Anger Management/Crisis Intervention, Tiers I & II" to attend this class****

Topic: Behavior and Anger Management/Crisis Intervention, Tier II

Presenter: Bryan Forney

Date: Tuesday, July 28, 2009

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

****You must have completed "Behavior & Anger Management/Crisis Intervention, Tier I" to attend this class****

August 2009:

Topic: Dynamics of the Sexually Abusive Family, Tier I

Presenter: Bryan Forney

Date: Saturday, August 1, 2009

Time: 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Topic: Reparenting the Sexually Abused Child, Tier II

Presenter: Bryan Forney

Date: Saturday, August 1, 2009

Time: 1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

****You must have completed "Dynamics of the Sexually Abusive Family, Tier I" to attend this class****

Topic: Focus on Youth, Inc. FP Policies, ODJFS Rules, and MEPA Standards

Presenter: Diane Brown

Date: Monday, August 3, 2009

Time: 5:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Ongoing Training Calendar

Topic: Dynamics of the Sexually Abusive Family, Tier I
 Presenter: Bryan Forney
 Date: Tuesday, August 11, 2009
 Time: 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Topic: PP11 – Permanency for Children
 Presenter: Myndee Miller
 Date: Thursday, August 13, 2009
 Time: 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Topic: Educational Advocacy
 Presenter: Bryan Forney
 Date: Thursday, August 13, 2009
 Time: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Topic: PP12 – Permanency for Families
 Presenter: Jessica Thompson
 Date: Tuesday, August 18, 2009
 Time: 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Topic: Reparenting the Sexually Abused Child, Tier II
 Presenter: Bryan Forney
 Date: Tuesday, August 18, 2009
 Time: 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

****You must have completed "Dynamics of the Sexually Abusive Family, Tier I" to attend this class****

Topic: FP Meeting – Car and Home Safety
 Presenter: TBA
 Date: Thursday, August 20, 2009
 Time: 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. OR 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Topic: Reparenting the Sexually Abused Child, Tier III
 Presenter: Bryan Forney
 Date: Tuesday, August 25, 2009
 Time: 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

****You must have completed "Reparenting the Sexually Abused Child, Tier II" to attend this class****

Focus on Youth, Inc. is a handicapped-accessible facility
 CSWMFT Board of Ohio
 Approved Social Work Provider #RSX049901

September 2009:

Topic: ODJFS Rules, FOY FP Policies, & MEPA Standards
 Presenter: Diane Brown
 Date: Tuesday, September 1, 2009
 Time: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Topic: The Nurtured Heart Approach, Part I
 Presenter: Bryan Forney
 Date: Tuesday, September 8, 2009
 Time: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Topic: Heartsaver CPR & First Aid
 Presenter: Bryan Forney
 Date: Saturday, September 12, 2009
 Time: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

****Due to the nature of this course, participants who arrive late will NOT receive credit. Please remember to dress appropriately for this class as you will be on the floor demonstrating on manikins.****

Topic: The Nurtured Heart Approach, Part I
 Presenter: Bryan Forney
 Date: Tuesday, September 15, 2009
 Time: 5:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Remember to register with Andy at least 2 days in advance for training EXCEPT for the FP Meeting. You must call at least 1 week before the FP Meeting because of direct deposit & child care.

Topic: FP Meeting: Working with Birth Parents
 Presenter: Chrissy Staggs & Foster Parent Panel
 Date: Thursday, September 17, 2009
 Time: 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. OR 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Topic: The Nurtured Heart Approach, Part II
 Presenter: Bryan Forney
 Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2009
 Time: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. OR 5:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

****You must have completed "The Nurture-Heart Approach, Part I" to attend this class****