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## COCAF News

### *Comedy With A Cause: COCAF Fundraiser*

Saturday, April 4, 2009, 8:00 p.m.

Bovine Metropolis Theatre, 1527 Champa Street Denver, Colorado 80202\*\*  
303-758-4722

Help COCAF make a little money and help yourself to an evening out and lots of laughs!

The **Bovine Metropolis Theatre** presents: **Comedy for a Cause – On The Spot** – a fundraising event for COCAF.

In the style of "Whose Line is it Anyway," four actors and a moderator use audience suggestions to make for an action-packed night of hilarity. "On The Spot" remains a local favorite, using the audience's unique suggestions to improvise scenes, games, and songs to make newcomers or regulars laugh themselves silly! See as many as 25 games performed in one show. Watch the Bovine masters of improv madness under the white-hot light until your sides hurt from laughing.

COCAF provides advocacy, pre- and post-adoptive services to families all over the state of Colorado. In order to continue to provide these services, COCAF needs financial assistance. Attending this fundraising event is an easy way for you to help COCAF while having an enjoyable night out.

*Tickets:* \$25 each

*Purchase tickets:* By calling 303-758-4722 or online at <http://groovetickets.com/ordersystem/Tribe/eventviewqb.asp?affilid=472&EventsID=46390> (a service fee will apply to online purchases). You may also buy tickets at the theatre starting at 7:30 p.m. on the day of show.

*For more information on the show,* go to [www.BovineMetropolis.com](http://www.BovineMetropolis.com).

\*\* Please note that the Bovine Metropolis Theatre is on the second floor of an old building without an elevator, and it is not wheelchair accessible.

## *April: The Transition*

April is the month that can give us hints of the summer to come, mellow spring days, and stinging cold winter-like days – sometimes all in a 48-hour period. Being able to quickly transition to “another season” is something Colorado residents have gotten used to over the years, so while we may complain about it, it is part of the charm of living in Colorado. Our children may not deal with quick transitions as well, whether the transition is due to weather, changes in schedules, or changes in family dynamics. Try to think about how your child handles transitions when you know one is coming, and do everything you can to prepare your child. You cannot prepare for every possible transition that your child faces, but if you help your child prepare for the most challenging transitions, you’ll be reducing your child’s stress level – which can only help to lower your own stress levels!

Frank Bennett, PhD, COCAF Board of Directors, President  
[frankbennettphd@comcast.net](mailto:frankbennettphd@comcast.net)

## *Help COCAF Win \$1000!*

Applewood Plumbing, Heating & Electrical is giving away \$12,000 in 12 months. Applewood is going to give back to the community by donating \$1,000 a month for the next 12 months to local nonprofit companies. They will be accepting nominations through the mail or on the web and will choose a winner monthly using a random drawing. So the more times COCAF is entered into the drawing, the better our chances of winning. You may re-enter every month (until COCAF wins!), but you may only enter once per month. Charities may receive multiple entries, so refer this site to your friends. Please take the time to enter COCAF into this drawing. If COCAF wins, the \$1,000 will be used to continue providing support services to adoptive families.

To enter online, go to:

<http://www.applewoodfixit.com/12in12.html>

To complete the form for COCAF, enter the following information:

Non-profit name: COCAF

Non-profit phone number: 303-562-9864

Web site: [cocaf.org](http://cocaf.org)

## *Economic Issues Hurt COCAF, Too*

COCAF needs to find some reliable financial support to keep providing services for pre- and post-adoptive families. You can help several ways:

- If you’re financially able, please donate to COCAF. In the upcoming months, we hope to have an online donation function on our website to make donating easy. In the meanwhile, send your contributions to:  
COCAF

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c/o COCAF Development Director  
5702 W. 114<sup>th</sup> Place  
Westminster, CO 80020

A receipt will be mailed to you for your records.

- If you know of a business that would like to help COCAF by sponsoring events or helping COCAF financially, please forward that information to Colleen Tarket, at [colleen.tarket@cocaf.org](mailto:colleen.tarket@cocaf.org).

### *COCAF Services*

If you are in need of COCAF's services or just want to pass on some information, you may email Deborah Cave, Executive Director, at [deborah.cave@cocaf.org](mailto:deborah.cave@cocaf.org).

### *COCAF Newsletter*

If you have items you think would be appropriate for the COCAF newsletter, please forward those items to [colleen.tarket@cocaf.org](mailto:colleen.tarket@cocaf.org) by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month for consideration for the next month.

## Conference Calls/Discussion Boards

### *NRCOI Child Welfare Teleconferences*

The National Child Welfare Resource Center for Organizational Improvement (NRCOI) is providing the following teleconferences on child welfare topics:

**April 7, 2009:** Improving Agency/Court Collaboration: Strategies for Success Co-Sponsored by the National Child Welfare Resource Center on Legal and Judicial Issues: Learn about the free technical assistance services available to courts and agencies to help overcome barriers to collaboration, and to hear from sites that have developed successful agency/court partnerships.

**May 7, 2009:** Evidence Based Practice In Child Welfare: A national expert will provide an introduction to evidence based practices in child welfare and advice for child welfare agencies. Child welfare leaders will share the benefits and challenges they have faced as they have worked to adopt evidence based practices.

**May 28, 2009:** Supporting Effective Child Welfare Supervision #1: A Framework Co-Sponsored by the National Resource Center for Family-Centered Practice and Permanency Planning: This call will highlight a recently published framework, which describes the components of child welfare supervision and identifies the supports required to empower supervisors to function effectively.

**June 16, 2009:** Supporting Effective Child Welfare Supervision #2: Moving Forward Co-Sponsored by the National Resource Center for Child Welfare Data and Technology: Presenters will highlight the technical assistance services available from the National Resource Centers to help agencies make improvements in child welfare supervision, and agency representatives engaged in these efforts will share their successes and lessons learned.

For complete descriptions of these sessions, go to [www.nrcoi.org/tele.htm](http://www.nrcoi.org/tele.htm). Register online for these free sessions at: <http://tatis.muskie.usm.maine.edu/pubs/TeleReg.asp>.

## Conferences

### *Colorado Child and Adolescent Mental Health Conference*

Presented by Colorado Child & Adolescent Mental Health Coalition (CCAMHC)

April 5-7, 2009

Hilton Hotel, 425 W. Prospect Road, Fort Collins, CO

The 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Colorado Child and Adolescent Mental Health Conference, "Green System of Care," will focus on trying to deliver efficient, effective, and resilience-focused services to children, adolescents, and families with mental health issues.

The conference will feature a track of workshops on resources and advocacy for children and adolescents (birth to 21) with developmental disabilities. Presentations will be provided on adoption, developmental disabilities, juvenile justice, and implementing effective treatments. Go to [www.CCAMHC.org](http://www.CCAMHC.org) for registration materials.

### *Northern Colorado Adoption Fair 2009*

Hosted by Faith Evangelical Free Church

Saturday, April 25 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Faith Evangelical Free Church, 3920 South Shields Street, Fort Collins, CO 80526

This free community workshop offers twenty different adoption-related organizations with information on pre- and post-adoption topics. Workshops will include:

- Domestic Newborn Adoption
- International Adoption in China, Haiti, Philippines, Russia, and Ukraine
- Foster Care Adoption
- Intro to Attachment Issues

To get a copy of the workshop brochure listing all the organizations and showing the complete schedule, email Heather Forrester at [heather@theforresters.net](mailto:heather@theforresters.net).

## *Spotlight on Families*

Presented by COPARC and COCAF

Saturday, May 2, 2009, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

DoubleTree Hotel, 13696 East Iliff Place, Aurora, CO 80014 (303) 337-2800

This year's theme is "Spotlight on Families: Recognizing and supporting the varied needs of adoptive families." Two internationally recognized keynote speakers – **Richard Delaney** and **Arleta James** – will share their expertise. There will be a professional/clinical track with information for therapists, caseworkers, and other professionals wanting to improve their expertise working with adoptive families. The family track will provide options to add to your skills and to strengthen your families. Exhibit tables, door prizes, networking, good food, and opportunities to communicate with adoptive families are all part of what is special about COPARC's Spotlight Conference.

### **Morning Sessions**

- A. Out of Home Placement: Matching Your Child with the Right Services
- B. Transitions: Helping Children Already in the Family Adjust to a New Sibling
- C. Healing Parents: Helping Wounded Children Learn to Trust and Love

### **Afternoon Sessions**

- A. The Traumatic Effects of Living and Working with Traumatized Children
- B. The Distinction Between Relinquishment Issues and Adoption Issues
- C. Cross Cultural Educational Parent Training (A.C.C.E.P.T.)

### **For Professionals:**

Morning : Plays from the Sideline: Mental Health Professionals As Effective Behavioral Coaches To Adoptive Parents

Afternoon: When a Child Leaves the Family: Displacement, Disruption, and Dissolution

*Cost:* \$37.50 per person or \$75.00 per couple\*\*

*Registration Deadline:* April 17, 2009 (no registrations at the door)

*To register, go to:* [www.adoptex.org](http://www.adoptex.org) (see calendar of events)

*For more information:* Contact Tanya Hammar at 303-755-4756, 800-451-5246 (toll free), or by e-mail at [Tanya@adoptex.org](mailto:Tanya@adoptex.org).

\*\* Fees must be paid in full upon registration. The registration fee will be reimbursed to those families who attend the conference and who have adopted through the child welfare system. A limited number of scholarships are also available for families who adopted privately or internationally. Continental breakfast, lunch, snacks and materials are included in your registration fee.



## *Department of Health Care Policy and Financing Regional Conferences*

The Department of Health Care Policy and Financing is pleased to announce that planning is underway for regional conferences this May and June. The conferences will provide medical assistance training for all who administer programs on behalf of the Department, with a separate track focused on best practices for increasing enrollment for children. These conferences are appropriate for all child advocates.

Conference dates and locations:

May 4 and 5	Fort Collins
May 7 and 8	Denver
May 19 and 20	Grand Junction
June 2 and 3	Burlington
June 15 and 16	Durango
June 18 and 19	Alamosa
June 22 and 23	Colorado Springs

For more information, email Sarah Roberts at [sarah.roberts@state.co.us](mailto:sarah.roberts@state.co.us).

## *Shared Child Welfare Decision Making: Partnering with Families and Children*

Presented by The National Center for Adoption Law & Policy at Capital University Law School, in partnership with the Ohio Department of Job & Family Services (ODJFS)  
Thursday & Friday, June 4 & 5, 2009  
Greater Columbus Convention Center, Columbus, Ohio

This interdisciplinary symposium will explore strategies for engaging and supporting families – including birth, foster and adoptive parents, kinship caregivers, extended family, and, importantly, children – in all aspects of child welfare practice. Sessions and breakout workshops will explore ways that child welfare team members can work collaboratively with families in decision-making opportunities from intake and case planning through court processes and final outcomes.

To register, go to: <https://secure.law.capital.edu/symposia/index.cfm?sid=333>.

To receive the most up-to-date symposium information via email, go to:  
[http://www.law.capital.edu/adoption/mootreg\\_symp.cfm](http://www.law.capital.edu/adoption/mootreg_symp.cfm).

For more information, go to: <http://www.law.capital.edu/adoption/symposium/>.

## *NAMI 2009 Conference*

Monday-Thursday, July 6-9, 2009  
San Francisco, California

NAMI's 2009 Annual Convention, celebrating their 30th year, will be held July 6–9, 2009, in San Francisco, California, at the Palace of Fine Arts and The Exploratorium. "The Palace" was originally designed by architect Bernard Maybeck as a temporary structure for an exhibition in 1915.

Speakers will include Dr. Marsha Linehan, creator of dialectical behavioral therapy, a revolutionary treatment for people with borderline personality disorder. Dr. Linehan will present at the Research Plenary during the upcoming convention. Dr. Linehan is a professor of psychology at the University of Washington in Seattle and director of the Behavioral Research and Therapy Clinics. She originally developed the therapy to help chronically suicidal people. It has since been adapted for a variety of settings as well as for a number of other seemingly intractable behavioral disorders.

NAMI will feature special programming for children at the convention. In the program, children will have the opportunity to learn and talk about the challenges that come with being the child or sibling of a person with a serious mental illness. There will be an excursion to the Exploratorium: The world's coolest hands-on science museum and art projects. The 2-day program is designed for children and teens aged 10 to 17. The registration fee is \$75.00. (If you are bringing your child or teen to the convention but are not planning to have them participate in this program, there is no need to pay the \$75.00 registration fee.)

For more information, go to:

[http://www.nami.org/Content/NavigationMenu/Inform\\_Yourself/Upcoming\\_Events/Convention/Functions/Schedule.htm](http://www.nami.org/Content/NavigationMenu/Inform_Yourself/Upcoming_Events/Convention/Functions/Schedule.htm)

## Education

### *Fostering a Future Scholarship*

Fostering a Future is a scholarship fund that has been created by the Children's Action Network and the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption, sponsored by Capital One. The scholarship seeks to benefit youth adopted from foster care with their educational goals. Applications are currently being accepted, and the deadline is April 20, 2009. For more information or to obtain an application, contact the Children's Action Network by email at [caninformation@aol.com](mailto:caninformation@aol.com) or call 800-525-6789.

## Free Family Events

- April 3: **Denver Center for the Performing Arts**, 1101 13<sup>th</sup> St. Free performance of the theatre event "Sunsets and Margaritas" at 6:30 in the Ricketson Theatre. For more information, call (303) 893-4000. Please adhere to the following rules: 1) tickets available the day of the event at the theatre box office only; 2) box office opens at 4:30 (lines form earlier); 3) no reservations; 4) first come-first served; 5) one ticket per person; 6) seating is general admission; 7) no children under the age of six; 8) house opens ½ hour before curtain.
- April 3: **Denver Botanic Gardens at Chatfield**, 8500 Deer Creek Canyon Rd, Littleton. Free admission; for more information, call (303) 973-3705.
- April 4: **Denver Art Museum**, 13<sup>th</sup> Ave and Acoma St. Free general admission for Colorado residents; for more information, call (720) 865-5000.
- April 5: **Denver Museum of Miniatures, Dolls and Toys**, 1880 Gaylord St, Denver (303) 322-1053 Free admission from 1:00-4:00.
- April 7: **The Children's Museum of Denver**, 2121 Children's Museum Dr. Free admission from 4:00-8:00 pm. This is made possible by a generous sponsorship from Target.
- April 19: **Denver Museum of Nature and Science**, 2001 Colorado Blvd., Denver (303) 973-3705

For a comprehensive list of things to do for free in the Denver area, go to: <http://www.denver.org/events/free-events>.

## Health Care

### *Medicaid Suit Could Determine Who Decides Care: Doctor or State*

This article is taken from: <http://www.truthout.org/032509HA>.

State governments and Medicaid plan administrators have shown keen interest in a case argued before Atlanta's federal appeals court on Tuesday that could determine whether doctors or state officials get to decide how much medical care a Medicaid recipient needs.

But at the center of the case is a young disabled girl living in north Georgia.

Neither side suggests Anna C. Moore, a teenager who goes by "Callie," shouldn't have Medicaid-funded nursing care in her home. As her lawyer explained to a panel of the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals on Tuesday, she has frequent seizures and difficulty breathing. She's been receiving in-home nursing care paid for by Medicaid for about a decade.

At issue is whether the state properly reduced the number of hours that she receives such care. Callie's mother filed suit in 2007 after the state told her it was reducing Callie's number of paid nursing hours from 94 hours a week to 84.

The Moores' lawyers convinced U.S. District Judge Thomas W. Thrash Jr. that the reduction was improper. The judge concluded the state must provide for the amount of skilled nursing care that Callie's treating physician deems necessary.

Thrash's June 4, 2008, ruling has states and Medicaid plan managers up in arms. They say that Thrash's order means that states won't have the flexibility they need and the discretion the law allows to allocate Medicaid resources fairly.

Federal law requires states participating in the Medicaid program to provide care that's necessary to "correct or ameliorate defects and physical and mental illnesses" in lower-income children under the age of 21. The state points to a federal regulation that says Medicaid agencies may place limits on service based on "medical necessity."

The state Department of Community Health operates a program to administer Medicaid-funded nursing services for several hundred children who need nursing care. It delegates the decisions about approval of such services to an organization called the

Georgia Medical Care Foundation. That organization made the decision to reduce Callie's hours of nursing care, contrary to the recommendation of Callie's primary care physician.

The state says in its briefs that nursing hours can be reduced when the patient's medical condition stabilizes, positing that a goal of its program is to teach parents and other caregivers to care for the child on their own. The Moores' lawyers at the Georgia Advocacy Office, a nonprofit that advocates for disabled people, contend that the state's system of "weaning" patients off their nursing services as long as they're staying out of the hospital and not getting worse follows a different standard than that set by federal law.

According to Thrash's order, Callie is disabled due to a stroke she experienced in utero and suffers from various chronic conditions, including mental retardation and cerebral palsy. She lives at home and, according to the state's brief, attends an elementary school in Athens three days a week. Her lawyers say she requires constant care.

When state authorities notified Callie's mother that her nursing hours were being reduced, they cited, among other things, a policy that the cost of in-home nursing care should be less than the cost of providing that care in an institution. But the state denies in its brief that it considered cost in determining what nursing hours Callie will receive. It says its experts simply disagreed with the judgment of Callie's doctor on how many nursing hours Callie needs.

After Thrash issued multiple injunctions in Callie's favor, he denied the state's motion for summary judgment and granted the Moores' motion in part.

The state's appeal of the summary judgment ruling came before the 11th Circuit on Tuesday.

Assistant Attorney General Virginia B. Fuller told the three-judge panel that Thrash's order means private primary care physicians have unfettered discretion to spend public money.

Holland & Knight partner Robert S. Highsmith Jr. argued on behalf of WellCare of Georgia, an amicus siding with the state that provides managed-care services for Medicaid programs. He echoed Fuller's remarks, saying Thrash's order essentially says a doctor's decision is unreviewable by the state.

Senior Judge R. Lanier Anderson III jumped in: Assuming the state gets to determine what's medically necessary, "What deference does the state owe the treating physician?"

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The state will consider doctors' determinations, responded Highsmith, but the state is the "final arbiter."

Judge Gerald B. Tjoflat wanted to know who had the burden of proof in a dispute.

The plaintiff has the burden to prove a violation of the law, Highsmith responded.

Tjoflat continued that line of questioning with Atlanta Legal Aid Society General Counsel David A. Webster, who appeared for the Moores. Webster allowed that the state might properly decide there's no factual basis for a treating physician's determination.

Anderson remarked that a state is required to pay only for necessary services -- and the regulations say the state determines what's necessary.

A question by U.S. District Judge Lisa Godbey Wood, visiting from Brunswick, clarified the position of Webster, who confirmed that his argument is the state cannot decide on an individual, case-by-case basis what's necessary. The presumption is that the doctor is correct, he said.

But, interjected Tjoflat, in federal court the plaintiff has the burden of proof.

"The treating physician knows the patient best," Webster replied.

Anderson said his problem with the case is that the briefs don't discuss who has the burden of proof, suggesting that Thrash didn't consider which side carried the burden.

"There's a reason for that," responded Webster. The district court didn't need to get into who had the burden, because the state didn't make a reasoned decision and instead applied its "weaning program."

Anderson suggested a weaning mechanism sounded reasonable.

Webster replied that it might be reasonable if the child or the parents' ability to care for the child was improving, but that wasn't what happened in Callie's case. Instead, he said, "we have this continual squeeze," in which the state makes a policy decision, rather than a medical decision, to cut care.

"There is no medical basis for the review team's decision to cut hours in this case," Webster argued.

With her rebuttal time, Fuller attempted to minimize the effect of the state's decision on the care of Callie. "We are talking about 10 hours of care," said Fuller.

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The Georgia Medical Care Foundation is an "objective" team, she added. But, she said, the district court gave more weight to the physician's view.

The case is Moore v. Medows, No. 08-13926.

To find help for those with disabilities, go to The National Disability Rights Network at: <http://www.napas.org/>.

## Mental Health Care

### *CO Mental Health Stakeholders Meetings For Youth and Young Adults (Up to Age 24)*

The State of Colorado is holding meetings with stakeholders across the State focused on mental health and substance abuse prevention, intervention, and treatment services. The conversations are being led by consultants from two organizations, TriWest Group and Advocates for Human Potential. Input from these meetings will build on input gathered over the past 2 months through the Colorado Youth Development Team community conversations. The April meetings will focus on:

- Challenges in your community related to mental health/substance abuse services
- Ideas about how to address those challenges through changes in the way government works
- Your priorities about which system changes are most important to pursue

In-Person Sites	Address	Date	Time
Mesa County Partners	1169 Colorado Ave, Grand Junction	Thursday, April 9	6:30-8:00 pm
Colorado MH Institute-Ft. Logan	3520 W. Oxford Ave., Denver	Tuesday, April 14	6:00-7:30 pm
Colorado MH Institute-Pueblo	1500 W 24th St., Pueblo	Tuesday, April 21	5:00-6:30 pm
Hampton Inn Fort Collins	1620 Oakridge Drive, Ft. Collins	Thursday, April 23	6:00-7:30 pm

In addition, there will be a videoconference on Tuesday, April 14, from 3:30-5:00 p.m. at the following sites:

**Craig:** Colorado NW Community College, 50 College Drive, Craig

**Durango:** La Plata County Fairgrounds, 2500 Main Ave., Durango

**Lamar:** Prowers County Social Services, 1001 South Main, Lamar

**Sterling:** Logan County Social Services, 508 South 10th Ave., Sterling

**Trinidad:** Las Animas County Human Services, 204 S. Chestnut St., Trinidad

Seating is limited, so RSVP by April 7. Call 1-800-208-0095 to make your reservations. Attendees will receive a modest stipend, pizza and beverages, and reimbursement for travel and childcare costs. Please make any requests for reasonable accommodations to facilitate participation when you RSVP.



*CO Mental Health Stakeholders Meetings: Conversation with Parents and Caregivers of Children and Youth With Behavioral Health Needs*

The State of Colorado is holding meetings with stakeholders across the State focused on mental health and substance abuse prevention, intervention, and treatment services. The forums are being led by consultants from two organizations, TriWest Group and Advocates for Human Potential. Input from these meetings will build on input gathered over the past 2 months through the Colorado Youth Development Team community conversations. The April meetings will focus on:

- Challenges in your community related to mental health/substance abuse services
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**Lamar:** Prowers County Social Services, 1001 South Main, Lamar

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## Mental Health

### *NAMI Guide to Crisis Intervention Programs for Youth*

NAMI has published a guide titled, *Supporting Schools and Communities in Breaking the Prison Pipeline: A Guide to Emerging and Promising Crisis Intervention Programs for Youth*, to help inform advocates about existing crisis intervention programs for youth and what they can do to promote and implement such programs in their states and communities.

The guide responds to concerns about the alarming number of youth with mental health treatment needs who continue to enter the juvenile justice system. Schools in particular have been a pipeline into the juvenile justice for far too many youth in America. Crisis intervention programs for youth promise to support schools and communities in breaking this prison pipeline.

The guide highlights three communities that have adapted the adult Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) model to develop crisis intervention programs for youth that can be used in the school and community setting. It provides an overview of the CIT model and discusses the key components, benefits, and costs associated with crisis intervention programs for youth. It also details what action steps children's mental health advocates can take to effectively promote and implement these programs for youth in their states and communities.

CIT is a dynamic collaboration of law enforcement and community agencies and organizations committed to ensuring that individuals with mental illness are referred to appropriate mental health services and supports rather than thrust into the criminal justice system.

To download a copy of the guide, visit NAMI's Child and Adolescent Action Center (CAAC) at [www.nami.org/caac](http://www.nami.org/caac) or NAMI's CIT Resource Center at [www.nami.org/cit](http://www.nami.org/cit). Advocacy fact sheets are being developed to accompany the guide and will be posted online soon.

For more information about NAMI's work on crisis intervention programs for youth, please contact Dana Markey, Program Coordinator, CAAC, at [danac@nami.org](mailto:danac@nami.org), or Laura Usher, CIT Coordinator, at [laurau@nami.org](mailto:laurau@nami.org).

## Services & Resources

### *Family Unification Program Housing Choice Vouchers*

From the SHHP website: <http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/shhp/Section8-FUP.htm>

The Family Unification Program (FUP) provides Housing Choice Vouchers to youth aging out of the foster care system and to families involved with the child welfare system. In order to determine eligibility for the program, SHHP has developed a local partnership with Colorado Department of Human Services, Division of Child Welfare.

In order to qualify as a FUP eligible youth, the individual must be between the ages of 18-21, who was in foster care on or after their 16th birthday and currently lack adequate housing. Lack of adequate housing includes living in substandard or dilapidated housing, being homeless, displaced by domestic violence, living in an overcrowded unit, or living in housing not accessible due to the nature of his/her disability.

The housing assistance provided to the youth in this program is for a maximum of 18 months.

FUP eligible families are families that the public child welfare agency has certified as families for whom the lack of adequate housing is a primary factor in the imminent placement of the family's child, or children, in out-of-home care, or the delay of discharge of a child, or children, to the family from out-of-home care and that the PHA has determined is eligible for a Housing Choice Voucher. The housing assistance provided to eligible families is not time-limited.

FUP participants receive a Housing Choice Voucher, funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This voucher allows the participant (individual or family) to rent a home in the community from any landlord. Participants pay between 30% and 40% of their monthly-adjusted income towards rent with the balance paid by HUD.

## Training Opportunities

### *PREP 2009 Schedule*

Presented by COCAF, AFI Grant Teams, and The Adoption Exchange

COCAF, AFI Grant Teams, and The Adoption Exchange, through a federal Adoption Opportunities grant, are presenting 1½-day retreats for parents who have adopted through the child welfare system. These Adoptive Parents Retreats are designed to help strengthen and re-establish the communication skills we used so naturally at the start of our relationships, using the PREP® curriculum (Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program). You will meet other families experiencing similar feelings and challenges as your family, in a non-judgmental, supportive, and understanding environment.

These weekends are free of charge to adoptive parents! Generally, the workshops begin at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday morning and end by noon on Sunday. The retreats include accommodations for Saturday night, meals, and the PREP curriculum. Respite funds will also be available.

You will learn how to:

- Communicate with each other more gently and effectively;
- Discuss problems and resolve conflict in a safe way;
- Listen to and be heard by your partner;
- Respond to your children as a unified team;
- Show respect for your partner and have fun as a couple.

You must attend as part of a pair – single parents please bring an adult who is significant in your child's life (parenting-partner, teacher, faith-based person, etc.). If you have adopted from, or currently live in one of the counties listed on the next page, please contact the identified person to register for one of these respite weekends. Rejuvenate yourself, your relationship, and your family!

This workshop is provided by the Colorado Coalition of Adoptive Families (COCAF) and The Adoption Exchange through a grant from the Administration for Children and Families. The Adoptive Families Initiative (AFI) Grant will use information throughout the retreat process for ongoing program evaluation and improvements and assures that all information will be kept strictly confidential.

2009 PREP schedule, with registration information, is on the next page.

## COCAF E-Newsletter April 2009

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Team</b>	<b>Registration Contact Person/ #</b>
April 18 & 19, 2009 Quality Suites Evergreen	Jefferson & Adoption Exchange	Tinuviel Atwood, BSW The Adoption Exchange tatwood@adoptex.org 303-755-4756 x217
April 18 & 19, 2009	Broomfield	Ronda Burgin, 720-887-2238 rburgin@broomfield.org
May 2 & 3, 2009	Denver	Linda Trantow, 720-944-2484 Linda.trantow@denvergov.org
May 16 & 17, 2009 Inn of the Rio Grande	Alamosa & Adoption Exchange	Tinuviel Atwood, BSW The Adoption Exchange tatwood@adoptex.org 303-755-4756 x217
June 6 & 7, 2009 Glenwood Springs, AmerInn Glenwood Springs	Mesa & Adoption Exchange	Tinuviel Atwood, BSW The Adoption Exchange tatwood@adoptex.org 303-755-4756 x217
July 18 & 19, 2009 Telluride The Peaks Resort	Delta/Montrose & Adoption Exchange	Tinuviel Atwood, BSW The Adoption Exchange tatwood@adoptex.org 303-755-4756 x217
August 1 & 2, 2009 Hampton Inn, Fort Collins	Larimer County & Adoption Exchange	Tinuviel Atwood, BSW The Adoption Exchange tatwood@adoptex.org 303-755-4756 x217
Sept 12 & 13, 2009	Boulder	Suzanne Daniels, 303-441-1533 sdaniels@co.boulder.co.us

## *Mental Health Diagnosis: Why Dads Respond Differently*

Presented EMPOWER Colorado

Wednesday, April 1, 2009, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Rainbow Center, 2140 E. 88th Ave., Thornton, CO

Ever wonder about why it seems like the dad responds so differently to your child's diagnosis? Why they have to question your reactions when you are in tears? Why they think you want them to "fix this" when you really just wanted them to listen?

These and other questions will be answered at the Empowering Families Through the Diagnostic Journey Class. We are extending the invitation to all who want to hear this unique conversation. Pizza will be provided, as will childcare. Bring your questions! This evening will be fun and will provide some answers to how/why things seem so different between men and women when it comes to understanding our child's illness. The presenter is a father who is in the journey with his child and family now.

*Cost:* Free, but you must RSVP to Darcy at 303-691-9339.

*For further information:* Contact Darcy at 303-691-9339

## *Helping Children Cope: Reducing Trauma During Placement Moves*

Presented by CDHS & The Adoption Exchange

Enita Kearns-Hout

Thursday, April 2, 2009, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Logan County DSS, 508 S. 10th Ave, Sterling, CO 80751

This course includes information on:

- Affect of loss and multiple placements on a child's development
- Special needs of children who are moved on an emergency basis
- Helping a child deal with fears and anxieties about placement
- Timetable of steps for the first weeks and months of placement that help reduce the unintentional trauma caused by a transition from one home to another

*Cost:* Free to county employees and associated parents; \$7.50 for FCAAC (formerly CPA) network members; \$15 for all others.

*For further information:* Contact Charmaine Jiner at 303-755-4756, ext. 222 or by email at [charmaine@adoptex.org](mailto:charmaine@adoptex.org).

*To register:* Go to [www.cocwtraining.com](http://www.cocwtraining.com).

## ***Brain Development and Trauma***

Presented by CDHS & The Adoption Exchange

Aaron Wiemeier, MS, LPC

Thursday, April 2, 2009, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Rockrimmon Branch Library, 832 Village Center Drive, Colorado Springs, CO

This workshop will focus on:

- Recognizing signs of early trauma
- Latest research on the brain as affected by trauma
- Behavior typically seen in at-risk children
- Practical application and interventions for behavior in the home

Trainer Aaron Wiemeier, MS, LPC, has been working exclusively with traumatized adults and children since 1996. Aaron specializes in working with patients who have PTSD, anxiety, anger, attachment disorder, depression, and conduct/oppositional defiant disorder.

**Cost:** Class fee is \$5.00. Fee is waived for parents who have finalized adoptions through the child welfare system, and registration preference will be given to these families.

**For further information:** Tanya Hammar at 1-800-451-5246 or by email at [tanya@adoptex.org](mailto:tanya@adoptex.org).

**To register:** Go to [www.adoptex.org](http://www.adoptex.org).

## ***Finding Inner Resiliency for Secondary Trauma F.I.R.S.T.***

Presented by HealthBridge Alliance

Thursday & Friday, April 2-3, 2009, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

This workshop focuses on how to:

- Better understand how and why you are being affected by your work
- Recognize the things that stand in the way of taking care of yourself
- Learn concrete tools and skills to better manage the emotional stress of your job
- Reconnect with your passion for your work

**Cost/Information/Registration:** Go to [www.hballiance.org](http://www.hballiance.org) or call (303) 643-5995 x103.

## *Living Anxiety Free in Anxious Times: Helping Men Help Their Families*

Presented by Adoptive Family Resources

Jeff Cotton MFT

Saturday April 4, 2009, 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Denver Therapy and Consultation Group, 701 South Logan St. Suite 104, Denver, CO

Objectives of the workshop include:

- Recognizing anxiety factors in how we see what we see
- Developing critical tools in recognizing their own lens of fear
- Developing critical tools in freeing themselves from their own lens of fear
- Become less entangled in being in relationship with others while learning to care for themselves in a more skillful, balanced, and interdependent manner

Jeff Cotton, MFT (of Jeff Cotton Trainings) has worked with families with over 30 years. For the past 20 years he has conducted seminars for post-adoption and foster family agencies, group homes, residential treatment programs, and schools throughout the United States.

*Cost:* \$75 for the day including continental breakfast and lunch. For information about scholarships, contact Jan Tomski at 303-881-7630 or by email at [jantomski@msn.com](mailto:jantomski@msn.com).

*For further information:* Contact Jan Tomski at 303-881-7630 or by email at [jantomski@msn.com](mailto:jantomski@msn.com).

*To register:* Mail the following information to Adoptive Family Resources 8745 W. 14<sup>th</sup> Ave., Suite 100, Lakewood, CO 80218:

- Your name
- Complete address
- Phone number
- Email address
- Dietary restrictions
- \$75 payment



## *Techniques to Enhance Adoptive Family Attachment*

Presented by Adoptive Family Resources

Cathy Goodman, LPC

Monday April 6, 2009, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Church of Christ, 260 Soccer Field Rd, Glenwood Springs, CO 81601

Topics will include:

- Development and characteristics of both overly attached and under attached children
- How to help the overly-attached child learn how to separate and feel secure
- How to help under-attached children connect and form healthy relationships
- Common parenting techniques to avoid

Cathy Goodman, LPC, specializes in working with adoptive families. She has over 30 years experience working with children as a therapist, trainer, and adoptive mother.

*Cost:* Class fee is \$5.00. Fee is waived for parents who have finalized adoptions through the child welfare system, and registration preference will be given to these families.

*For further information:* Tanya Hammar at 1-800-451-5246 or by email at tanya@adoptex.org.

*To register:* Go to [www.adoptex.org](http://www.adoptex.org).

## *Transitioning From Foster to Adoptive Parenting: Helping Kinship and Foster Parents Prepare for the Changes Adoption Brings*

Presented by The Adoption Exchange, funded through a grant from the Colorado Department of Human Services

Enita Kearns-Hout

Thursday, April 9, 2009, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Adams County DSS, CFC Building (conf. rooms C & D)

7401 N Broadway, Denver, CO 80221

This 3-hour training focuses on:

- What you need to know to prepare
- Benefits of open adoption and preserving important connections
- Integrating children's history and their understanding of adoption

- Pre-finalization jitters and loss issues

Trainer Enita Kearns-Hout has over 30 years of child welfare experience placing children in foster care and adoption.

*Cost:* Free to county employees and associated parents; \$7.50 for FCAAC (formerly CPA) network members; \$15 for all others.

*For further information:* Contact Charmaine Jiner at 303-755-4756, ext. 222 or by email at [charmaine@adoptex.org](mailto:charmaine@adoptex.org).

*To register:* Go to [www.cocwtraining.com](http://www.cocwtraining.com).

### ***The Challenge of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder for Adoptive Parents***

Presented by The Adoption Exchange  
Betsy Hay, MSW

Thursday, April 16, 2009, 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Canon Coffee Café, 1520 Royal Gorge Road, Canon City, CO 81212

Topics include:

- What is ADHD?
- What the National Institute of Mental Health tells us about ADHD
- Treatment options and resources
- Practical parenting suggestions

Trainer Betsy Hay, MSW, is an ADHD specialist.

*Cost:* Class fee is \$5.00. Fee is waived for parents who have finalized adoptions through the child welfare system, and registration preference will be given to these families.

*For further information:* Tanya Hammar at 1-800-451-5246 or by email at [tanya@adoptex.org](mailto:tanya@adoptex.org).

*To register:* Go to [www.adoptex.org](http://www.adoptex.org).

### ***Empowered Adoptive Family Parenting Series***

Presented by Parker Adventist Hospital's Family to Family Adoption Support Program & The Adoption Exchange

This series of classes is designed to provide valuable information for families who have adopted (or plan to adopt) children internationally or domestically through a private agency (outside the child welfare system).

#### ***It's a Package Deal: Your Child, Their Trauma***

April 20, 2009, 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

This class will address how trauma affects the developing brain in international and domestic infant adoption. We will discuss the impact of trauma on child development, attachment, and sensory integration, as well as the effects of neglect.

#### ***We Don't Match, But Our Hearts Do***

May 14, 2009 6:00 - 8:30 pm

This class addresses transracial and cross-cultural parenting as well as the common question, "Do I belong here?"

#### ***Current Trends in Infant Adoption***

June 18, 2009 6:00 - 8:30 pm

This class will address the new face of infant adoption, issues around openness, and newborn transition and bonding.

**Cost:** \$20 per person or \$30 per two adults from one family and the classes are designed to stand-alone.

**For further information:** Contact [Michelle Cannon](mailto:Michelle.Cannon@parkerhospital.org) at 303.755.4756, extension 203.

**To register:** [Register Here](#) or go to:

[http://www.parkerhospital.org/index.php?s=861&parent\\_id=1836#empowered](http://www.parkerhospital.org/index.php?s=861&parent_id=1836#empowered)

## *The Nuts and Bolts of Attachment*

Presented by The Adoption Exchange  
Jennifer Winkelmann, MA, LPC, NCC  
Tuesday, April 21, 2009, 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.  
Apex Recreation Center, 13150 W. 72nd Ave., Arvada, CO 80005

This workshop addresses:

- Foundational principles of attachment.
- Basic brain development and the impact of trauma on developing brains.
- How to create a healing environment

Trainer Jennifer Winkelmann, MA, LPC, NCC, is the Founder and Clinical Director of Inward Bound, Inc. As a psychotherapist for individuals, couples, and families, Jennifer's primary clinical focus is adoption and foster care issues. She has 11 years of experience working with children of high-risk populations and their families.

**Cost:** Class fee is \$5.00. Fee is waived for parents who have finalized adoptions through the child welfare system, and registration preference will be given to these families.

**For further information:** Tanya Hammar at 1-800-451-5246 or by email at [tanya@adoptex.org](mailto:tanya@adoptex.org).

**To register:** Go to [www.adoptex.org](http://www.adoptex.org).

## *Guided by the Law: ICWA, ADA, MEPA, ASFA*

Presented by CDHS & The Adoption Exchange  
Enita Kearns-Hout  
Thursday, April 23, 2009, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (Main Conference Room)  
Morgan County DHS, 800 E. Beaver Ave., Fort Morgan, CO 80701

This half-day course covers Federal legislation that affects child placement practices. Participants learn how the ICWA, ADA, ASFA, and MEPA laws affect adoption and foster care agency practice.

**Cost:** Free to county employees and associated parents; \$7.50 for FCAAC (formerly CPA) network members; \$15 for all others.

**For further information:** Contact Charmaine Jiner at 303-755-4756, ext. 222 or by email at [charmaine@adoptex.org](mailto:charmaine@adoptex.org).

**To register:** Go to [www.cocwtraining.com](http://www.cocwtraining.com).

### *The Juvenile Justice System*

Presented by Jefferson Center for Mental Health & Jefferson County Juvenile Justice Behavioral Advisory Committee

Thursday, April 23, 2009, 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church, 920 Kipling Street, Denver, CO 80215

Jefferson Center for Mental Health and the Jefferson County Juvenile Justice Behavioral Advisory Committee are sponsoring a **free** panel discussion about the juvenile justice system and related issues. Representatives of agencies, parents, and youth involved in the juvenile justice system will speak. There will be a question and answer session and resource tables from participating agencies.

For more information and to reserve your space, contact Cammy at (303) 432-5238.

### *Meeting the Mental Health and Developmental Needs of Adopted Children*

Presented by Boulder County Department of Housing and Human Services

Adam Pertman and David Brodzinsky, Ph.D.

Monday, May 4, 2009, 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Xilinx Summit Retreat, 3100 Logic Dr., Longmont, CO

Topics include:

- Latest research and trends in adoption
- Mental health and developmental needs of adopted children
- Strategies for managing contact with birth family members (including siblings)
- Identity issues in adoption; ways parents can help their children develop a positive sense of themselves

Trainer Adam Pertman is the Executive Director of the Evan B. Donaldson Adoption Institute, a national nonprofit that is the pre-eminent research, policy, and education organization in its field. Pertman is also the Associate Editor of *Adoption Quarterly*, the premier research journal dealing with adoption and foster care. And he is the author of the groundbreaking *Adoption Nation: How the Adoption Revolution is Transforming America*, which has been reviewed as "the most important book ever written on the subject." In addition, he is the author of many chapters and articles on adoption- and family-related issues in books, scholarly journals, and mass-market publications.

Trainer Dr. David Brodzinsky is Professor Emeritus of Developmental and Clinical Psychology and past Director of the Foster Care Counseling Project at Rutgers University. He was a founding director and served for 10 years on the Board of

Directors of the Evan B. Donaldson Adoption Institute. Currently, Dr. Brodzinsky is Research and Project Director for the Institute. For the past three decades, his research and scholarly writing has focused primarily on issues related to the adjustment of adopted and foster children and their families. He is especially well known for his research on developmental and family issues related to adopted children's adjustment.

*Cost:* Free for Boulder County adoptive, kinship, and foster families. All others \$35/person; \$60 per couple. Lunch is included.

*For further information:* Email [bkrook@bouldercounty.org](mailto:bkrook@bouldercounty.org) or call 303-441-1445.

*To register:* Email [bkrook@bouldercounty.org](mailto:bkrook@bouldercounty.org) or call 303-441-1445.

### ***Do I Belong Here? Parenting Children Who Have Been Adopted Transracially***

Presented by The Adoption Exchange

Michele D. Hanna

Thursday, May 7, 2009, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Robert Hoag Rawlings Library, 100 East Abriendo Avenue, Pueblo, CO 81004

Topics include:

- Talking with your children about the issues that arise from transracial adoption
- Giving your child coping strategies to deal with the outside world
- Advocating for your children when problems arise

Michele D. Hanna is an Assistant Professor for The DU School of Social Work with a special emphasis on child welfare and adoption.

*Cost:* Class fee is \$5.00. Fee is waived for parents who have finalized adoptions through the child welfare system, and registration preference will be given to these families.

*For further information:* Tanya Hammar at 1-800-451-5246 or by email at [tanya@adoptex.org](mailto:tanya@adoptex.org).

*To register:* Go to [www.adoptex.org](http://www.adoptex.org).

## *Respite Care Training for Adoptive, Foster, & Kinship Families*

Presented by COPARC and COCAF

Friday, May 8, 2009, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Jefferson County Fairgrounds Exhibit Hall, 15200 W. 6th Ave., Golden, CO 80401

Learn how to be part of the solution to the respite problem. Topics include:

- Becoming part of a team that supports adoptive family stability and prevents disruptions
- Positive approaches that will head-off issues before they become crises
- Concrete skills and techniques for managing challenging behaviors
- Unique needs of children who have been adopted
- Strategies for keeping kids safe
- Self-care tips
- Tools that will help you work successfully with adoptive families and their children

Due to the need for safety for families who use respite services, training attendees must complete an application and a background check and must be willing to be added to the COPARC list of trained respite care providers available to adoptive families. For families who complete this entire process, a stipend will be provided as well as vouchers to offset the costs for childcare and mileage.

Any adoptive family who wishes to attend with their personal respite care provider may do so; however the provider will need to complete the application and the background checks. ***Space is limited and the background check process takes time, so register early.***

***Cost:*** Free. Lunch and light snack provided.

***For more information:*** Contact Tanya Hammar at 303-755-4756 or 800-451-5246 or by email at [tanya@adoptex.org](mailto:tanya@adoptex.org).

***Register online at:*** [www.adoptex.org](http://www.adoptex.org).

## *Interdisciplinary Child Welfare Institute*

May 18 - 22, 2009

Capital University Law School, Columbus, Ohio

Capital University Law School, in conjunction with the National Center for Adoption Law and Policy, is pleased to offer a one-week intensive Interdisciplinary Child Welfare Institute (ICWI). This two-credit course will provide law students and graduate level social work students with a mutual understanding of the legal and sociological principles central to child welfare practice. In the increasingly complex world of child welfare, quality collaboration among legal and social work professionals is critical to keeping children safe and strengthening families. Interdisciplinary learning provides a common foundation for students from different professional programs and an environment for developing the skills required of future child welfare attorneys and social workers.

Topics include:

- Constitutional rights of parents and children and the responsibility of the State to protect children from maltreatment
- History of child welfare law
- Child welfare systems in the United States: key federal policy and statutes and state structures
- Legal definitions and practice implications
- Child development and interviewing children
- Family dynamics of child maltreatment
- Ethical and professional considerations for interdisciplinary practice
- Preparing for trials and providing expert testimony
- Permanency planning and negotiating for best solutions for children and families

*Cost:* \$2,148 for this two-credit course

*For further information:* Email [icwi@law.capital.edu](mailto:icwi@law.capital.edu), call 614-236-6730, or go to the website at <http://www.law.capital.edu/adoption/icwi/>.

*To register:* Go to: [https://secure.law.capital.edu/adoption/icwi\\_app/index.cfm](https://secure.law.capital.edu/adoption/icwi_app/index.cfm)

Click here to [print a 2009 ICWI Flyer](#).



## Just for Fun

### *Laugh With COCAF*

Saturday, April 4, 2009, 8:00 p.m.

Bovine Metropolis Theatre, 1527 Champa Street Denver, Colorado 80202  
303-758-4722

Help COCAF make a little money and help yourself to an evening out and lots of laughs!

The Bovine Metropolis Theatre presents: Comedy for a Cause – On The Spot – a fundraising event for COCAF.

In the style of "Whose Line is it Anyway," four actors and a moderator use audience suggestions to make for an action-packed night of hilarity. "On The Spot" remains a local favorite, using the audience's unique suggestions to improvise scenes, games, and songs to make newcomers or regulars laugh themselves silly! See as many as 25 games performed in one show. Watch our masters of improv madness under the white-hot light until your sides hurt from laughing.

Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased by calling 303-758-4722 or online at <http://groovetickets.com/ordersystem/Tribe/eventviewqb.asp?affilid=472&EventsID=46390>. (Tickets bought online will also have a small surcharge added to the price.) You may also buy tickets at the theatre starting at 7:30 p.m. on the day of show.

From more information: Go to [www.BovineMetropolis.com](http://www.BovineMetropolis.com).

### *Tasty Soups, Networking and Keeping Colorado's Kids Healthy*

Thursday, April 23, 2009, 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Cable Center, University of Denver, 2000 Buchtel Blvd, Denver, CO 80210

Gourmet soups created by Denver's premier restaurants will warm your belly and heart in an effort to keep Colorado's kids healthy.

For over a decade, the Colorado Children's Immunization Coalition (CCIC) has worked to increase childhood immunization through coalition building, provider education, community outreach, and legislative advocacy. As a way of thanking its partners and supporters in a fun and creative way, the nonprofit is hosting its second annual SOUP! (Shots Offer Unrivaled Protection) event.

The soup-tasting event will raise funds and awareness for childhood immunizations and honor the Big Shot of the Year, Dr. James Todd. In addition to networking and celebrating, guests will sample a variety of soups from Denver's premier restaurants and vote for the Best Soup and Most Creative Soup of the Year.

*Tickets:* \$50 per person, \$90 per couple

*For more information:* Contact Dawn by email at [crawford.dawn@tchden.org](mailto:crawford.dawn@tchden.org).

*To purchase tickets, go to:* <http://www.childrensimmunization.org/index.php?s=66>

### ***Creedence Clearwater Revisited***

Presented by CoBiz Financial

Thursday, April 30, 2009, 6:30 p.m.

Fillmore Auditorium, 1510 Clarkson, Denver, CO

The casual evening features a come-and-go atmosphere that's more black t-shirt than black tie, more music than speeches, and plenty of eating, drinking, mixing, and mingling. Proceeds benefit Judi's House and Denver Children's Advocacy Center.

Everyone at the Biz Bash gets these fabulous perks:

- Casual dress code – wear your favorite jeans!
- Great gourmet food
- Open bar
- High-end silent auction – past year's items have featured vacations, dream golf outings, jewelry, sports memorabilia, and more

*Tickets:* \$250 general admission

*For more information:* Email [bizbash@cobizfinancial.com](mailto:bizbash@cobizfinancial.com), call 720-264-5509, or go to [http://bizbash.org/co/bizbash\\_tixspons.asp](http://bizbash.org/co/bizbash_tixspons.asp).

## *CP of Colorado's 8th Annual Mothers' Tea*

Saturday, May 9, 2009 11:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

The Westin Tabor Center, 1672 Lawrence Street, Denver

This remarkable celebration is all about honoring the spirit and devotion of some very special moms. Held in the grand ballroom of the Westin Tabor Center in downtown Denver, this year's Mother's Tea will feature a champagne reception complete with grand pianist and complimentary portraits by Scott T Photography. Attendees will enjoy a sumptuous luncheon and relaxing day of entertainment that will include a keynote speaker, a very exciting fashion show, and numerous giveaways. The event will conclude with Celebrity Host, Dr. Stephanie Clements, announcing the winners of pamper packages for six, community-nominated, very deserving mothers. These elegantly prepared packages, which include spa services, dinner, and an overnight getaway, are the perfect gift for mothers who so often place the needs of their children ahead of their own.

Over the years, UCP Colorado has witnessed the incredible difference that mothers make in the lives of their children with special needs. Whereas many moms wear many hats, these mothers' challenges are uniquely diverse in the care and upbringing of their children. Their lives often revolve around medical appointments, special therapies, and advocating for the inclusion of their children in the educational system and throughout their communities. Their stories of motherhood demonstrate the selfless and extraordinary commitment, love, and sacrifice that help their children overcome the daily challenges they face.

### **Benefiting UCP Colorado's Family Support Services:**

Colorado Citizens for Accountability, EMPOWER Colorado, Faith In Action, Guardianship Alliance of Colorado, Infantile Scoliosis Outreach Program, and Parent to Parent of Colorado,

*Tickets:* \$50 each

*For more information:* Go to <http://www.cpcoco.org/motherstea.html> or call Emily or Tina at 303-691-9339

*To register:* Go to <http://www.cpcoco.org/mttickets.html>

### *Adoption Exchange Events*

The Adoption Exchange has a variety of upcoming events:

- April 8, 2009: A Day for Wednesday's Child; all day on CBS4
- April 28, 2009: Wednesday's Child Connection Guild; Spring Membership Event at Glenmoor Country Club
- June 24-25, 2009: Champions for Children Golf Tournament at Sanctuary Golf Course
- November 2009: 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Fantasy Ball

For more information on any of these events, go to [www.adoptex.org](http://www.adoptex.org).

### *Mothers' Day Gift Idea That Makes a Difference*

Make the mothers in your life proud – get them a Mothers' Day gift that does more than make them happy – it also helps a nonprofit organization.

Consider ordering a beautiful turquoise and silver bracelet from CHART (Children's Help and Assistance for Residential Treatment). CHART provides families with resources to help you ask the right questions about RTC placement and find options to help finance your child's placement in a residential treatment center (RTC). The members of CHART are both professionals and parents who have faced the same questions, emotions, and turmoil.

For more information about these bracelets designed by Michael Stanfield, email Mary Ann Mulligan at [Maryannchart@msn.com](mailto:Maryannchart@msn.com) and she'll send you the flyer and ordering instructions.

## Website Topics

This section is new and contains the headings from some of the previous COCAF newsletter items that people like to refer to on a regular basis. Rather than reprint these items in every newsletter, we're providing the name of the article and a link to the information on the COCAF website.

Adoption-Related Information [http://www.cocaf.org/adoption\\_topics](http://www.cocaf.org/adoption_topics)

Adoptive Families Denver <http://www.cocaf.org/adoptive>

COPARC <http://www.cocaf.org/coparc>

Foster Care and Adoption Self-Assessment Guide <http://www.cocaf.org/adoption-foster>

Income Taxes & Adoption <http://www.cocaf.org/tax>

Larimer County Alliance for Grandfamilies (LCAG) <http://www.cocaf.org/kinship-larimer>

The Adoption Exchange Support Groups Listing <http://www.cocaf.org/support>

Adoption Subsidy Information <http://www.cocaf.org/subsidies>

Colorado Subsidy Information <http://www.cocaf.org/adoption-subsidy>

Expanding Title IV-E Adoption Assistance <http://www.cocaf.org/adoption-titleiv>

NACAC Report on Adoption Subsidies <http://www.cocaf.org/adoption-nacac-report>

National Subsidy Information <http://www.cocaf.org/adoption-national>

Conference Calls/Discussion Boards <http://www.cocaf.org/current-conference>

Child Welfare League of America <http://www.cocaf.org/conference-welfare>

Conscious Connections Talk Radio <http://www.cocaf.org/conference-conscious>

"Listening to Parents" Project Discussion Board <http://www.cocaf.org/conference-listening>

NAMI Children's Conference Calls <http://www.cocaf.org/conference-nami>

Education <http://www.cocaf.org/education-menu>

Casey "Foster Parent College" Scholarships <http://www.cocaf.org/scholarships-casey>

Expanded Access to College Financial Aid for Former Foster Youth <http://www.cocaf.org/college-aid>

Foster Youth Internship (FYI) Program <http://www.cocaf.org/youth-internship>

Mobility Issues & Special Education <http://www.cocaf.org/mobility>

Online Educational Advocacy Resource <http://www.cocaf.org/edu-advocacy>

Parents of Adults with Disabilities <http://www.cocaf.org/edu-parents>

Reducing Behavior Problems in the Classroom <http://www.cocaf.org/behavior-problems>

Spanish-Language Child Welfare Resources <http://www.cocaf.org/edu-spanish>

Financial Assistance & Information <http://www.cocaf.org/financial>

Financial Classes <http://www.cocaf.org/financial-classes>

LEAP <http://www.cocaf.org/financial-leap>

United Way's 2-1-1 Service <http://www.cocaf.org/financial-united>

Health Care <http://www.cocaf.org/healthcare>

Denver Options <http://www.cocaf.org/health-denver>

EPSDT: What It Is & Why It Is Important to Behavior Health Providers? <http://www.cocaf.org/epsdt>

Medicaid Waiver Information <http://www.cocaf.org/health-medicaidwaiver>

UHCCF Grants for Child Health Care Services <http://www.cocaf.org/health-uhccf>

# COCAF E-Newsletter April 2009

## Legislative Information <http://www.cocaf.org/laws>

Colorado Child Welfare Action Committee <http://www.cocaf.org/legislation-cowelfare>

Emancipation Documents Colorado Legislation <http://www.cocaf.org/legislation-upcoming>

Nebraska Safe Haven Law <http://www.cocaf.org/legislative-nebraska>

Voice for Adoption Child Welfare Legislation Information <http://www.cocaf.org/voice>

## Mental Health Care <http://www.cocaf.org/mental-health>

Attention Deficient Disorder Association (ADDA) <http://www.cocaf.org/mental-adda>

Autistic Children: ZAC Browser: Zone for Autistic Children <http://www.cocaf.org/mental-zac>

CHART: Children's Help and Assistance for Residential Treatment <http://www.cocaf.org/mental-chart>

Considering Residential Treatment Programs for Children <http://www.cocaf.org/mental-residential>

COPARC Therapist Database <http://www.cocaf.org/mental-nami>

E.R.I.C. Program <http://www.cocaf.org/mental-eric>

Guide on Bipolar Disorder in Children and Teens <http://www.cocaf.org/mental-bipolar>

Mental Health Websites <http://www.cocaf.org/mental-websites>

NAMI Connections Link <http://www.cocaf.org/mental-nami>

New Parents and Teachers as Allies Resources <http://www.cocaf.org/mental-allies>

Therapeutic Services for Jefferson County Victims <http://www.cocaf.org/mental-therapeutic>

## Services & Resources <http://www.cocaf.org/community>

C.A.S.E. Adoption-Related Services <http://www.cocaf.org/services-case>

Grandfamilies State Law & Policy Resource Center <http://www.cocaf.org/grandfamilies>

Kinship Program at Catholic Charities <http://www.cocaf.org/kinship-catholic>

Respite Care Services <http://www.cocaf.org/respice-care>

Respite: Give Me a Break Respite Program <http://www.cocaf.org/respice-break>

## Training Resources <http://www.cocaf.org/trainers>

COCAF Calendar <http://www.cocaf.org/event/2009/04/30/month/all/all/1>

Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) <http://www.cocaf.org/trainers>

Evan B. Donaldson Adoption Institute <http://www.cocaf.org/trainers>

Foster Parent College (FPC) <http://www.cocaf.org/trainers>

Washington Learning Systems Website <http://www.cocaf.org/training-washington>

## Free-For-All <http://www.cocaf.org/free-for-all>

Colorado-for-Free: Things to Do for Free <http://www.cocaf.org/free-colorado>

Free Car Seat Checks <http://www.cocaf.org/carseat>

## Current Events <http://www.cocaf.org/current-events>

Conference Calls/Discussion Boards <http://www.cocaf.org/current-conference>

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