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COCAF News

Important News in This Edition!

Being your child's advocate might be your most important job. Make sure you have the skills you need to be successful: Attend this great **FREE** 2-day workshop sponsored by COCAF, the Colorado Post-Adoption Resource Center (COPARC), and the Community Champions Network (CCN). See page 5 for more information.

Crisis in Haiti

I'm sure you've seen the heart-wrenching news reports on the orphans of Haiti. These children have suffered so many traumatic events in their short lives...loss of their birth parents, life in an orphanage in an impoverished nation, then the earthquake. But as I watched the joyous airport interviews with their new American parents, I have to wonder if those new adoptive families are ready to deal with the traumas still to come for their Haitian children: Loss of their native language, culture, friends, siblings, and other family members. I hope that these new adoptive families seek help to ensure that they provide their adopted children with all the resources available to make this transition as non-traumatic as possible. So if you know any of these new families, please encourage them to go to the COCAF website (www.cocaf.org) and to sign up for the COCAF newsletter and listserv. Having resources in place before crisis hits can be a family lifesaver.

Colleen Tarket, COCAF Development Director
Colleen.tarket@cocaf.org

Will You Be My Facebook Friend?

How many of you spend time on Facebook, just checking up on old elementary school friends or following the latest status reports of your family members? Why not include COCAF in your Facebook world? Go to the Facebook causes website at <http://apps.facebook.com/causes/419195> and add COCAF to your causes. And while you're at it, ask all your Facebook friends to join, too. Supporting post-adoption support in Colorado is an important cause – and the more people know about our cause, the stronger we become.

Three Ways to Help COCAF

COCAF provides critical support to adoptive families in crisis, as well as providing information for adoptive families through both our monthly newsletter and the COCAF website. And we do all this at no cost to you. Please help us continue providing our services by donating today.

COCAF has three simple ways you can donate:

1. Go to <http://www.cocaf.org> and click on the Donate Now button on the upper right corner of the screen.
2. Go to the Facebook causes website at <http://apps.facebook.com/causes/419195> and click on the green DONATE button.
3. If you don't want to donate online, just mail your check to:
COCAF
5702 West 114th Place
Westminster, CO 80020-6831

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.

COCAF Newsletter

If you have items you think would be appropriate for the COCAF newsletter, please forward those items to colleen.tarket@cocaf.org by the 20th of the month for consideration for the next month.

COCAF Upcoming Events

Find Your Voice: Tackling Challenges Facing Adoptive, Foster, and Kinship Families

Presented by NACAC Community Champions Network (CCN), COCAF, & COPARC
Friday, February 19, **and** Saturday, February 20, 2010, 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Daniels Fund, 101 Monroe St., Denver, CO 80206, rooms 126 & 127

This 2-day **FREE** training workshop is designed for parents, social workers, and other community providers working with adoptive families. You may attend just Friday, just Saturday, or both days – all for free. Topics will include:

Friday:

- Colorado's Adoption Landscape and Needs
- Adoption Subsidies
- When Residential Treatment is Needed
- Educational Advocacy
- Supporting Families through Crisis

Saturday:

- Supporting Families through Expected Challenges
- Fundamentals of Case and Class Advocacy Action
- Media Advocacy
- Post-Adopt Resources: Current and Envisioned
- Parents and Professionals as Partners
- Strategic Planning

Cost: \$20 holding fee (**those who attend will be refunded the fee**). Lunch will be provided.

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

Adoption/Kinship/Foster Information

SSI Changes Rule to Benefit Disabled Youth Leaving Foster Care

The Social Security Administration has issued new rules that directly apply to disabled youth leaving foster care. Effective immediately, a disabled youth eligible for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) may file an SSI application up to 90 days before federal foster care payments are expected to end. This is an exception to the general rule of accepting an SSI application in the month before the month of eligibility. This policy will aid disabled youth in foster care to make the transition to adult life by helping to ensure that they have income and health benefits in place. View the policy by clicking on this link:

<https://secure.ssa.gov/apps10/public/reference.nsf/...>

Adoption Blogs

There are blogs for almost every topic under the sun. Here are a couple that are focused on adoption:

<http://communitychampions.wordpress.com/>

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/jeff-katz/adoption-scandal-intersta_b_400108.html

Children with Disabilities Information

KEJI College Fair

Tuesday, April 27, 2010, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Rotunda (S100), Community College of Aurora
16000 East CentreTech Parkway, Aurora, CO 80011-9036

The KEJI College Fair inspires students who carry handicap labels, are on IEPs or 504s, or are struggling in school to successfully pursue post secondary education.

For further information or to participate as a vendor/higher learning institution representative, please contact Robin Bruce by phone at 303-751-3033 or by email at forkeji@pgdworks.org.

Military Provides Services for Members' Children with Special Needs

An initiative led by the U.S. Army and the Marines is helping provide medical, educational, and other services to military families who have children with special needs. Among new provisions are caseworkers and attorneys who help families secure services, as well as additional respite care for service members who have dependents with special needs. "They needed to do something so that service members could deploy without worrying," one advocate for military families said.

The 2010 Defense Authorization Act, which President Obama signed in October, calls for a new Defense Department office of support for families with special needs. It will ensure consistency among the military's branches, according to the legislation, and monitor whether military families have fair access to state and federal programs.

Autism Society of Larimer County

The Autism Society of Larimer County holds monthly community education meetings the first Monday of every month. The February 1, 2010, meeting will have Dr. Billica present on the topic of seizures and autism. This presentation is to open to all disabilities and anyone with a loved one with a seizure disorder is encouraged to attend. If you have any questions, to contact the ASLC at 970-377-9640 or email at aslc@autismlarimer.org.

KidStreet

KidStreet is a community-based program designed to care for children ages 6 weeks to 3 years of age with special medical needs. KidStreet is located at Colorado Boulevard and Martin Luther King on the Clayton Early Learning Campus and is part of The Children's Hospital Network of Care.

To be eligible to attend KidStreet, a nursing care need such as a g-tube or tracheostomy must be present, as well as the need for two therapies (PT, OT, or ST). Children usually come 5 days a week. KidStreet is open from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The KidStreet program is covered by Medicaid and may be covered by other private insurance. Transportation services may be available for some families who have Medicaid and live within a 12 mile radius.

For more information, call KidStreet at 720-777-6020, ext. 1, and ask for the Enrollment Team.

Nonverbal Children

Parents of children who are nonverbal or who have significant communication challenges now can find help from Apple®. Apple® has introduced a new application for the iPhone® and iPod Touch® which allows users to voice comments and requests by touching icons.

The application, the Proloquo2Go from AssistiveWare, has a default vocabulary of over 7,000 items, but can be used by anyone who has difficulty communicating verbally, including children and adults with Down syndrome, autism, or apraxia. It is available from Apple's iTunes® store for \$149.

Proloquo2Go can be used as a companion to a table top device or as a user's sole AAC device. For more information, visit www.proloquo2cgo.com.

Conferences

2010 Conference on Inclusive Education

Presented by PEAK Parent Center
Hyatt Regency Denver Tech Center, Denver, Colorado
Thursday-Saturday, February 11-13, 2010

This highly engaging conference will provide families, educators, professionals, and other community members with new possibilities for students with disabilities:

- Learn practical strategies for supporting and including students with disabilities in general education classrooms, schools, and communities
- Develop your parental advocacy skills and learn ways to empower your child
- Improve results for students with IEPs
- Energize your teaching practices

Conference topics include:

- Accommodations and Modifications
- Advocacy
- Differentiated Instruction
- Dropout Prevention
- Early Childhood
- Homework Strategies
- Individualized Education Programs (IEPs)
- Legal Issues
- Peer Supports
- Post-Secondary Inclusion
- Progress Monitoring
- Reading and Literacy
- Response to Intervention (RTI)
- Restraints and Seclusion
- Transition

Email conference@peakparent.org with any questions.

Parents Encouraging Parents (PEP) Conference

Thursday- Saturday, February 25 - 27, 2010
Colorado Springs, CO

The Exceptional Student Leadership Unit and Early Childhood Initiatives Parents Encouraging Parents (PEP) Conferences are family-centered conferences designed to offer support, information, and education to parents and professionals. PEP promotes the partnerships that are essential in supporting and including children with disabilities and their families in all aspects of the school and community.

These conferences are available to persons residing in Colorado who have a child with a disability, ages birth to 21. Administrators, principals, teachers, medical, and other service providers interested in the Family-Professional Partnership are invited to participate in a PEP Conference.

The 2 ½ days PEP Conference begins Thursday evening, at 5:00 p.m. and continues through Saturday afternoon, until 3:00 p.m. The Colorado Department of Education pays for all participant meals (excluding Friday evening) and lodging. Child care and meals for family members are not provided. With these provisions, we hope to provide the opportunity of the PEP experience to all interested families.

The purpose of this conference is to bring parents and other professionals together, allowing them an opportunity to share ideas, discuss concerns, celebrate successes, and obtain information relating to parenting, educating, and supporting a child with a disability.

Large group session activities include:

- Parenting a Child with a Disability and Rebuilding Dreams
- The Law and the Education of Children with Disabilities
- Early Childhood - Resources and Supports
- The Individualized Education Program (IEP)
- Transition IEP

Small group session activities include:

- Advocacy
- Friendships
- Men Only
- Questions for Your Doctor
- Positive Behavior Supports

We strongly encourage that both parents participate in the conference. Single parents are encouraged to attend and may bring a support person who will also participate in the conference. This conference is designed to be of greater value to parents/professionals

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who attend the entire conference. All topics of discussion flow together from beginning session to the end of the conference. No one can be accepted on a part-time basis. Dress is casual.

For more information about PEP, please go to PEP's [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#).

Application Options:

[Apply Online](#)

[Printable Application](#) (PDF) (To be faxed or mailed)

[Protected Application Form in MS Word](#)

(Please save a copy of this form to your computer, fill in form fields, save again and email to keck_k@cde.state.co.us)

For more information about Parents Encouraging Parents contact:

CDE-ESLU-PEP

1560 Broadway, Suite 1175

Denver, CO 80202

Phone: (303) 866-6846

Fax: (303) 866-6767

2010 Colorado Special Education Legal Conference

April 12, 2010

Denver, CO

Registration will open in mid-February. More information will follow.

Tuning Up Your Skills: Improving Services to Children and Families

22nd Annual Colorado Child and Adolescent Mental Health Coalition Conference

Friday, April 16, 2010

University of Phoenix, Lone Tree, CO

The Colorado Child and Adolescent Mental Health Coalition conference is in the planning stages. More information will follow. If you are interested in participating, email cgtjoe@integra.net.

Spotlight on Healing: Creating Healing Families & Resolving Childhood Trauma

Presented by Colorado Post-Adoption Resource Center (COPARC)
Saturday, May 8, 2010, 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Aurora, CO

Keynote speaker will be Juli Alvarado. More information to come.

2010 NAMI National Convention

Washington Hilton, Washington, D.C.
Wednesday-Saturday, June 30-July 3, 2010

What better place to celebrate the Fourth of July than in our nation's capital! Washington's celebration of Independence Day, known locally as A Capitol Fourth, opens with day-long performances on the National Mall by some of the country's top musicians and ends with a spectacular fireworks display over the Washington Monument accompanied by a live performance by the National Symphony Orchestra. And, it's all free! (The line-up of performers hasn't been announced yet but we'll share it with you as soon as it is.)

The NAMI National Convention is the annual gathering of some 2,500 mental health activists and advocates from all over the U.S. and several foreign countries. Our attendees include:

- Individuals who have a mental illness
- Family members of individuals with mental illness
- Health and social policymakers from both the public and private sectors
- Treatment professionals, including psychiatrists, psychologists, licensed counselors, nurses, and social workers. (CEUs are available for nurses, social workers, and licensed counselors.)

Attendees have one overarching reason for attending the NAMI National Convention: Improving the lives of people who live with mental illnesses and the lives of the people who love and care for them. Most attendees are responsible for securing or recommending mental health services, products, and information for themselves, loved ones, clients, and patients diagnosed with serious mental illnesses. This conference will help participants learn about the latest information, treatment options, coping strategies, support services, health and wellness information and activities, and legal and financial advice.

NACAC 2010 Conference in New England

Hartford, Connecticut

Wednesday-Saturday, August 4 - 7, 2010

The North American Council on Adoptable Children (NACAC) annual conference is for adoptive parents, foster parents, adoption workers, adoptees, kinship care providers, child welfare administrators, and other members of the adoption and foster care community.

The NACAC conference will feature close to 75 workshops by expert professionals and parents addressing a wide variety of topics, including:

- Parenting children with challenges
- Race, culture, and diversity
- Therapeutic techniques
- Agency management
- International adoption
- Search/open adoption
- Post-adoption services

To put your name on a list to receive a conference announcement in January 2010, please contact NACAC at info@nacac.org or 651-644-3036.

To learn more, visit www.nacac.org.

Education

Former Foster Youth College Scholarships, Now Accepting Applications

Casey Family Programs and The Orphan Foundation of America announced the application process for the 2010-2011 academic year is underway. The Casey Family Scholars Scholarships and the Foster Care to Success Scholarships are awarded based on a combination of merit and need and funding levels are determined based on cost of attendance and other resources. *Applications are being accepted now until March 31, 2010.*

Applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Have been in foster care for one consecutive year at the time of their 18th birthday OR have been adopted or taken into legal guardianship out of foster care or upon death of their parents after their 16th birthday OR subsequently adopted or taken into legal guardianship.
- Be enrolled in or accepted into an accredited post-secondary program at the undergraduate level 3.
- Be under the age of 25 on March 31, 2010.
- Have been in foster care or orphaned while living in the United States. U.S. (citizenship is not required).

Some graduate applications are being accepted, see website for more information.

To access the application and to obtain more information visit:

<http://orphan.org/index.php?id=30>

Legislative Information

Restraints In Schools

Congress is considering legislation to prevent and reduce the use of physical restraint and seclusion in schools. For more information, go to:

[The Preventing Harmful Restraint and Seclusion in Schools Act](#) (H.R. 4247).

and <http://www.wrightslaw.com/info/restraint.hr4247.iep.ban.htm>.

Medical Health Information

NeedyMeds

NeedyMeds is a non-profit organization founded in 1997 as a resource for people who need help with the cost of medicine. For more information, go to:

<http://www.needymeds.org/brochure/brochure.pdf>

KUSA-Give Kids a Smile Day – February 5

KUSA - Give Kids a Smile Day is a day of free treatment and education for kids on Friday, February. 5.

Give Kids a Smile Day is an oral health outreach program that provides free dental treatment and education for hundreds of thousands of underserved children each year. Last year, \$38 million in dental services was donated through the American Dental Association's national efforts.

More than \$441,000 in dental services was donated to Colorado kids through the efforts of the Colorado Dental Association and more than 800 dentists and dental professionals in this state.

To qualify for a Give Kids a Smile Day appointment, your child/family must meet ALL five of the following criteria:

1. The child needing an appointment must be 17 years old or younger;
2. Your family must be low-income and unable to afford dental care;
3. Your child must be dentally uninsured (no dental insurance or CHP+ coverage);
4. You must have transportation to get to your appointment; and
5. You must be able to show up to your appointment on time.

If your child meets the five above requirements, you may call one of the Give Kids a Smile participating offices. Appointments are first-come, first-served, so the sooner you call, the better. When making an appointment, please say that you are calling to make an appointment for "Give Kids a Smile Day."

You can make an appointment at www.cdaonline.org/GKASpatient.

Mental Health

National TA Center for Children's Mental Health 2010 Conference Call Series

The National Technical Assistance Center for Children's Mental Health, at the Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development, is again sponsoring a series of topical calls. The conference calls cover important and emerging trends in the mental health field. Presentations from expert resource persons are followed by open discussion in order for all participants to ask questions and enrich the conversation.

Conference calls are held the third Thursday of every month from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mountain Time. Long distance charges may apply.

Visit the link below for registration information and the full 2010 calendar of calls.

<http://gucchdtacenter.georgetown.edu/resources/2010calls.html>

February 18, 2010: Advancing a Public Health Approach to Children's Mental Health
In the last decade, there has been a groundswell of calls to action to change the nation's approach to children's mental health. Major reports from the Surgeon General, New Freedom Commission on Mental Health, Institute of Medicine, and the World Health Organization put forth the urgent need to promote and protect the nation's children by embracing a public health approach to children's mental health. Georgetown's National Technical Assistance Center for Children's Mental Health at GUCCHD is in the forefront of this movement and has recently completed a seminal monograph "A Public Health Approach to Children's Mental Health: A Conceptual Framework."

Commissioned by the US DHHS/Substance Abuse, Mental Health Services Administration, the monograph presents a conceptual framework for a public health approach to children's mental health that builds upon the existing public health and mental health care systems and promotes integration with other systems and structures that affect children. This call will present some promising practices in states and facilitate dialogue with early adopters and leaders to explore the concepts of a public health approach. Implementation activities will be shared.

Presenters will be Joyce Sebian, M.S.Ed. (*Senior Policy Associate, National TA Center for Children's Mental Health, Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development, Washington, DC*) and Neal Horen, Ph.D. (*Senior Policy Associate, National TA Center for Children's Mental Health Director, H.O.Y.A. Clinic Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development, Washington, DC*).

Resources

Moms Night Out Group

Moms Night Out Group has expanded from summer-time meetings to year-round gatherings. Although this group was started by mothers of children with special needs, it is open to all mothers. The purpose of the Moms Night Out Group is to support each other on our individual journey parenting children with and without special needs

Moms Night Out Group meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. Each second Tuesday will be a "Chat and Craft Night" held at Wild Boar Coffee House, 1510 South College Avenue, Fort Collins, CO 80524 (970-372-2334). It will be a night to talk and work on craft items. Each fourth Tuesday evening will be a dinner out at various local restaurants.

Free Online Learning College Classes

For a list of the top five websites for free online learning college classes, go to the disaboom website link: [Free Online Classes](#).

Summer Camp

Summer camp can be a great way to keep your child entertained for the summer. Camp Paha is a Lakewood program for children with special needs. Sign up occurs in April, and the openings fill up quickly. For more information, go to:

http://www.lakewood.org/index.cfm?&include=/HF/rise_above/camp_paha/paha.cfm

Surveys & Studies

Undiagnosed Medical Conditions Study

The National Human Genome Research Institute at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) is sponsoring a study that seeks to learn more about how parents of children with an undiagnosed medical condition think and feel about their child's condition. NIH hopes that this knowledge will improve the health care and counseling for these parents. Men and women who are 18 years or older and have at least one child with a medical condition that has remained undiagnosed for more than 2 years are needed to take part in this study. Participation involves one survey that takes about 45 minutes to finish. The survey can be taken online or a paper copy can be mailed to you.

For more information, contact Anne C. Madeo, MS, Principal Investigator, by phone at 301-443-2635 or by email at anne.madeo@nih.gov.

Training Opportunities

Empowering Families Through the Diagnostic Journey

Presented by EMPOWER Colorado

Tuesdays, February 2 - March 16, 2010, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Rainbow Center, 2140 E 88th Ave., Thornton, CO

OR

Wednesdays, February 10 - March 31, 2010 (no class on March 3), 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Aurora Mental Health Center, 11059 E Bethany Drive, Aurora, CO

This is a 7-week series for parents and caregivers of children with brain disorders. Topics include:

- Getting to the diagnosis
- After the diagnosis
- Effective communication
- Collaborative problem solving (2 week discussion)
- Building a partnership with schools
- Taking care of yourself

Participants will receive a manual with resources and the book "The Explosive Child" by Ross Green.

Cost: All classes are provided free of charge. Childcare and pizza are also provided free of charge.

For more information or to register: Contact Cheri Bena at 800-213-4631 or by email at ben303@msn.com.

Applied Behavior Analysis Program

Presented by SaddleUp! Foundation

Tuesday, February 2, 2010, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

One Lincoln Park, 2001 Lincoln Street, Denver CO 80202, 7th floor

Trainer Cheryl Ostry, Ph.D.

This class is for parents with children with autism and will cover the new Applied Behavior Analysis program. Topics will include:

- Basic Applied Behavior Analysis techniques
- Strategies to use with your child at home
- How to reduce challenging behaviors
- How to maximize language and social skills

Spaces are limited, so please email Dr. Cheryl Ostry at cheryl.ostry@ucdenver.edu with your name, phone number, and any autism questions you may have about your child. Light refreshments will be provided.

For more information or to register: Email Dr. Ostry at cheryl.ostry@ucdenver.edu.

Colorado Visions Workshop

Presented by NAMI Colorado

Wednesdays, February 3 - March 3, 2010, 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

NAMI Colorado Office, 1100 Fillmore St, Denver 80206

Colorado Visions is a family education program for parents and caregivers of children diagnosed with a brain disorder, as well as those exhibiting behaviors that strongly suggest such a disorder. Topics will include:

- Coping skills
- Behavior management
- De-escalation skills
- Difficult school problems
- IEP (Individualized Education Program)

Cost: Free, but you must R.S.V.P. to secure a space in the class.

For more information or to register: Contact Tammy Snow, Assistant Director of Operations, NAMI Colorado, at 303-321-3104 or by email at tsnow@nami.org, or to the NAMI Colorado website at www.namicolorado.org.

Learning for Living: Friendship Series

Presented by The Arc of Arapahoe & Douglas

Thursdays, February 4 – March 11, 2010, 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Cynde Vaughn, trainer

Compass Bank Building, 8100 E Arapahoe Rd, #208, Centennial CO 80112

This course will assist teenagers and adults with cognitive developmental disabilities who want to learn about relationships. Topics include:

- Session 1: Introduction—class overview, identifying personal and class goals, set up personal workbooks
- Session 2: Identifying Relationship—friends, acquaintances, and strangers, community helpers, “trusted friend” or “safe person,” characteristics of a friendship
- Session 3: Successful Interaction Skills—developing self-esteem, developing self confidence
- Session 4: Communication Skills—body language, saying “no,” respecting others choices
- Session 5: Developing Successful Relationships—what is friendship, being a good friend, boundaries
- Session 6: Protecting Yourself—setting limits, identifying exploitation, “safe person” or trusted friend

The course begins with introductions and class overviews for parents/ guardians and participants. Each participant will develop a personal portfolio with pictures and notes to help them understand and retain the information. Video, pictures, and role playing will be used extensively.

Cynde Vaughn, workshop leader/facilitator, has of experience working with people with cognitive developmental disabilities. With a Master's in Social Work, she has held a variety of positions to include Social Services Director, Q.M.R.P., Area Administrator, and Support/Senior Support Manager. She grew up with a younger brother with multiple sensory and developmental disabilities, and is the parent of two children with disabilities. She researched, developed, and implemented a comprehensive social/sexual/safety awareness training curriculum utilizing nationally recognized training techniques and materials.

Cost: \$60.00; includes snacks and course materials. Scholarships may be available. Call for details.

To register: Call Pam at 303-220-9228 or email at pam@arc-ad.org.

Mobilizing Families

Presented by ARC in Jefferson County
Thursdays, February 18 – April 15, 2010

When a child is first diagnosed with a disability, families are often overwhelmed with everything they need to do, and usually they're not sure where to start or how to get started. This confusion is often amplified by the fact that no one around you seems to know what you're going through or how to help. Mobilizing Families is designed to give participants the essential tools to navigate the complexities of the disability world and better advocate for their children's needs.

Session topics include:

- Identifying the Dream: Helping families identify, accept, grieve, revise, and regenerate their dreams for their children.
- Becoming an Effective Communicator: Learn communication strategies to ensure your educational and service meetings go smoothly.
- Understanding Government Resources: Learn about the government agencies and programs designed to support people with disabilities.
- Accessing Insurance and Medicaid Benefits: Learn how private insurance and Medicaid benefits work, and how to work within these systems.
- Education: Helping families learn about their educational rights, IDEA law, and what to expect during an IEP.
- Accessing Community Resources: Learn about a variety of local agencies that support people with disabilities and their families.
- Building Relationships at Home and in the Community: This session helps families identify and tap into natural, non-agency supports in their communities.

Cost: Free. Thanks to the generous support of the McDonnell Family Foundation, training, meals, and child care are provided free of charge.

For more information or to register: Call Jo Lynn Osborne at 303-232-1338, ext 206 or email her at jolynn@arcjc.org.

Developmental Repair: "Never Get Between the Kid and the Door"

Presented by The Adoption Exchange/COPARC

Heidi Hendricks, trainer

Tuesday, February 16, 2010, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Main Library, Ben Delatour Room , 201 Peterson Street, Ft. Collins, CO 80524

In this workshop, participants will learn:

- Why children from the "system" do not respond to adults the way "other" kids do
- How to be a proactive force for permanent healing of abuse and trauma in a child's life
- To identify and fill in developmental gaps
- Interventions that work

Trainer Heidi Hendricks has over 25 years of experience working with youth and families. She was a foster parent for many years, as well as a Clinical Therapist and Residential Program Director specializing in working with high risk children and families. She has helped foster and adoptive parents better understand and respond to the issues of trauma when interacting with the children they care for and love. Currently, Heidi is the Vice President of Program Services for Lutheran Family Services.

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.

Find Your Voice: Tackling Challenges Facing Adoptive, Foster, and Kinship Families

Presented by NACAC Community Champions Network (CCN), COCAF, & COPARC
Friday, February 19, **and** Saturday, February 20, 2010, 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Daniels Fund, 101 Monroe St., Denver, CO 80206, rooms 126 & 127

This 2-day **FREE** training workshop is designed for parents, social workers, and other community providers working with adoptive families. You may attend just Friday, just Saturday, or both days – all for free. Topics will include:

Friday:

- Colorado's Adoption Landscape and Needs
- Adoption Subsidies
- When Residential Treatment is Needed
- Educational Advocacy
- Supporting Families through Crisis

Saturday:

- Supporting Families through Expected Challenges
- Fundamentals of Case and Class Advocacy Action
- Media Advocacy
- Post-Adopt Resources: Current and Envisioned
- Parents and Professionals as Partners
- Strategic Planning

Cost: \$20 holding fee (**those who attend will be refunded the fee**). Lunch will be provided.

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

Kidpower Safety Class for Children with Hearing Loss

Presented by Kidpower and Hands & Voices

Saturdays, February 20 & March 6, 2010, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Northern Colorado Springs, Union and Powers area

Kidpower is a non-profit organization that teaches interpersonal safety and confidence-building skills to young people. The Kidpower approach ensures that every child practices every skill presented through carefully formatted activities and role-play. Your child will build confidence, self-esteem, and awareness in dealing with bullies, strangers and adults they know. Kidpower is successful because skills are taught in a way that is not scary or overwhelming, but matter-of-fact and fun! Kidpower is partnering with Hands & Voices to bring this important class to children with hearing loss.

This class is for your child with hearing loss, grades 1 through 6. Children will learn to:

- Deal with bullies and teasing
- Be aware and confident
- Keep a safe distance from a stranger
- Avoid getting engaged in unwanted conversation
- Use voice and body to escape a threatening situation
- Get help from busy adults
- Deal with emotional coercion and intimidation
- Set boundaries on touch with people they know

Participants must attend both sessions.

Cost: \$5 for each child and parent or other caregiver.

For more information: Contact Jan or Natalie at 719-520-1311.

To register: Contact Sara Kennedy by email at Sarak17@aol.com. Registration deadline is Monday, February 9.

Nurturing Fathers

Presented by Aurora Mental Health Center

Saturdays, February – April, 2010, 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Aurora Mental Health Center, Viewpoint Building, 11059 East Bethany Dr., Aurora, CO

This class is for fathers who have custody of their children (there is a parent/child interactional component to every session) and have children aged 5-13. This is a closed group, and will be male only for fathers by fathers (this applies to the adults only, the children can be of either gender). This 14 week group will fill the requirements for court ordered parenting.

Child care and breakfast will be provided for attendees at each session.

Cost: Free

For more information: Contact Chris Wilson at 303-627-2052 or by email at ChrisWilson@AuMHC.org.

To register: Contact Nancy Regalado at 303/617-2041 or by email at NancyRegalado@aumhc.org.

Step Up Into Your Life

Presented by Arc of Arapahoe & Douglas

Mondays, March 1, 8, 15, 29, and April 12 & 26, 2010, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Southbridge Recreation Center Senior Lounge,

4800 McArthur Ranch Road, Highlands Ranch, CO 80130

The evening will begin with dinner, introductions, and networking. Then speakers will present on the topic for that evening. After the presentation there will be time for questions and more networking.

Topics will include:

- Person Centered Planning: Discuss the concept of “Person Centered Planning” with overview of the PATH Planning and Essential Life Planning.
- How do I pay for it: Provide in-depth information about SSI, Medicaid, Medicaid waiver programs, and financial planning.
- What are you doing all day: Explore a variety of employment options, day programs, and vocational rehabilitation services, as well as discussing recreation and transportation.
- Where will I live: Overview of group homes, host homes, personal care alternatives, apartments, and home ownership.
- Who makes decisions: Guardianship, power of attorney, medical power of attorney, and conservatorship.
- What about health care: Transitioning from pediatricians to primary care physician, medical records, dental, and mental health will be discussed along with current Medicaid benefit packages.

All curriculum materials and dinner will be provided at each session. Childcare reimbursement provided, if needed. Call to discuss your specific needs. Both parents or a parent and a support person are encouraged to attend.

Cost: Free, but you must reserve a space to attend. This class is supported by a grant from the Douglas County Mill Levy Funds, Douglas County Human Services.

To register: Contact Pam at 303-220-9228 or by email at pam@arc-ad.org.

Autism Spectrum Disorders: Practical Applications of Classroom and Intervention Strategies for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders

Presented by the Rocky Mountain Autism Center and The Tiny Tim Center
Thursday, March 4 and Friday, March 5, 2010, 8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Xilinx Retreat Building, 3100 Logic Drive, Longmont CO 80503

This workshop is designed for professionals who work with children with ASD in early intervention and primary grade settings AND who have attended introductory level ASD workshops. This workshop is highly recommended for multi-disciplinary teams and autism support teams.

Thursday topics include:

- Training on the Implementation of the SCERTS® Assessment Process
- Linking core challenges of ASD to the SCERTS® assessment and curriculum
- Core components of the SCERTS® Assessment Process (SAP), a criterion-based, curriculum-based assessment tool
- Implementation of the 10-step SCERTS® Assessment Process
- Goal prioritization and program planning using the SAP curriculum-based assessment and planning grids
- Transactional Supports (Families and Professionals)

Friday topics include:

- “Nothing But Practical”: Strategies for Implementing the SCERTS® Model Curriculum in Educational Settings
- SCERTS® Practice Guidelines, Principles, and Goal Setting
- Interpersonal and Learning Supports
- Practical intervention strategies for social, communication, emotional regulation for social, language, and conversational partner stages of development
- Emotional Regulation and Behavior Challenges
- ASD Program Quality Indicators
- Case-studies of selected students

One graduate credit is offered for this workshop through Adams State College. Application information will be available at the workshop. Registration required 30 days prior to the workshop.

Cost: 2-day workshop \$200; 2-day workshop with 2-volume SCERTS® manual \$300

For more information: Go to www.rockymountainautismcenter.com; email elizabeth@rockymountainautismcenter.com ; call 337-322-7776.

Creating Trauma-Informed Systems of Care for Human Service Settings

Presented by CDHS, Colorado Division of Behavior Health, Behavioral Health Care, & RISE University

Tuesday, March 9, 2010, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Community Reach Center Northglenn, 11285 Highline Drive, Northglenn, CO 80233

This statewide training has been brought to Colorado courtesy of the Colorado Division of Behavioral Health and through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's National Center for Trauma-Informed Care and the National Association of Statewide Mental Health Program Directors. This training is intended for providers, clinicians, consumers, first responders, hospital staff and administrators, police and sheriffs' departments, financial officers, policy makers, and advocates.

This training is free and open to all statewide. A light continental breakfast will be provided; lunch is on your own. Peers who require transportation or lunch should contact their local mental health center, drop-in center, or clubhouse. RISE University credits are available for this training.

Cost: Free

For more information or to register: Call 720-490-4401.

In-Home Interventions For Children With Autism And/Or Another Developmental Disability

Presented by The Autism Society of Colorado & Towers Behavior Services LLC
Saturdays, March 13, 20, 27, April 17 & 24, 2010, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
First Bank building, 550 S. Wadsworth Blvd., Lakewood, CO, level 1

This class is designed for parents and others who wish to provide in-home educational and behavioral interventions to children with autism and/or another developmental disability. This course will provide the participants with the skills and knowledge necessary to help build skills and decrease problem behavior in children with disabilities. It will also provide them with the skills and knowledge necessary to work with professionals who provide Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) interventions in the home.

Topics will include:

- The core characteristics of autism and related characteristics of autism.
- Common characteristics of developmental disabilities.
- How to understand why problem behavior occurs and how to intervene.
- How to identify and change interactions of yours that might be triggering problem behavior.
- How to identify and change situations in the environment that might be triggering problem behavior.
- How to understand what your child is communicating through problem behavior and how to respond to this communication so that you don't encourage further problem behavior.
- How to help your child build the skills necessary to function as independently as possible.

Cost: \$395 per person if registered by March 11; \$450 for registrations after March 11.

For more information: Contact Sam Towers at 303-803-0045 or by email at sam@towersbehavior.com.

To register: Go to www.towersbehavior.com and click on "Public Courses."

Limited scholarships are available through the Autism Society of Colorado. To apply for a scholarship, contact Bridget by phone at 720-214-0794 or by email at bridget@autismcolorado.org.

Weekend Marriage Retreat

Presented by The Healthy Marriage Initiative
Saturday March 13 & Sunday, March 14, 2010
Glen Eyrie Castle, 3820 North 30th Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80904

Spend a weekend away with your spouse and enhance your marriage by learning:

- Communication skills
- Conflict resolution
- Personality strengths
- Keeping fun and romance in your relationship

Retreat includes 1 night stay (if you pick the more expensive package), lunch and dinner on Saturday, and breakfast and lunch on Sunday. Military discounts and partial scholarships are available.

Cost: \$200-265 depending on room choice or \$125 if you choose to commute

To register: Go to <http://www.regonline.com/Checkin.asp?EventId=780134> or call 720-488-8888.

For more information: Contact Rico Figueroa, Colorado Healthy Marriage Project, at 720-488-8888 ext 211 or by email at Rico@waittraining.com.

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

Presented by CDHS and The Adoption Exchange

Enita Kearns-Hout

Friday, March 26, 2010,, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

The Adoption Exchange, 14232 E. Evans Ave., Aurora, CO 80014

This 3-hour training focuses on:

- What you need to know to prepare for the transition
- 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 Denise Leffingwell at 303-755-4756, ext. 264, or go to <http://www.cocwtraining.com/>

To register: Go to www.cocwtraining.com, CDHS Course Code TFAP032610D

Special Needs Approach to Teaching Personal Safety

Presented by Denver Children's Advocacy Center (DCAC) and Project Pave

Wednesday, April 21, 2010, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

PPA Event Center, 2105 Decatur Street, Denver, CO 80211

This workshop is for educators, caregivers, parents, therapists, healthcare professionals, and daycare providers, and is designed to increase awareness and comfort around the topic of personal safety and abuse prevention within the special needs community. Also, it will build participants' understanding of sexual development and safety for those in their care, and demonstrate how to adapt that information to meet the unique needs of each individual. All workshop information will be divided into development specific categories: early childhood, adolescence and early adulthood.

Topics will include:

- A working knowledge of the continuum of sexual development from child/adolescent to early adulthood
- Understanding when your child is ready to learn about personal safety
- What every child needs to know when starting elementary school
- Building stranger awareness without building fear
- Preparing adolescents and teens to recognize manipulation and exploitation tactics
- Recognizing red-flag behaviors within peer-to-peer relationships
- The Boyfriend-Girlfriend Factor: What to say when asked about relationships
- Learning common techniques of deception used by perpetrators
- Building your own prevention plan based on each individual's unique learning abilities
- Studying the different brain structures to determine how to best support the learning process
- Creating visual supports and buzz words to teach body awareness
- Strategies for incorporating this information into your daily routine
- How to share this information with others in the special needs community

Cost: Early registration \$110 individuals; \$85 per person for groups of 4 or more; \$40 students with valid ID; \$130 per person day of event registration

For more information: Call DCAC at 303-825-3850

To register: Go to <http://www.denvercac.org/EducationAndTraining.html> or register by email at Training@DenverCAC.org.

Helping Children Cope: Reducing Trauma During Placement Moves

Presented by CDHS & The Adoption Exchange
Enita Kearns-Hout, trainer

Friday, April 30, 2010, 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Larimer County DHS, 2573 Midpoint Dr., Suite 108, Room 124, Fort Collins, CO 80525

and

Wednesday, May 26, 2010, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Broomfield Health & Human Services, Broadlands Conference Room
6 Garden Center, Broomfield, CO 80020

This half-day course helps foster and adoptive parents work with children to reduce the fear, anxiety, and trauma of a new placement. It includes:

- What are the effects of placement moves on children
- What can I do as a parent to help reduce a child's fear and anxiety when he is placed in my home
- How can I work with other members of the placement team so the placement move does the least amount of harm to the child

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

For further information: Contact Denise Leffingwell at 303-755-4756, ext. 264, or go to <http://www.cocwtraining.com/>

To register: Go to www.cocwtraining.com, CDHS Course Code HCC052610D

Promoting Placement Stability: Using Home Visits to Prevent Foster Care and Adoption Disruption

Presented by CDHS & The Adoption Exchange

Rhonda Miescke, trainer

Friday, May 28, 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Larimer County DHS, 2573 Midpoint Dr., Suite 108, Room 124, Fort Collins, CO 80525

This course includes a toolbox you can use in your practice, and the following issues will be explored:

- Best practice approaches to relationship building
- Ongoing training opportunities with resource families
- Structured homework between visits
- Easy progress record keeping for home visits
- Children's challenging behaviors and interventions

Instructor Rhonda Miescke has over 20 years of child welfare experience.

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

For further information: Contact Denise Leffingwell at 303-755-4756, ext. 264, or go to <http://www.cocwtraining.com>

To register: Go to www.cocwtraining.com, CDHS Course Code PPSU052810NE

PEAK Parent Center Class Information

303-758-5574 or 1-800-284-0251

denver3mentor@peakparent.org

The following class information has been provided by the PEAK Parent Center:

February 1. *Science of Environmental Impacts of Autism and Developmental Disabilities.* Half day seminar at University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. For more information call 720-214-0794. **FREE.**

February 2 (7 week series). *Mental Health: Empowering Families Through the Diagnostic Journey.* 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Rainbow Center, Thornton. Childcare, dinner and class. For more information call Cheri at 866-213-4631. **FREE.**

February 2. *Transition Fair.* 4:00-7:00 p.m. at Community College of Aurora. **FREE.**

February 4 (6 week series). *Friendship Series: Learning for Living (for teens).* 6:00-7:30 p.m. at Arc of Arapahoe/Douglas County. For more information, 303-220-9228 or pam@arc-ad.org. **\$.**

February 5. *My Child Qualifies for Special Education-Now What?* 1:00-3:00 p.m. at Denver Center for Early Education. For more information, call Pam at 720-423-3571 or Pamela_Bisceglia@dpsk12.org. **FREE.**

February 5. *Autism: Update on Prevalence, Diagnosis and Educational Intervention.* Half day seminar at University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. For more information call 720-214-0794. **FREE.**

February 6. *Thinking Outside the Box: Behavior Planning to Support Students with Challenging Needs.* 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at Denver Center at Lowry. To register, <http://cccbdbrownbag.eventbrite.com/> or KMCGOUGH@ADAMS50.ORG. **\$10.** Free for CEC/CCBD members.

February 10 (7 week series). *Mental Health: Empowering Families Through the Diagnostic Journey.* 6:00-8:00 p.m. at Aurora Mental Health Center. Childcare, dinner and class. For more information call Cheri at 866-213-4631. **FREE.**

February 11. *Boardmaker Overview.* 2:30-4:30 p.m. at Assistive Technology Partners Denver office. For more information 303-315-1280 or ATP@UCDENVER.EDU. **FREE.**

February 11-13. *Conference on Inclusive Education.* Denver. Sponsored by PEAK Parent Center. For more information, <http://www.peakparentcenter.org>. **\$**

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February 18 (8 week series). *Mobilizing Families.* 6:00-9:00 p.m. at Arc of Jefferson County. Training, dinner and childcare. For more information, 303-232-1338 X206 or jolynn@arcjc.org. **FREE.**

February 24. *Components of an IEP.* 6:30-8:00 p.m. at Jeffco Education Center. Sponsored by Arc and Jeffco Public Schools. For more information, lfrankli@jeffco.k12.co.us or 303-982-2520. **FREE.**

February 24. *Ready or Not, Adolescence is Here: An Overview of Puberty, Sexuality and Relationships.* 5:30-8:30 p.m. at Daniels Fund Building, Denver. To RSVP call Mile High Down Syndrome Association at 303-797-1699. Spanish translation available. **\$.**

February 24. *Adams 12 Resource Fair.* 5:00-8:00 p.m. For more information, 720-972-4227. **FREE.**

February 25-27. *Parents Encouraging Parents (PEP).* Colorado Springs. For more information, 303-866-6846 or www.cde.state.co.us/cdesped/PEP.asp. **FREE.**

March 1 (six Mondays). *Step Up Into Your Life.* Arc of Arapahoe/Douglas transition series (after high school). For more information, call 303-220-9228 or pam@arc-ad.org. **FREE.**

Just for Fun

Free All The Time!

Aurora History Museum, 15051 E. Alameda Parkway Aurora, CO. (303) 739-6666.
Tuesday-Friday 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m., Saturday & Sunday 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Bluff Lake Nature Center, off of Havana near Stapleton. For more information or clear directions call (303) 945-6717. Open sunrise to sunset.

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

Fun Things & Coupons

For coupons for local Colorado activities, try these websites:

<http://www.coloradokids.com/listings.php?category=funthings&type=funcenter®ion=colorado>

<http://www.coloradokids.com/coupons.php>

http://www.familyfriendlyamerica.com/colorado_activities.html

Website Topics

This section contains the headings from some of the previous COCAF newsletter items. 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
Adoption Exchange Support Groups Listing <http://www.cocaf.org/support>
Adoptive Families Denver <http://www.cocaf.org/adoptive>
COPARC <http://www.cocaf.org/coparc>
Encouraging Adoption and Helping Families: The Case for Refocusing Federal Funding on Post-Adoption Services
<http://voice-for-adoption.org/downloads/VFA%20postadopt%20paper%20FINAL%207.9.09.pdf>
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>
Starting/ Managing Parent Support Groups
<http://nysccc.org/family-supports/parent-groups/parent-group-management/>
Supporting Children Exposed to Violence <http://endabuse.org/content/features/detail/1314/>
- 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>

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

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>
NAMI Guide to Crisis Intervention Programs for Youth <http://www.cocaf.org/nami-crisis>
New Parents and Teachers as Allies Resources <http://www.cocaf.org/mental-allies>
Resources for Youth With a Parent or Sibling Living with a Mental Illness
<http://www.cocaf.org/nami-resources>
Therapeutic Services for Jefferson County Victims <http://www.cocaf.org/mental-therapeutic>
Treatment of Children with Mental Disorders
<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/publications/treatment-of-children-with-mental-disorders/index.shtml>

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

C.A.S.E. Adoption-Related Services <http://www.cocaf.org/services-case>
Disability Information www.disability.gov
Family Unification Program Housing Choice Vouchers <http://www.cocaf.org/fup>
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>