

Table of Contents

Table of Contents.....	1
COCAF News.....	4
Adobe Acrobat Reader 9.0 Download.....	4
Disclaimer.....	4
Happy New Year from COCAF.....	4
COCAF Changes: More to Come.....	4
COCAF Needs Your Help.....	4
COCAF Services.....	5
COCAF Newsletter.....	5
Adoption-Related Information.....	6
Foster Care and Adoption Self-Assessment Guide.....	6
Larimer County Alliance for Grandfamilies (LCAG).....	6
Adoption Subsidy Information.....	7
Adoption Subsidy Information.....	7
Expanding Title IV-E Adoption Assistance.....	7
NACAC Report on Adoption Subsidies.....	7
Colorado Subsidy Information.....	8
National Subsidy Information.....	8
Child & Youth Assistance & Organizations.....	9
Advocacy & Leadership Training for Young Adults.....	9
Conference Calls/Discussion Boards.....	10
NAMI 2008 Children's Conference Calls.....	10
"Listening to Parents" Project Discussion Board.....	10
Conscious Connections Talk Radio.....	11
Conferences.....	12
Parents Encouraging Parents (PEP) Conference.....	12
NAMI 2009 Conference.....	13
Education.....	14
Reducing Behavior Problems in the Classroom.....	14
Mobility Issues & Special Education.....	14
Foster Youth Internship (FYI) Program.....	14
Expanded Access to College Financial Aid for Former Foster Youth.....	15
Online Educational Advocacy Resource.....	15
Financial Assistance & Information.....	16
LEAP.....	16
Financial Classes.....	17

COCAF E-Newsletter January 2009

Free Family Events.....	18
Denver Area Free Events.....	18
Denver Center for the Performing Arts.....	18
Rocky Mountain Wildlife Refuge.....	19
Health Care.....	20
Medication Disposal & Information Program.....	20
Medicaid Waiver Information.....	20
UHCCF Grants for Child Health Care Services.....	21
Legislative Information.....	22
Colorado Child Welfare Action Committee.....	22
Current Child Welfare Legislation Information.....	22
Mental Health Care.....	23
New Guide on Bipolar Disorder in Children and Teens.....	23
E.R.I.C. Program.....	23
Therapeutic Services for Jefferson County Victims.....	23
New Parents and Teachers as Allies Resources.....	23
Yoga for Adolescents with Health Concerns.....	24
Considering Residential Treatment Programs for Children.....	24
Online Access to the DSM-IV-TR.....	24
Children's Help and Assistance for Residential Treatment (CHART).....	25
CO Medicaid Community Mental Health Services Program.....	25
ZAC Browser: Zone for Autistic Children.....	25
Attention Deficient Disorder Association (ADDA).....	25
Services & Resources.....	26
Give Me a Break Respite Program.....	26
Respite Care Services.....	27
Grandfamilies State Law & Policy Resource Center.....	27
Kinship Program at Catholic Charities.....	28
Online Catalog of Child Welfare Resources.....	28
Community Services Locator.....	28
Training Resources.....	29
Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS).....	29
Foster Parent College (FPC).....	29
Washington Learning Systems Website.....	29
COCAF Calendar.....	29
EMPOWER COLORADO Listserv Training Courses.....	29
Surveys/Studies.....	30
CASE's "Adoption Awareness at School" Online Survey.....	30

COCAF E-Newsletter January 2009

Colorado Respite Coalition Survey.....	30
Adopted from Foster Care Study	30
Training Opportunities	32
Taking Charge	32
Permanent Connections for Teens: Finding Adoptive Families and Lifetime Connections for Waiting Teens	32
Effective Matching Practices: Matching Practices that Promote Permanency.....	33
Helping Children Cope: Reducing Trauma During Placement Moves.....	33
Guided by the Law: ICWA, ADA, MEPA, ASFA	34
Just for Fun.....	35
Colorado-for-Free	35

COCAF News

Adobe Acrobat Reader 9.0 Download

If you have problems with any of the links in the COCAF newsletter, try downloading Adobe Acrobat Reader version 9.0. Click on the link below, then select “download.” The product is free. <http://get.adobe.com/reader/?promoid=BUIGO>

Disclaimer

Please note that the purpose of the COCAF newsletter is to provide families with potential resources. These newsletters are for general informational purposes only and shall not constitute legal, medical, educational, or parenting advice. COCAF does not endorse any specific provider of services.

Happy New Year from COCAF

2009 is here, like it or not! We hope that this new year is a chance for all of our families to grow and learn. If there are ways that we can help you negotiate your way through the maze of family issues, please let us know. We can't guarantee a solution, but we can point you to resources that may make your journey a little easier.

Frank Bennett, PhD, COCAF Board of Directors, President
frankbennettphd@comcast.net

COCAF Changes: More to Come

COCAF is in the process of making changes that will hopefully make our resources more available to those who need them. A new website is under development, and we're hoping to have it online by the end of January 2009. If you have ideas for topics that you'd like to see added to the COCAF website or links that you think would be helpful, please send that information to cocaf.colleen@tarket.net.

COCAF Needs Your Help

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

- 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, if you need to make some tax deductible charitable contributions to help reduce your 2008 tax burden, send your contributions to:

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

A receipt will be mailed to you for your records.

COCAF E-Newsletter January 2009

- 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 cocaf.colleen@tarket.net.

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 cocafcave@yahoo.com.

COCAF Newsletter

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

Adoption-Related Information

Foster Care and Adoption Self-Assessment Guide

Foster Care and Adoption Self-Assessment Guide: A Useful Tool to Help You Make an Informed Decision about Fostering or Adopting a Child is a new tool to assist prospective foster and adoptive parents with exploring their interest in becoming a resource family. The guide is available online from Iowa KidsNet (<http://www.iakids.org/>). *Foster Care and Adoption Self-Assessment Guide: A Useful Tool to Help You Make an Informed Decision about Fostering or Adopting a Child* features two questionnaires addressing motivations for foster and adoptive parenting, as well as discussion of the potential responses to each of the questions. The tool can be downloaded at: www.iakids.org/userfiles/File/KidsNet_Assessment_Guide.pdf.

Larimer County Alliance for Grandfamilies (LCAG)

LCAG is a coalition of grandparents, relative caregivers, professionals, and other community members. Their mission is to work collaboratively to support the health and well-being of grandfamilies through community education, development of support systems, and advocacy for change. For more information, contact :

Josh Rabe

Namaqua Center

669-7550 X11(main)

622-7311(direct)

josh.rabe@larimercenter.org

or

Jacque Miller

CSU Larimer County Extension

970-498-6000 (main)

970-498-6014 (direct)

jmiller@larimerr.org

Adoption Subsidy Information

Expanding Title IV-E Adoption Assistance

From the NACAC website:

Thousands of children receive no federal adoption assistance, primarily because their birth parents' incomes were higher than 1996 AFDC eligibility levels. Some of these youth get no aid, while others receive less support or lose benefits when they move to a new state. Denying children federal assistance also places an unfair financial burden on states. Since 1987, NACAC has argued that it makes no sense to tie a child's federal adoption assistance eligibility to the income of parents whose legal rights have been severed.

Within 10 years, regardless of their birth parents' income, all children adopted from foster care who meet other IV-E criteria will be eligible for federal adoption assistance—which should increase their chances of being adopted and having adequate support. Beginning federal fiscal year (FY) 2010 (which starts October 1, 2009), children who have been in care for at least 60 consecutive months and youth adopted at age 16 or older will be eligible for IV-E adoption assistance. As shown below, eligibility will be phased in by age.

Age*	Year
16 & older	2010
14 & older	2011
12 & older	2012
10 & older	2013
8 & older	2014
6 & older	2015
4 & older	2016
2 & older	2017
all ages	2018

*The child must attain this age by September 30 (federal fiscal year end) of the given year.

To read the entire article, go to: <http://www.nacac.org/policy/HR6893summary.html> .

NACAC Report on Adoption Subsidies

For information on adoption assistance and its value to children, families, and governments, refer to the *NACAC Report on Adoption Subsidies*. It is a tool for

COCAF E-Newsletter January 2009

advocates to use with legislators and policy makers, especially during hard economic times when cut-backs in state government are eminent. To read or download the report, go to: <http://www.nacac.org/adoptionssubsidy/adoptionssubsidy.html> .

Colorado Subsidy Information

Do you know how adoption subsidies are determined in Colorado? For information on how subsidies are handled in Colorado, go to:

<http://www.nacac.org/adoptionssubsidy/stateprofiles/colorado.html>.

National Subsidy Information

The Children's Bureau at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has added a question and answer to the Child Welfare Policy Manual clarifying that states may not include language in Title IV-E adoption assistance agreements stating that the state's obligation to provide federally funded adoption assistance payments or services is subject to the appropriation of state funds, although there is an exception for across-the-board payment rate changes. The full question and answer are available online at: www.acf.hhs.gov/j2ee/programs/cb/laws_policies/laws/cwpm/policy_dsp.jsp?citID=12

Child & Youth Assistance & Organizations

Advocacy & Leadership Training for Young Adults

The Colorado Person-Centered Planning Initiative announces the **2009 TAKING CHARGE!**, a five-session course in advocacy and leadership for young adults with disabilities. This course will be held at the Sheraton Denver Tech Center Hotel in Denver, Colorado, and is open to young adults, age 21-30, from across the state of Colorado. Spanish language interpretation will be available. This course is recommended for people who have already participated in a person-centered planning process (like the PATH process or Life Building series) who want more information and help to move ahead with their plans. Each participant can invite up to three friends and family members of their choice to participate with them. Participants will gain new ideas, skills, and tools to create a better life. This is a chance to turn DREAMS into REALITY!

Taking Charge! is a highly interactive learning experience that involves brief presentations and large and small group discussions. Every session will include time for participants and their circle members to work on their own plans as well as time to share ideas with members of other circles.

TAKING CHARGE! sessions are scheduled for:

Session 1 – January 16 & 17, 2009

Session 2 – February 20 & 21, 2009

Session 3 – March 20 & 21, 2009

Session 4 – April 17 & 18, 2009

Session 5 – May 15 & 16, 2009

If you have questions or want to apply, call PEAK Parent Center at 1-800-284-0251, ext.112 or ext. 117 or email: personcenteredplanning@peakparent.org.

Conference Calls/Discussion Boards

NAMI 2008 Children's Conference Calls

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) hosts the Children's Conference Calls with Dr. Ken Duckworth, NAMI's Medical Director and a Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist, the third Friday of each month from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Mountain time. To access the toll-free call, dial 1.888.858.6021; access number 309918#.

"Listening to Parents" Project Discussion Board

The Listening to Parents Project's goal is to increase the number of children being adopted from foster care by making child welfare agencies more responsive to those interested in adopting a child from foster care.

The centerpiece of ListeningtoParents.org is a discussion board for adoptive, waiting, and prospective parents to share their experiences. Each state has its own area where parents can discuss the adoption process in their state—what works, what doesn't work, and changes they would like to see in their state's adoption process.

Go to www.listeningtoparents.org, click on "What parents say in your state" to join the discussion (you need to create a personal account, but your personal information is not shown on the discussion board). Join the mailing list to receive a monthly newsletter on what people are doing to make the adoption process more welcoming of prospective parents.

Conscious Connections Talk Radio

The Attachment Awareness conference calls have become the Conscious Connections Talk Radio program. Participate in these live radio broadcasts discussing attachment issues. Anyone can send in questions to info@consciousconnectionstalkradio.com, and the moderators will attempt to answer the questions during the show.

Email info@consciousconnectionstalkradio.com and you will be sent information for accessing the show, you can call 303-443-1220 and leave your call back number and you will be phoned or e-mailed with the information.

"Conscious Connections Talk Radio" live schedule:

Monday evenings: 7:00 p.m. (Mountain time zone) for parents & primary Caregivers

Tuesday evenings: 7:00 p.m. (Mountain time zone) for therapists & healthcare professionals

Monday, January 12, 2009, 7 pm MST:

Ana do Valle, OTR, SEP, SIC, NDTC will be talking about "Tools for Supporting Regulation and Trauma Resolution." Ana is an Occupational Therapist who specializes in affect regulation with children, infants, and adults. She is a body-centered therapist, certified in Sensory Integration and the Neuro Developmental Approach. Ana worked with trauma resulting from cultural fragmentation and studied cross-cultural perspectives of trauma with indigenous and shamanic communities in South America. Ana also has a program for the prevention of surgical trauma, and works with medical diagnoses related to autonomic nervous system dysregulation.

Monday, February 9, 2009, 7 pm MST:

Robin Grille, from Sydney, Australia, will talk about his book, "Parenting for a Peaceful World." Robin is a father, psychologist in private practice, and a parenting educator. His articles on parenting and child development have been widely published. Robin's book, "Parenting for a Peaceful World," shows parents, teachers, and health professionals what research has taught us about healthy emotional development in early childhood, and how important this is for adult relationships and harmonious societies.

Conferences

Parents Encouraging Parents (PEP) Conference

Thursday, February 26, at 5:00 p.m. through Saturday, February 28, at 3:00 p.m.
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 twenty-one. Administrators, principals, teachers, medical and other service providers interested in the Family-Professional Partnership are invited to participate in a PEP Conference. 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, the Colorado Department of Education hopes to provide the opportunity of the PEP experience to all interested families. 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.

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.

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

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

Application Options: [Apply Online](#) [Downloadable Application](#) (PDF)

NAMI 2009 Conference

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.

For more information, go to:

http://www.nami.org/Content/NavigationMenu/Inform_Yourself/Upcoming_Events/Convention/Functions/Schedule.htm

Education

Reducing Behavior Problems in the Classroom

The U.S. Department of Education has developed a new guide for elementary school educators and school and district-level administrators that offers prevention, implementation, and school-wide strategies that can be used to reduce problematic behavior that interferes with the ability of students to attend to and engage fully in instructional activities. The guide is part of their "What Works Clearinghouse," which is a source of scientific evidence for what works in education. To access the guide, go to: http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/pdf/practiceguides/behavior_pg_092308.pdf.

Mobility Issues & Special Education

Meeting the needs of special education students who must move while in the child welfare system is the topic of a resource available from the ABA Center on Children and the Law. *Questions and Answers: Mobility Issues and Special Education for Children in Out-of-Home Care* is a two page document in a question-and-answer format addressing such issues as:

- Does special education law address the issue of children who move schools?
- What happens if a child enrolls in a new school district after a special education evaluation has begun, but before the old school district has completed the special education evaluation?
- How do you ensure that the old school sends the education records to the new school as quickly as possible?

To see the full fact sheet, go to:

<http://www.abanet.org/child/education/Q%20%20A%236%20Mobility%20FINAL.pdf>.

Foster Youth Internship (FYI) Program

The Congressional Foster Youth Internship (FYI) Program provides talented college students, who have spent their formative years in foster care, an opportunity to intern in Congressional offices for the summer. These young adults, who have beaten the odds and thrived in spite of difficult circumstances, bring their unique perspectives and resilient spirits to serve in the offices of the U.S. Congress. The FYI Program raises awareness about the 517,000 children in foster care, and specifically the 114,000 currently available for adoption, by bringing members of Congress in direct contact with those who have personal experience of the foster care system. Supplemental to the interns' work on Capitol Hill, CCAI enhances the experiences of the interns by organizing an orientation and training program, bimonthly educational sessions, and a mid-summer retreat. In addition, CCAI provides a stipend, covers all housing and travel expenses, and acts as an ongoing support network for the FYI program participants.

Applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- The applicant was in U.S. foster care system at the time of their 18th birthday or be adopted after their 14th birthday from the U.S. foster care system.

COCAF E-Newsletter January 2009

- The applicant has completed at least 2 years of college in a 4-year degree program.
- Good writing and research skills accompanied by an interest in the legislative process are required, and students in every degree program are encouraged to apply.

For more information about the Congressional Foster Youth Internship program, contact Chelsea Cathcart at (202) 544-8500.

Expanded Access to College Financial Aid for Former Foster Youth

A new law will make it possible for teens in foster care to be adopted without losing access to college financial aid. The Fostering Adoption to Further Student Achievement Act became law as an amendment to the College Cost Reduction and Access Act (Public Law 110-84). This law includes a revised definition of an “independent student.” Currently, youth who were still in foster care as of their 18th birthday are considered to be independent students, meaning that they do not need to count parental income for determining their eligibility for college financial aid. The revised definition of “independent student” will extend to youth who were in foster care on or after their 13th birthday, even if they have subsequently been adopted. This expanded definition of “independent student” will go into effect in July 2009, to apply for the 2009-2010 school year. The provision will apply to youth even for adoptions that were finalized before the law was passed in 2007. Youth who meet the new definition will need to indicate their status as an independent student when they fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form for college financial aid.

For more information, go to www.voice-for-adoption.org . To download *Voice For Adoption's* fact sheet on the college financial aid provisions for former foster youth, go to: <http://www.voice-for-adoption.org/downloads/FAFSA%20factsheet.pdf> .

Online Educational Advocacy Resource

K12 Advocates has developed an ebook that covers a wide array of topics and issues related to IEPs and special education needs to assist you in creating a vision of success and positive educational experiences for your child with special learning needs. The ebook is \$27. For more information, go to: <http://www.k12advocates.com>.

Financial Assistance & Information

LEAP

LEAP is a federally funded program administered by the Colorado Department of Human Services and is designed to *assist* with your winter heating costs. The LEAP Program eligibility period runs from **November 1st through April 30th**.

LEAP is not intended to pay the entire cost of home heating. If you are applying for LEAP assistance you should continue to pay your home heating bill.

Eligibility Requirements: You may qualify for LEAP assistance if:

- You are a U.S. Citizen and a legal resident of Colorado
- You pay heating costs directly to an energy provider or you pay the cost of heating your home with your rent
- Your gross monthly household income falls within the guidelines set annually and posted November 1st of each year. "Household" means people who live with you and for whom you, as an applicant, are financially responsible

185% Of Federal Poverty Income Limits

Household Size	Maximum Gross Monthly Income
1	\$1,604
2	\$2,159
3	\$2,714
4	\$3,269
5	\$3,824
6	\$4,379
7	\$4,934
8	\$5,489
Each Additional Person	\$555

For more information, go to: <http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/leap/> .

Financial Classes

The Denver Community Credit Union offers free classes on a variety of financial topics throughout the year. Classes are open to the public; you do not have to be a member of the credit union to attend. All classes are held at their 1075 Acoma Street Denver, CO 80204, location.

2009 classes include:

January 13 at 6:00 p.m.	Money myths
January 27 at 10:00 a.m.	Wills and Trusts
February 10 at 6:00 p.m.	Basic Investing
February 24 at 6:00 p.m.	ID Theft
March 10 at 6:00 p.m.	Basic Insurance
March 24 at 6:00 p.m.	Credit
April 14 at 6:00 p.m.	Auto Buying
April 28 at 6:00 p.m.	Couples and Cash
May 12 at 6:00 p.m.	Home Buying
May 26 at 6:00 p.m.	Money Myths
June 16 at 5:00 p.m.	Wills and Trusts
June 30 at 10:00 a.m.	Investing for College
July 14 at 6:00 p.m.	ID Theft
July 28 at 6:00 p.m.	Home Buying
August 11 at 2:00 p.m.	Basic Investing
August 25 at 6:00 p.m.	Credit
Sept. 15 at 6:00 p.m.	Financial Services
Sept. 29 at 5:00 p.m.	Wills and Trusts
October 13 at 6:00 p.m.	Basic Insurance
October 27 at 6:00 p.m.	Credit Cards
November 10 at 2:00 p.m.	Wills and Trusts

For more information, go to:

http://www.denvercommunity.coop/DCFCU_difference_education.html.

You may also contact the Denver Community Credit Union at 303-573-1170 Ext. 754, or by email at hstroof@denvercommunity.coop.

Free Family Events

Denver Area Free Events

- January 2: **Denver Botanic Gardens at Chatfield**, 8500 Deer Creek Canyon Road, Littleton (303) 973-3705
- January 3: **Denver Art Museum**, 13th Ave and Acoma St., Denver (720) 865-5000
Free general admission for Colorado residents.
- January 4: **Denver Museum of Miniatures, Dolls and Toys**, 1880 Gaylord St, Denver (303) 322-1053 Free admission from 1:00-4:00.
- January 6 **The Children's Museum of Denver**, 2121 Children's Museum Dr., Denver Free admission from 4:00-8:00 pm. This is made possible by a generous sponsorship from Target.
- January 10 **Denver Zoo**, 2300 Steele Street, Denver (303) 376-4800
- January 11: **Denver Museum of Nature and Science**, 2001 Colorado Blvd., Denver (303) 973-3705
- January 19: **Denver Zoo**, 2300 Steele Street, Denver (303) 376-4800

Denver Center for the Performing Arts

1101 13th St., Denver, CO (303) 893-4000

Free theatre performances with 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. For more information, call (303) 893-4000. The January free events are:

January 15: "Inana" at 6:30 in the Ricketson Theatre

January 22: "Dusty and the Big Bad World" at 6:30 in the Space Theatre

January 29: "Richard III" at 6:30 in the Stage Theatre

.

Rocky Mountain Wildlife Refuge

5650 Havana Street, Denver 80022; from I-70, take the Havana Street exit north to 56th Avenue, then follow posted directions. Open Tuesday, Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday, from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and is free to the public. For more information, go to www.fws.gov/rockymountainarsenal or call (303) 289-0930.

Please note that while free, all programs require reservations in advance. Below is a list of upcoming events:

Wild Rides: Every Tuesday, Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday. Viewing Tours from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. Advance reservations are required (303) 289-0930.

Tuesday Tots: Offered the first Tuesday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to noon, this one-hour program is for the young naturalist 2 to 5 years old. Parent or guardian must accompany all children.

Saturday, Jan 10, 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm Where Eagles Soar

Take advantage of this opportunity to see our national symbol – the bald eagle. After a short presentation, board the trolley tram and keep your eagle eyes peeled for these majestic birds of that spend the winter along the Front Range. Recommended for all ages.

Tuesday Jan 13, 8:00 am - 11:00 am Frosty Photo Tour

Saturday Jan 17, 1:00 - 3:00 pm Frosty Photo Tour

Explore the Refuge for that perfect shot – with your camera – of remarkable winter wildlife and breathtaking views. Bring your camera and zoom lenses. Recommended for adults.

Saturday Jan 24, 8:00 - 11:00 am Building Backyard Habitats

David Menough from Wild Birds Unlimited will show you how to create your own backyard habitat to attract more winged residents. Recommended for families.

Tuesday Jan 27, 10:00 - 12:00 pm Disappearing Treasures

This is a rare and exciting educational exploration of the National Eagle and Wildlife Property Repository. Learn about illegal wildlife trade throughout the world, the Native American Eagle Feather Program, and how this unique facility benefits wildlife and the public. Space is limited. Recommended for families.

Saturday Jan 31, 1:00 - 3:00 pm Friends of a Feather

Birdwatching is a popular hobby, so join the flock and add some of the winter birds to your checklist. Bring your binoculars or borrow a pair of ours. Recommended for adults.

Health Care

Medication Disposal & Information Program

Saturday, February 21, 2009, 7:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Exempla Good Samaritan Medical Center Conference Center
200 Exempla Circle, Lafayette, CO 80026

Bring your expired, excess, or unwanted medications for proper disposal. Prescription and over-the-counter medications, including pills, liquids, patches, and inhalers will be accepted. You will also be provided with information on how to dispose of medications in your home.

Cost: Free.

For further information: 303-689-4595 to schedule an appointment.

Medicaid Waiver Information

Medicaid is a health care program for low income Coloradans. Applicants must meet eligibility criteria for one of the Medicaid Program categories in order to qualify for benefits.

Major program categories include Aid to Families with Dependent Children/Medicaid Only, Colorado Works/TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families), Baby Care/Kids Care, Aid to the Needy Disabled, Aid to the Blind, and Old Age Pension.

To apply for Medicaid, contact your local County Department of Social/Human Services. Waiver programs provide additional Medicaid benefits to specific populations who meet special eligibility criteria. For some people, a waiver is the only way to qualify for Medicaid.

Clients must meet financial, medical, and program criteria to access services under a waiver. The applicant's income must be less than \$1,986.00 (300%, or three times, the Supplemental Security Income allowance) per month and countable resources less than \$2,000 for a single person or \$3,000 for a couple. The applicant must also be at risk of placement in a nursing facility, hospital, or ICF/MR (intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded). To utilize waiver benefits, clients must be willing to receive services in their homes or communities. A client who receives services through a waiver is also eligible for all basic Medicaid covered services except nursing facility and long-term hospital care. When a client chooses to receive services under a waiver, the services must be provided by certified Medicaid providers or by a Medicaid contracting managed care organization. The cost of waiver services cannot be more than the cost of placement in a nursing facility, hospital, or ICF/MR.

Each waiver has an enrollment limit. There may be a waiting list for any particular waiver. Applicants may apply for more than one waiver, but may only receive services through one waiver at a time. Anyone who is denied Medicaid eligibility for any reason has a right to appeal. Talk to your County Department of Social/Human Services if you wish to exercise your right to appeal. For more information, go to: <http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/HCPF/HCPF/1223894303509>.

Denver Options

Children, birth to age 3, who have a suspected developmental delay, may be referred to early intervention services for a free developmental assessment. Areas assessed include Communication, Motor Sensory, Cognitive, Social/Emotional, and Adaptive. Infants and toddlers who have a mental or physical diagnosis known to be associated with delays in development and who may or may not be exhibiting delays at the time of diagnosis, are categorically eligible. Conditions associated with developmental delays include chromosomal syndromes and conditions, congenital syndromes and conditions, and sensory impairments. Infections, conditions, or events occurring during prenatal development through 36 months resulting in significant medical problems associated with delays are eligible; these may consist of recurring seizures, ongoing neurological injury, APGAR score of 5 or less at five minutes, evidence of significant exposure to known teratogens, and low birth weight infants weighing less than 1200 grams (2 lbs, 10oz.). Postnatally acquired problems resulting in delays in development including, but not limited to, attachment and regulatory disorders based on the Diagnostic Classification: 0-3 are also eligible. Call Denver Options about services in Denver County 303-BIRTH 2 3 (247-8423). Call Early Childhood Connections statewide number 1-888-777-4041 to obtain the referral number for the county where the child resides.

UHCCF Grants for Child Health Care Services

Children who have medical needs are sometimes under-insured for all of their medical treatments. The United Healthcare Children's Foundation (UHCCF) provides grants to families to help pay for child health care services such as speech therapy, physical therapy, occupational therapy sessions, prescriptions, and medical equipment such as wheelchairs and eyeglasses. Parents and legal guardians may apply for grants of up to \$5,000 each for child medical services and equipment by completing an online application at the UHCCF web site. If a grant is approved for the child, the grant will help pay for approved medical services/items after the child's commercial health benefit plan submits payment for services provided, if any. The grant funds are not paid to the parent or child directly – invoices/bills are submitted to UHCCF for approved medical services/items after the commercial health benefit plan submits initial payment (if any) to the health care provider.

In January 2006, the United Healthcare Children's Foundation was expanded to all 50 states. To be eligible for a grant, children must be 16 years of age or younger. For more information, go to: <http://www.uhccf.org/>

Legislative Information

Colorado Child Welfare Action Committee

Governor Ritter issued an executive order creating a Child Welfare Action Committee to begin making immediate improvements to Colorado's child-protection system. The move follows a comprehensive review by the Colorado Department of Human Services into 13 recent child deaths. For more information, go to:

<http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite?c=Page&cid=1208335597804&pagename=GovRitter%2FGOVRLayout> .

Current Child Welfare Legislation Information

Voice for Adoption (VFA), a US lobbying organization, has a list of proposed child welfare legislation in the US on their website at:

http://www.voice-for-adoption.org/assemble/advocacy_updates.html (click on the link at the bottom of the page). This chart has the name of the each bill, the bill number, a short description of it, and if the VFA board has voted to support it.

Mental Health Care

New Guide on Bipolar Disorder in Children and Teens

The National Institute on Mental Health (NIMH) has posted on their website a new easy-to-read booklet on bipolar disorder in children and teens that explains what it is, when it starts, and how to get help. The booklet is available at:

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/publications/bipolar-disorder-in-children-and-teens-easy-to-read.shtml>.

E.R.I.C. Program

Families dealing with children affected by bipolar disorder may want to look into the support groups offered by the Everyone Remains in Control (E.R.I.C.) Program. Founded by Rael Reddick, whose son Eric was diagnosed with bipolar disorder at an early age, the program helps with age specific support groups as well as one-on-one assistance in some cases. For more information, contact Rael at ericontrol@hotmail.com.

Therapeutic Services for Jefferson County Victims

Denver Children's Advocacy Center www.denvercac.org can assist up to 55 children aged 0 to 17 who have been victims of sexual abuse, and or any other potentially traumatizing experiences, and who at the time of the crime lived in Jefferson County. Assistance with outpatient mental health counseling to children, siblings, and all the non-offending family members services may be available. Families needing these services should call Raquel Hernandez at 303-825-3850 ext 300 and indicate that they are living or have lived (at the time of the crime) in Jefferson County.

New Parents and Teachers as Allies Resources

Parents and Teachers as Allies is NAMI's 2-hour, in-service mental health education program to help school professionals identify the warning signs of early-onset mental illness in children and adolescents. The program focuses on the specific, age-related symptoms of mental illness in youth, how school professionals can best intervene and share concerns with families, and it shares the lived experiences of consumers and families. NAMI leaders in 31 states have been trained in the program, and it has been delivered to over 80 schools around the country with outstanding results.

If you are interested in becoming trained in Parents and Teachers as Allies so you can implement the program in your state or community or if you would like additional information about the program, please contact Bianca Ruffin, Program Assistant, at biancar@nami.org.

Yoga for Adolescents with Health Concerns

The Children's Hospital is accepting referrals for adolescents ages 13-19 with a diagnosed physical or mental health concern to participate in a yoga research study. Classes are held at The Children's Hospital. You may also go to the website at: <http://www.thechildrenshospital.org/conditions/psych/yoga.aspx>.

For more information, call (720) 777-6200 or contact Dr. Lisa Kaley-Isley by email at kaley-isley.lisa@tchden.org.

Considering Residential Treatment Programs for Children

NAMI has developed *A Resource for Families Considering Residential Treatment Programs for Their Children* to help families make an informed decision about sending their child to a residential treatment program.

Although most children with mental illnesses respond to standard treatments, some children with more serious mental illnesses continue to struggle. Residential treatment programs, including wilderness therapy programs, boarding schools, academies, behavioral modification facilities, and boot camps, are often considered once families have exhausted all community mental health care resources. While some residential programs offer nurturing and caring environments and use evidence-based interventions, others are highly dangerous and damaging. The most concerning programs are those that operate under the philosophy that young people must be broken before they can be helped. These programs use disciplinary techniques such as degrading confrontation, deprivation of basic physical needs, and alienation from family. These abusive methods can confer permanent psychological damage and divide the young person from his or her family.

NAMI's new web resource is intended to help families distinguish between residential treatment programs that are safe from those that may be dangerous and damaging. The resource guide can be accessed at:

<http://www.nami.org/Template.cfm?Section=CAAC&Template=/ContentManagement/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=66549>

Online Access to the DSM-IV-TR

The DSM-IV-TR is a categorical classification system of mental health conditions. The most recent version was published in 2000, and was previously used only by mental health specialists. Now, anyone can browse selected components of its contents online at Mindsite to obtain information about the features, culture, age, gender, prevalence, course, and familial patterns for a variety of mental disorders. To access the DSM-IV at Mindsite, go to http://www.mindsite.com/dsm_iv.

Children's Help and Assistance for Residential Treatment (CHART)

A new non-profit organization called CHART (<http://www.chartrtc.org>) exists to help families of children who are adopted and need residential treatment. Children must be between the ages of 9 and 13. CHART staff deal with everything from suggesting questions to ask when looking for residential treatment to ideas on how to finance placement. In addition, CHART has formed a coalition with other organizations that have information on wilderness programs and other types of therapies. For more information, contact Mary Ann Mulligan at 520-749-2151 or by email at maryannchart@msn.com.

CO Medicaid Community Mental Health Services Program

Colorado's Mental Health Program is a capitated managed care program. Bidders selected to operate the Mental Health Program in each of the five service areas throughout the state will become the Behavioral Health Organizations (BHOs) responsible for delivering, providing or arranging for the provision of all medically necessary mental health services for clients enrolled in the Program.

The Public Comment Period for the Draft Request for Proposal (RFP) closed on July 3, 2008. For more information on this process or to see stakeholder comments, go to: <https://hcpf.cdhs.state.co.us/HCPF/web/draftfp.asp>.

ZAC Browser: Zone for Autistic Children

ZAC is the first web browser developed specifically for children with autism and autism spectrum disorders such as Asperger syndrome, pervasive developmental disorders (PDD), and PDD-NOS. This browser is for the children: for their enjoyment, enrichment, and freedom. For more information, go to <http://www.zacbrowser.com/>.

Attention Deficient Disorder Association (ADDA)

The ADDA provides information for both adults and children with ADD/ADHD. Members receive free access to their 2008 Teleclass Series, subscription to ADDA's bi-monthly eNewsletter *ADDA eNews*, and access to the members' only section of the website. To join ADDA, visit www.add.org, contact the ADDA office at (856) 439-9099, or email adda@add.org.

Services & Resources

Give Me a Break Respite Program

Respite Funding & Family Orientation
Hosted by the Autism Society of Colorado

Faced with the need to take occasional breaks from the intensive care and support of loved ones with autism spectrum disorders, family caregivers often come up short with being able to find competent individuals equipped with the knowledge to be able to care for and supervise their loved one. Funding to pay good respite providers may also present obstacles to families being able to take a break. With these two factors in mind, the Autism Society of Colorado crafted its new respite program, the Give Me a Break Respite Program.

Benefits of the GMAB Program to Families:

- Allocations of funding to pay respite care providers
- Opportunity to hire trained providers
- Support to hire and build successful respite relationships
- Organizing tool for individualizing orientation to person with ASD
- Connections to other family members with loved ones with ASDs
- Family orientations tailored to the time constraints of participants

All families interested in participating in the GMAB Program are asked to attend a 2-hour orientation session. The sessions will be set up based on need, number and the availability of families to participate on days and at times that work for them. Families will learn some basics about successful hiring practices, building rapport, and adequately individualizing respite provider orientation to the strengths and needs of the family member with ASD, the home environment and other pertinent factors. Families will be expected to complete a respite notebook with support and materials provided by the GMAB. The notebook will help to prepare and inform respite care providers about the individualized needs, preferences, and pertinent interventions that the person with ASD might have. Details about the payment of providers and program rules will be explained.

Please register with Lorri Park (lorri@autismcolorado.org) or download the Family Application at:

<http://www.autismcolorado.org/applications/DocumentLibraryManager/upload/Family%20Application%20%20agreemt.pdf>

Respite Care Services

North American Council on Adoptable Children in collaboration with AdoptUsKids recently co-facilitated a multi-day training on creating Respite Care services. The Collaboration to AdoptUSKids also released "Taking a Break: Creating Foster, Adoptive and Kinship Respite in Your Community," a comprehensive manual funded through a federal Children's Bureau Grant.

The manual is available for your use. You can call 1-888-200-4005 to order a copy, with a charge of \$20., or go to www.adoptuskids.org to download and customize forms. You can download the entire manual in PDF by going to: <http://www.adoptuskids.org/resourceCenter/publications/respitemanual.aspx>.

Grandfamilies State Law & Policy Resource Center

Casey Family Programs, the ABA Center on Children and the Law, and Generations United have partnered to create the Grandfamilies State Law and Policy Resource Center, found at www.grandfamilies.org. This website educates caregivers, legislators, advocates, policymakers, and attorneys on state laws and legislation in support of grandfamilies. The easy-to-use database allows for a search of laws and legislation that address common legal questions surrounding relative caregiving both within and outside the child welfare system. Each topic is analyzed and accompanied by a story to show key concepts. In addition, there is a list of related resources to learn more. In the future, the site will expand to include state policies, regulations, and best practices. Technical assistance and training is also available.

In addition, there is a new webpage dedicated to the exciting new child welfare and foster care law, the [Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008](#). The bill is a significant recognition of the contribution grandparents and other relatives make in raising the nation's children. On this page you can find everything you will need to know about what the new law will mean for you, whether you are a caregiver, child advocate, or child welfare professional.

Currently you can find several summaries of the legislation, including a fact sheet on what the new law means for relative caregivers. More information will be added shortly on all the different provisions of the bill and the steps you can take to help implement the new law in your state.

Technical assistance and training are available. For more information, contact Ken Bryson at kbryson@gu.org or Heidi Redlich Epstein at redlichh@staff.abanet.org.

Kinship Program at Catholic Charities

Kinship families looking for support groups or wanting to sign up for the Catholic Charities kinship newsletter may contact:

Tray Dubray, MSW Kinship Case Worker

Catholic Charities, 4045 Pecos St., Denver, Co 80211

(303) 742-0823 ext. 2072

(303) 742-4373 fax

tdubray@ccdenvver.org

Online Catalog of Child Welfare Resources

This online catalog has 200+ titles produced or distributed by the *Child Welfare Information Gateway*, listed by topic, title, and information series. The new topic list categorizes titles according to nine child abuse and neglect, child welfare, and adoption topics. For more information, go to <http://www.childwelfare.gov/catalog/>.

Community Services Locator

The online directory at http://www.mchlibrary.info/KnowledgePaths/kp_community.html, produced by the Maternal and Child Health Library, can be used by service providers and families to find available health, mental health, family support, parenting, child care, and other services for children and families in the communities in which they live. Topics include education and special needs, health and wellness, mental health and well-being, family support, parenting, child care and early childhood education, and financial support. A new *A-Z Resources and Services Index* offers another avenue for navigating the locator and the library's Web site.

Training Resources

Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS)

CDHS offers ongoing classes for foster and adoptive parents and professionals. The courses, information on how to register, dates and times, can be found on the new [CDHS training web site](http://www.cocwtraining.com/) (<http://www.cocwtraining.com/>). The web site allows you to register for classes online (you must create an account prior to registering for your first class, but creating an account is free and easy instructions are provided).

Foster Parent College (FPC)

FPC currently offers the following online trainings: Anger Outbursts, Fire Setting, Eating Disorders, Sexualized Behavior, Lying, Sleep Problems, Wetting & Soiling, Stealing, Running Away, and Self-Harm. The site includes free previews of each of the courses. Courses are developed and taught by nationally-recognized experts, including Dr. Rick Delaney. Each course is \$8, is worth two hours of certified training, and can be accessed for 30 days. Registrants can participate in online discussion boards. For more information, go to: <http://www.sociallearning.com/fpc/?partner=6>. FPC may also be reached at 1.800.777.6636 or by email at fpc@SocialLearning.com.

Washington Learning Systems Website

Free parent-child activity materials are available for downloading at the Washington Learning Systems website. The development of these materials was supported by Grant H324M020084 from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs, and developed by Angela Notari-Syverson, Ph.D. and colleagues. The site offers free reproducible language and early literacy activities in English and Spanish. To download materials go to www.wlearning.com and click on the purple button that says "Free Parent Education Handouts" on the home page. The materials are made available by Angela Notari-Syverson and colleagues, and may be copied and distributed as long as they are not sold.

COCAF Calendar

Check out the COCAF website and try our training calendar at http://www.cocaf.org/te_sc_calendar.asp. Click on any event and a pop-up will provide you with additional information on the class.

EMPOWER COLORADO Listserv Training Courses

EMPOWER COLORADO is an organization run by families that provides support, education, advocacy, and resources to families with children and youth who have social, emotional, or mental health challenges. For more information, go to: <http://www.empowercolorado.com/>.

Surveys/Studies

CASE's "Adoption Awareness at School" Online Survey

The Center for Adoption Support and Education's confidential 3-minute questionnaire could help make a world of difference to your child. To take the survey, go to:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=ibg8sXZcQtKtKKPLegK4Vw_3d_3d

For families who have adopted transracially, please see the information about participating in a separate survey by going to:

<http://www.adoptionsupport.org/newsletter/08UMDCaseSurveyInvite.pdf>

Colorado Respite Coalition Survey

The Colorado Respite Coalition (CRC) is a group of parents and professionals who joined together to create a variety of respite programs in Colorado. These programs will serve children with special health care needs who may be at a higher risk for abuse and neglect than the typical population of children. CRC hopes to provide safe, affordable, interactive, stimulating, center-based programs for planned and emergency respite that address the physical, emotional, and cognitive needs of each child. For more information or to be added to the CRC list serve, contact Val Saiz by email at saizhm@comcast.net.

In an effort to learn about the respite needs in the state, CRC has prepared a survey for families who have children with special health care needs, specifically those who have, or are at increased risk for having, a chronic physical, developmental, behavioral, or emotional condition and who also require health and related services of a type or amount beyond that required by children generally.

The survey is available online at: <http://fs8.formsite.com/cohealth/respitcaresurvey>.

Adopted from Foster Care Study

If you adopted a child from foster care, you may be eligible to participate in a study that seeks to better understand how adult personality and adult relationship style impact parent-child relationships in adoptive families.

You are eligible if:

1. You have adopted a child from U.S. state custody (e.g., out of foster care, group home care), or you have a child living with you whose parental rights have been terminated, and adoption proceedings have been initiated (i.e., you are actively working with an adoption agency to adopt the child).
2. You have been parenting your adopted child in your home for at least 6 consecutive months.
3. Your adopted child was placed with you between the ages of 36 months and 12 years of age (i.e., the child was not placed with you younger than 36 months of age or

COCAF E-Newsletter January 2009

older than 12 years), and your child is currently in this age bracket.

The adoption field will benefit from more research on the factors that lead to positive outcomes in adoptive families. By participating, you have the ability to directly contribute. No face-to-face contact is required. You can participate in the study in the privacy of your own home if you have internet access. Participants will complete three questionnaires, all available online, and completion time is about 30-45 minutes. Your participation in the study is completely confidential. Your individual results will not be revealed.

If interested, please contact Greta Zuck at 919-784-0205, Ext. 2.

Training Opportunities

Taking Charge

Presented by PEAK Parent Center

Session 1 – January 16 & 17, 2009

Session 3 – March 20 & 21, 2009

Session 5 – May 15 & 16, 2009

Sheraton Denver Tech Center Hotel

7007 South Clinton Street, Greenwood Village, CO 80112

Session 2 – February 20 & 21, 2009

Session 4 – April 17 & 18, 2009

The Colorado Person-Centered Planning Initiative announces the 2009 TAKING CHARGE! A Five-Session Course in Advocacy and Leadership for Young Adults with Disabilities. This course is open to young adults, age 21-30, from across the state of Colorado. This course is recommended for people who have already participated in a person-centered planning process (like the PATH process or Life Building series) who want more information and help to move ahead with their plans. Taking Charge! is a highly interactive learning experience that involves brief presentations and large and small group discussions. Every session will include time for participants and their circle members to work on their own plans as well as time to share ideas with members of other circles.

For more information: Call PEAK Parent Center at 1-800-284-0251, ext.112 or ext. 117 or email personcenteredplanning@peakparent.org.

Permanent Connections for Teens: Finding Adoptive Families and Lifetime Connections for Waiting Teens

Presented by Weld County DHS and The Adoption Exchange

January 28, 2009, 9:00 am—4:00 pm (lunch on own)

Weld County Training Center, 1104 H. Street, Greeley, CO 80631

This course focuses on:

- How adolescent development affects a youth's understanding of "permanency"
- How loyalty conflicts, grief, and loss may get in the way of a child consenting to adoption
- Biases and beliefs that prevent youth from finding a permanent home
- Encouraging youth to participate in their own search for permanency
- Engaging a youth's network to find permanent connections

Cost: Free, but space is limited.

For further information or to register: Contact Denise Leffingwell at 303-755-4756 x264 or by email at denise@adoptex.org.

Effective Matching Practices: Matching Practices that Promote Permanency

Presented by CDHS & The Adoption Exchange

Denise Leffingwell

Wednesday, March 18, 2009, 9:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m.

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

The course is designed to:

- Help child welfare professionals identify the crucial elements needed for successful matches
- Show you why matching can be an art
- Explain what a successful match involves
- Identify different parental paradigms
- Identify what tools are currently being used for matching

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 go to <http://www.adoptex.org/site/Calendar?view=Detail&id=103001> .

To register: Go to www.cocwtraining.com.

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 the affect of loss and multiple placements on a child's development; the special needs of children who are moved on an emergency basis; helping a child deal with fears and anxieties about placement; and a 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.

To register: Go to www.cocwtraining.com.

COCAF E-Newsletter January 2009

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.

To register: Go to www.cocwtraining.com.

Just for Fun

Colorado-for-Free

Looking for things to do on a limited budget? Try the Colorado-for-Free website at <http://colorado-for-free.com> for some great ideas.