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COCAF News

COCAF Online Donation Capability Now Available!

Please go to COCAF's website, www.cocaf.org, and check out the DONATE NOW THROUGH GIVINGFIRST.ORG button (upper right part of the screen). GivingFirst allows donors to donate online in a completely secure environment. In addition, GivingFirst covers all of the credit cards fees, so COCAF receives **100%** of your donation. Take the time to check out the COCAF website, and if you have ever used any of the information in this newsletter or been assisted in any way by COCAF, please help us continue our services by making an online donation. If everyone who read our newsletter donated just \$5, think of the services we'd be able to provide to adoptive families!

Graduation!!!

When my husband and I first met with our children's social worker, she told us that our children were all "low average" in terms of intelligence, and while they would be able to pass their classes, they would never be academic stars. We quickly learned that our children were significantly behind in school for their grade levels, with our son Christopher being the most behind. He was in the second grade at the time, and his teacher reported to me that he was reading at the "early kindergarten" level. This was teacher code for he couldn't read. We could have accepted what we had been told by the social worker, but something told me that all the tests and the perceptions about my children were wrong. Almost 11 years later, I had concrete proof that they were wrong, as I watched Christopher walk at his high school graduation – as one of the 4 class valedictorians in a class of 373 students.

Christopher graduating at the top of his class is a statement to his determination and desire to exceed expectations. But his achievement also goes to show that those early tests and "classifications" are not always correct. If you take a child who has had limited opportunities to learn and provide him (or her) with ample opportunities to learn, sometimes great things happen. So please give your children (adopted, foster, birth, grand) the opportunities they need to discover who they are and what they can accomplish. They may surprise you. And if they don't, you'll at least know that you provided them the opportunity to shoot for greatness.

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

Help COCAF Win \$1000 Before the End of the Summer!

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

To enter online, go to:

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

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

Non-profit name: COCAF

Non-profit phone number: 303-562-9864

Web site: cocaf.org

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.

Adoption Information

Voice for Adoption 2009 Membership Invite

Voice for Adoption (VFA) develops and advocates for improved adoption policies. Recognized as a national leader in special needs adoption, VFA works closely with federal and state legislators, as well as other child welfare organizations, to make a difference in the lives of adoptive families and children who are waiting to be adopted.

VFA members receive the following benefits:

- Weekly email updates on child welfare reports, policy developments, and other news from the adoption community
- Monthly public policy conference calls that provide updates on policy issues, give members a chance to ask questions about child welfare policy, and let members provide input to the organization
- Email alerts with breaking news on federal adoption policy developments, information on how to contact policymakers, and other child welfare news
- Membership in a national coalition representing the interests of waiting children and youth to members of Congress and other key policy makers

Annual dues are:

Organizations making less than \$300,000	\$250
Organizations making between \$300,000 - \$1,000,000	\$500 for first 2 years, then \$1,000 each year
Organizations making more than \$1,000,000	\$1,500
VFA board members	\$3,500
Foster and adoptive resource parents	\$15
Student or retired citizens	\$15
Other individual members	\$50

To become a member, send your name, complete mailing address, phone number, and email address with a check made out to Voice for Adoption to:

Voice for Adoption, 1220 L St. NW, Suite 100-344, Washington, DC 20005.

For more information, visit the VFA website at www.voice-for-adoption.org. You may also call 202-210-8118 or send an email to voiceforadoption@gmail.com.

Children's Activities

PeaceJam for Kinship children

Presented by Catholic Charities Archdiocese of Denver
Tuesdays, June 9, 16, 23, & 30, July 7 & 14th, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Macedonia Baptist Church, 3240 Adams St., Denver, CO

The mission of PeaceJam is to create a generation of young leaders committed to positive change in themselves, their community, and the world using the inspiration from winners of the Nobel Peace Prize. Children will learn how they can make a difference in their community and learn skills to resolve conflict peacefully while enhancing their self-esteem.

This activity is for children in 4th to 8th grade who are being raised by a relative caregiver.

For further information or to register: Contact Tray Dubray at (303) 742-0823, ext. 2072 or by email at tdubray@ccdenvr.org.

Adventure Family Camp 2009

Presented by Denver Human Services and Adoptive Family Resources Presents
Friday, June 12 (evening) to Sunday, June 14 at 1:00 p.m.
Estes Park YMCA Camp

Adventure Fun Camp 2009 is geared for fun, including swim time, arts and crafts, nature walks, games, campfire sing-along, and entertainment. Parent participation is optional with most daytime activities. Fee includes cabin lodging (cabins are heated, have beds, and indoor plumbing) and all meals and snacks from late Friday evening to Sunday lunch. You will need to bring swim towels.

Openings are filled based on the receipt of deposit. For scholarship information contact Jan Tomski at 303.881.7630 or jantomski@msn.com.

Cost: \$120 per adult and \$95 per child for the weekend. A \$25 non-refundable deposit is required for each individual, including those with scholarships.

To register: Complete the following form, **include the deposit check for the \$25 per person**, and mail both to the address on the next page.

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Adventure Family Camp 2009

Names of adults and names and ages of all children attending

Main Contact person _____

Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____

Dietary restrictions _____

Please mail completed form with deposit to Adoptive Family Resources, 8745 W. 14th Ave. Suite 100, Lakewood, CO 80215.

China Adopteen Camp-Conference

Presented by Chinese Children Adoption International (CCAI)

Friday, July 24 to Sunday, July 26, 2009

CCAI Headquarters, 6920 S. Holly Circle, Centennial, Colorado, 80112

This conference focuses on the needs of teenage Chinese adoptees. Through fun team-building activities, adoptee panel discussions, Chinese dance and calligraphy exercises, crazy competitions, and outrageous activities that integrate important topics like identity and adoption, conference participants will find connection, support, inspiration, and a lot of fun. This year the teens will have an all night lock-in and even have a chance to play volleyball with Paralympics champion SuGui, also adopted from China!

The Adopteen Camp-Conference is open to all teens adopted from China, no matter which agency served their parents. Visit www.chinaadopteen.org for more information.

Cost: \$80 per teen

Registration deadline: July 1, 2009

For more information: Call 303-850-9998 or email adopteen@chinesechildren.org

Conference Calls/Discussion Boards

NRCOI Child Welfare Teleconferences

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

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

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

Conferences

Dept of Health Care Policy & Financing Regional Conferences

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

Conference dates and locations:

June 2 and 3 Burlington

For more information, email Sarah Roberts at sarah.roberts@state.co.us.

Shared Child Welfare Decision Making: Partnering with Families and Children

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

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

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

To receive the most up-to-date symposium information via email, go to:
http://www.law.capital.edu/adoption/mootreg_symp.cfm.

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

National Association for Rural Mental Health

Wednesday, June 17 through Saturday, June 20, 2009
Hyatt Regency Albuquerque, Albuquerque, New Mexico

The 35th annual National Association for Rural Mental Health Conference theme is “Connecting Neighbors: Finding Strength in Community” and speaks to the basic commitment to build community among ourselves as neighbors. We believe in building partnerships, breaking down barriers to conversation and change, and learning from one another. The goals for this year’s conference are to:

- Create a sustained dialogue about rural and frontier behavioral health
- Highlight assets that exist in rural communities
- Foster an environment that encourages people to make connections and lasting participatory networks

This conference draws attendees from many backgrounds: consumers, clinicians, family members, administrators, program/service providers, researchers, and policy makers-- who all share the goal of wanting to learn about, improve, and promote behavioral health care in rural and frontier settings.

The conference focus areas are workforce development; innovative treatment modalities including the integration of traditional and western healing practices; the use of technological and traditional resources, evaluation and research; recovery and resiliency; cultural sensitivity; co-occurring disorders, and collaboration, and partnerships in a wide variety of domains.

Plenary speakers include the renowned experts Spero Manson, Wilma Townsend, Ken Thompson, Mark Winne, Pam Roy, Caty Wilging, and Maria Yellow Horse Brave Heart.

There are consumer scholarships available to attend the 2009 NARMH Annual Conference. For scholarship information, email Lu Ann Rice at info@narmh.org. The scholarships will pay for travel and the conference registration.

To register: Go to <http://www.narmh.org/conferences/2009/2009registration.aspx>

For more information: <http://www.narmh.org/conferences/2009/2009conference.aspx>

NAMI 2009 Conference

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

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

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

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

For more information, go to:

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

Family Events

Adventure Family Camp 2009

Please see full description on pages 6-7.

Free Family Events

Many thanks to Tray Dubray, LSW, Kinship Case Worker for Catholic Charities for providing the following information.

- June 2: **The Children's Museum of Denver**, 2121 Children's Museum Dr. Free admission from 4:00-8:00 pm. This is made possible by a generous sponsorship from Target.
- June 6: **Hiawatha Recreation Center**, 3334 Holly St, Denver, CO. Free event with games, food, and prizes from noon-2:00 p.m. Teens vs. the Police and Fire Department basketball game from 2:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. For more information, call (303) 331-4010
- June 6: **Denver Botanic Gardens at Chatfield**, 8500 Deer Creek Canyon Rd, Littleton. Free admission; for more information, call (303) 973-3705.
- June 6: **Denver Art Museum**, 13th Ave and Acoma St. Free general admission for Colorado residents; for more information, call (720) 865-5000.
- June 7: **Denver Museum of Miniatures, Dolls and Toys**, 1880 Gaylord St, Denver (303) 322-1053 Free admission from 1:00-4:00.
- June 10: **Denver Museum of Nature and Science**, 2001 Colorado Blvd., Denver (303) 973-3705
- June 15: **Hudson Gardens**, 611 S. Santa Fe Dr., Littleton, CO. Free dance performances. For more information, call (303) 797-3565.
- June 24: **World Beats Concert**, E.B. Rains Jr. Memorial Park, 11810 Community Center Drive, Northglenn, CO, starting at 6:30 p.m. Free.
- June 7, 14, 21, 28:
Free Jazz in City Park, City Park, Denver, 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. For more information call (303)744-1004.

Free All The Time!

Aurora History Museum, 15051 E. Alameda Parkway Aurora, CO. (303)739-6666.
Tues-Fri 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Sat & Sun 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.

Rocky Mountain Arsenal Wildlife Refuge

Family Bike the Refuge

Saturday, June 6, 8:00 a.m. -10:00 a.m.

Bring the entire family on a naturalist-led, leisurely bike ride that meanders through prairie dog towns and woodlands and along lake edges. Stops will be made along the way to see and learn about the Refuge's amazing wildlife. Water, sunscreen, and puncture-proof tires are recommended. Helmets are required.

Prairie Blooms

Tuesday, June 9 & Saturday, June 20, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Join a leisurely guided hike to see these magnificent native blooms.

Father's Day Hayride

Saturday, June 21, 1:00 p.m. -3:00 p.m.

Get dad out of the house for a relaxing afternoon in nature on this slow, easy hayride and make a special keepsake to give to dad.

Twilight Photo Tour

Tuesday, June 23, 5:00 p.m. -8:00 p.m.

Explore the Refuge with your camera during this unique twilight opportunity. Capture photos of remarkable summer wildlife and breathtaking views. Bring your camera and zoom lenses.

Animals of the Marsh

Saturday, June 27, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

On this animal search adventure you might get wet discovering the wild residents that live in marshes. Try your hand at some critter trapping techniques. Waders will be provided.

Summer Snap Shots

Sunday, June 28, 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Photographers capture some "hot" and "wild" photos for your collection! Pack your camera and zoom lens and head out to the Refuge to get those awesome summer shots.

For a comprehensive list of things to do for free in the Denver area, go to:

<http://www.denver.org/events/free-events>

Health Care

Medicaid Regulations

The office of the Health and Human Services Secretary announced that it will rescind three harmful Medicaid regulations initiated by the Bush Administration.

The interim final rule for Medicaid Optional State Plan Case Management Services (also known as the Targeted Case Management rule) will be partially rescinded. The portions to be rescinded include all of the most harmful and restrictive aspects of the regulation, including:

- The restrictive definition of individuals transitioning to a community setting
- The prohibition against “bundling” of rates
- The “intrinsic element” test (denying reimbursement for case management services that are part of another program)

The final rules on school-based administrative services and outpatient hospital services will be fully rescinded. All of these regulations are currently under a moratorium until July 1, 2009, through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

Other harmful Medicaid regulations, including the rehabilitative services rule, were in “proposed” rather than “final” phase, and therefore do not need to be rescinded. The Obama administration has given every indication that it does not plan to implement them.

Mental Health

National Association for Rural Mental Health

Please see information on page 10.

Guidelines for Assessment of and Intervention with Individuals Who Have Disabilities Proposed

The American Psychological Association's (APA) Task Force on Guidelines for Assessment and Treatment of Persons with Disabilities is seeking public comments ONLINE ONLY on proposed Guidelines for Assessment of and Intervention with Individuals Who Have Disabilities. This 90-day period for receipt of comments will end on July 31, 2009.

For more information, contact Anju Khubchandani in the Public Interest Directorate's Office on Disability Issues in Psychology at <http://forms.apa.org/pi/disability/> or by phone at (202) 336-6038 or by email at akhubchandani@apa.org.

Draft Guidelines for Assessment of and Intervention with Individuals Who Have Disabilities can be reviewed at: <http://www.apa.org/pi/disability/guidelines.html>.

Online comment form: <http://forms.apa.org/pi/disability/index.cfm?action=&piform=go>

Colorado Legislature Passes Insurance Coverage for Treatment of Autism

A landmark, bi-partisan bill expanding the treatment of autism was given final approval by the Senate and is on its way to the Governor. Senate Bill 244, sponsored by Senate Majority Leader Brandon Shaffer (D-Longmont) and State Representative Dianne Primavera (D-Broomfield) will require health insurance providers to cover assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of autism, including Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA), a substantially researched and favored behavioral treatment for autism spectrum disorders. This bill will require health insurance plans to include autism as a covered benefit.

Autism is extremely expensive to treat; the estimated lifetime cost of caring for a person with autism ranges from \$3.5 to \$5 million. However, if the appropriate early intervention treatments are applied, up to two-thirds of the cost for treatment can be avoided.

“The passage of this bill is a triumph for the most vulnerable among us; those who we, as a society, have a responsibility to protect,” said Sen. Shaffer. “Autism is treatable, but

these families should not face this alone. This bill will finally make healthcare manageable for those with autism disorders and their families.”

After the bill passed the Senate, Betty Lehman, Executive Director of the Autism Society of Colorado and a key architect of the bill, thanked individuals with autism in Colorado, their families and their providers, indicating their continued support ensured the bill's passage. The Autism Society asked those affected by autism in Colorado to contact their legislators to encourage a yes vote on the bill, to great effect. Lehman also thanked the lawmakers that recognized the impact of the bill on Colorado families affected by autism.

“This bill will have a tremendous impact on the lives of people with autism and their families. It will also alleviate some of the financial burden on the public education, public health care programs, and social services systems in our state,” said Lehman.

Michael Zeitlin, Board President of the Autism Society of Colorado acknowledged the landmark bill would not have been possible without the hard work of the bill sponsors and Betty Lehman. “Except for Senate Majority Leader Brandon Shaffer and State Representative Dianne Primavera, Betty Lehman was the single most important person involved in shepherding this bill through the entire legislative process, winning approval in both houses of the legislature and vetting about 50 amendments negotiated by various interest groups,” said Zeitlin.

The bill now awaits action by the Governor. If SB 244 is signed, Colorado will become only the 11th state requiring insurance providers to cover treatments for autism.

If your needs are not addressed by SB 244, please submit your testimony about your unfulfilled needs to the CAC at www.coloradoautismcommission.org. The Commission continues to solicit written testimony about the gaps in current systems of care and services and suggestions for solutions and has listened to live testimony at more than 20 locations around the state.

The CAC report is due to the Governor and the General Assembly September 2009.

What SB 244 Does:

- Defines autism spectrum disorders to include Autistic Disorder, Asperger's Disorder, PDD-NOS
- Requires health insurance to cover assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of autism
- Prohibits carriers from denying issuance or renewal of policies due to autism diagnosis
- Delineates which health care professionals are eligible to provide treatment, and requires appropriate certification and credentialing

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- Applies to small and large State of Colorado group plans, not individual or ERISA plans
- Provides parity with other medical illnesses
- States the annual cap on treatment for ABA therapies:
Birth – age 8: \$34,000
Age 9-18: \$12,000

The Autism Society of Colorado will continue to respond to questions about SB 244. Submit questions to contact@autismcolorado.org or betty@autismcolorado.org.

To review the bill, go to:

http://www.autismcolorado.org/applications/DocumentLibraryManager/upload/SB09_244_notfinal.pdf

Training Opportunities

PREP 2009 Schedule

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

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

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

You will learn how to:

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

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

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

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

COCAF E-Newsletter June 2009

Dates	Team	Registration Contact Person/ #
June 6 & 7, 2009 Glenwood Springs, Amerclnn Glenwood Springs	Mesa & Adoption Exchange	Tinuviel Atwood, BSW The Adoption Exchange tatwood@adoptex.org 303-755-4756 x217
July 18 &19, 2009 Telluride The Peaks Resort	Delta/Montrose & Adoption Exchange	Tinuviel Atwood, BSW The Adoption Exchange tatwood@adoptex.org 303-755-4756 x217
August 1 & 2, 2009 Hampton Inn, Fort Collins	Larimer County & Adoption Exchange	Tinuviel Atwood, BSW The Adoption Exchange tatwood@adoptex.org 303-755-4756 x217
Sept 12 &13, 2009	Boulder	Suzanne Daniels, 303-441-1533 sdaniels@co.boulder.co.us

Sensory Integration Problems & How They Affect Sleep and Toileting In Traumatized Children

Presented by Denver Children's Advocacy Center
Gizane Indart, PsyD, and Courtney Holmes, MA, MFT
Thursday, June 4, 2009, 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
United Way, Founders Room, 2505 18th St., Denver CO 80211

Broken Connections: Supporting the Traumatized Child at Home, Sensory Integration Problems & How They Affect Sleep and Toileting In Traumatized Children addresses specific sensory integration difficulties commonly exhibited by traumatized children. It explores how sensory integration impairments influence a child's regulatory systems, specifically sleep and toileting.

Course objectives include:

- Acquire overview of sensory systems and integration difficulties
- Learn about the most common sleep disturbances traumatized children display
- Review brain operations during sleep: pre- & post-trauma
- Learn to assess for sleep disturbances & apply interventions
- Learn to assess for toileting issues & apply interventions
- Understand functions and motivations of regressive behaviors (i.e. enuresis/encopresis)
- What is a Sensory Diet: How to embed these strategies at home

Gizane Indart, PsyD, a bilingual and bicultural psychologist, is the Executive Director of the Denver Children's Advocacy Center. She has been a Fellow with the ChildTrauma Academy under the direction of Dr. Bruce Perry since 2003, and has over 20 years of working experience with traumatized children and their families.

Courtney Holmes, MA, MFT, is a Marriage and Family Therapist specializing in working with children that have developmental delays due to trauma or genetic factors. She specializes in DIR® Floortime (Developmental, Individual-Difference, Relationship-Based), which is particularly helpful in working with children who have developmental problems.

Cost: \$95 per person; \$75 per person for groups of 4 or more registering from the same agency; \$45 student rate w/ valid student ID; \$115 after June 3 at noon

For further information: Call 303-825-3850 or email training@denvercac.org.

To register: Download registration form at www.denvercac.org.

Empowered Adoptive Family Parenting Series

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

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

Current Trends in Infant Adoption

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

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

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

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

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

http://www.parkerhospital.org/index.php?s=861&parent_id=1836#empowered

Just for Fun

Kids Fishing Derby

Saturday, June 6, 2009, 8:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.
Webster Lake, Northglenn, CO

Get out your poles, tackle, and bait for the 21st annual Kids' Fishing Derby, a fun summer event where kids can try their hand at catching a whopper at Webster Lake, inside E.B. Rains Jr. Memorial Park, across from the Northglenn Recreation Center, 11801 Community Center Drive.

Cost: \$4.00 per child

For more information: Contact Jeanette Sanchez at 303-450-8935 or by email at jsanchez@northglenn.org.

Pedal Boats

June 8, 2009 – August 21, 2009
Monday-Friday open 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday, 10:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.
Webster Lake, Northglenn, CO

Pedal boats will be available for rent on Webster Lake inside E.B. Rains Jr. Memorial Park, across from the Northglenn Recreation Center, 11801 Community Center Drive. Boats are rented for half-hour or one-hour time periods.

Cost: ½ hour 2 person boat \$4; 1 hour 2 person boat \$7
½ hour 4 person boat \$6; 1 hour 4 person boat \$10

For more information: Call 303-450-8800 for weather closures.

Mudapalooza Mud Volleyball Tournament

June 13, 2009

Northwest Open Space, West 112th Avenue and Ranch Drive, Northglenn, CO

Mudapalooza has more than 30 teams of 8-12 players in a round-robin tournament, followed by a single-elimination tournament. Round robin and play-off matches consist of one game to 15 points or 20 minutes, whichever comes first.

A portion of the proceeds of Mudapalooza will benefit the Leukemia/Lymphoma Society for their research efforts to cure cancer. They are a national voluntary health agency dedicated to curing leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease, and myeloma, and to improving the quality of life of patients and their families.

Cost: \$325 per team.

For more information: Contact 303-450-8800 or go to www.northglenn.org/mudapalooza

11th Annual Wellness Walk

Presented by the Jefferson Center for Mental Health & the Jefferson Mental Health Foundation

Saturday, June 13, 2009, 7:30 a.m. registration, 8:30 walk/run

Clement Park, 7306 W. Bowles, Littleton, CO

Join the staff, clients, and community of Jefferson Center for Mental Health and the Jefferson Mental Health Foundation for our 11th Annual Wellness Walk and help fund mental health services for individuals with serious mental health problems, who cannot afford services on their own. You have lots of options: run, walk, or pet walk. There will be refreshments, massages, activities for the kids, free health screenings, health fair, and many other activities.

Registration starts at 7:30 a.m. Walk/Run starts at 8:30 am

Cost: \$20.00 Individuals or Team Members, \$40.00 Family, \$5.00 Jefferson Center/Jefferson Hills Consumer, \$10.00 Jefferson Center/Jefferson Hills Family

Registration Closing Date: Monday, June 8, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.

Register: Online at www.wellnesswalk.org or register the day of the event

For more information: Contact Susan Matthews at 303-432-5144

Teddy Bear Picnic

Thursday, June 25, 2009, 10:00 a.m.

E.B. Rains Jr. Memorial Park, across from the Northglenn Recreation Center, 11801 Community Center Drive

Northglenn's 17th annual Teddy Bear Picnic is an honored tradition where children and their favorite stuffed animal friends gather to enjoy free stories and music. Attendance continues to grow, as over 600 children and parents attended this event last year.

Cost: Free

For more information: Call 303-450-8800

Adoption Exchange Events

The Adoption Exchange has a variety of upcoming events:

June 24-25, 2009: Champions for Children Golf Tournament at Sanctuary Golf Course

November 2009: 22nd Annual Fantasy Ball

For more information on any of these events, go to www.adoptex.org.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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