

MARCH 29, 2011

MANDATORY CHILD ABUSE REPORTER TRAINING

**COST:
FREE!**

This is the state approved Mandatory Reporter class required for foster parents to complete within the first year of licensure, and then every five years thereafter. In addition, the Foster Allegation Information Resource (FAIR) program will be discussed. This is an IFAPA program that provides information and support to foster parents who have had an allegation of abuse made against them.

Sat., Apr. 16, 2011 (1pm-4:15pm) **FORT DODGE**

Sat., May 21, 2011 (Choose AM or PM Session) **DES MOINES**
(AM SESSION: 9am-12:15pm / PM SESSION: 1:15pm-4:30pm)

How to Register for IFAPA's Mandatory Reporter Class: Call IFAPA at 800-277-8145 ext. 1 or 515-289-4567 ext. 1 or to sign-up for training class through our website, complete our online registration form at the following link: www.ifapa.org/training/training_registration_form.asp. IFAPA will follow-up within two business days to confirm your enrollment in the class.

CPR & FIRST AID TRAINING

**COST:
\$25 each**

IFAPA offers a combined CPR & First Aid course that has been approved for foster parent credit. IFAPA offers these courses to foster parents at a rate of \$25 per person. IFAPA will not offer any additional CPR & First Aid courses until the fall.

Sat., Apr. 9, 2011 (12pm-4:15pm) **DAVENPORT**
Registration deadline: Tuesday, April 5th

Sat., Apr. 16, 2011 (12pm-4:15pm) **AMES**
Registration deadline: Tuesday, April 12th

Sat., Apr. 30, 2011 (12pm-4:15pm) **OTTUMWA**
Registration deadline: Tuesday, April 26th

Sat., May 21, 2011 (12pm-4:15pm) **MASON CITY**
Registration deadline: Tuesday, May 17th

Sat., May 21, 2011 (Choose AM or PM Session) **DES MOINES**
(AM SESSION: 8am-12:15pm / PM SESSION: 1:15pm-5:30pm)
Registration deadline: Tuesday, May 17th

How to Register for IFAPA's CPR & First Aid Class: If you need to complete the required CPR & First Aid training, please visit the link: www.ifapa.org/training/CPR_first_aid.asp. To reserve your spot in the class, print off the registration form and mail in with your payment to IFAPA by the deadline listed above. Registrations are accepted by mail only; first-come, first-serve. *There are NO REFUNDS due to participant cancellations; refunds will only be issued if the training you registered for is already full.*

stride for
foster care

Take a Walk on a Child's Side

SATURDAY, MAY 7, 2011

CHECK-IN AT 10:30AM / WALK AT 11:00AM

WEST DES MOINES, IA

RACCOON RIVER PARK - CONEFLOWER SHELTERS (2500 GRAND AVE)

About the Event:

This year, IFAPA will hold our 2nd annual Stride for Foster Care Walk Fundraiser. This year's event includes a 3.2 mile walk and will end with free pizza and activities for everyone. Money raised from the walk will benefit IFAPA's Training & Friends of Children in Foster Care Programs.

Walking Teams:

Ask your family and friends to join you and create a walking team or start one through your office or place of worship.

How to Register:

Walkers are asked to register by April 18, 2011 and pay a \$30 registration fee which includes a t-shirt and free pizza for lunch. Kids 11 & under can attend for free; kids t-shirts are also available to purchase for \$10 each. Walkers can choose to either register online through our walk website or print off our registration form and mail in with your registration fee(s). www.ifapa.org/events/stride_for_foster_care_walk.asp

Virtual Walk:

Can't make it to West Des Moines for our walk? You can participate in our Virtual Walk, walk in your own community and still fundraise for your chance to earn great prizes!

Earn Great Prizes:

Walkers who raise additional funds could earn the following prizes (see IFAPA's website for full prize details).



Additional Info:

www.ifapa.org/events/stride_for_foster_care_walk.asp

Do You Have a Child Adopted from Foster Care After Age 8? Youth Needed for Online Survey

Most research with adult adopted persons looks at those adopted at infancy. This is your chance to let your voice be heard and make a difference in the lives of hundreds of thousands of children in foster care waiting to be adopted! If you were adopted from foster care after the age of 8 years, you are invited to participate in an online survey conducted by the University of Denver. Participation involves the completion of surveys and possibly an in-depth interview by phone or in person. **Participants who complete the surveys will receive a \$10 gift card and those who also complete the in-depth interview will receive an additional \$15 gift card to their choice of Wal-Mart or Target.** To get started, click on the following link: https://udenver.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_bxSlmeP2Ep56jas

Still Need to Complete Your Taxes?

Do You Qualify for the Adoption Tax Credit?

The health care reform bill made the U.S. federal adoption tax credit refundable for 2010 and 2011. New guidance from the IRS states that adoption tax credits carried forward from the previous years will also be refundable, which means that families who adopted as far back as 2005 but who didn't have enough tax liability to use the credit in the past may be able to take full advantage of the credit with their 2010 return.

The North American Council on Adoptable Children (NACAC) website (www.nacac.org) provides additional information about the adoption tax credit. They also offer special savings for adoptive families on tax preparation services. A number of families have mentioned that the IRS has requested documentation that families had already sent in the with their returns. If you have had this issue, please e-mail taxcredit@nacac.org.

Discount Program Available to Foster Youth, Foster/Adoptive/Kinship Families

iFoster Discount Program provides financial relief and opportunities for those in foster care. iFoster recently launched a free Member Discount Program (www.ifoster.org). This program can save the average household over \$4,500 a year with discounts at national and local retailers, grocery stores, healthcare providers (dental & vision), restaurants, movie theatres and attractions. They have over 60,000 discounts now with new discounts constantly being added. If you are a foster youth (age 16 to 21), family (foster, resource, kin, guardian, adoptive) or organization supporting our children in foster care, you're invited to become a member and save!

IFAPA Offers Support to Foster/Adoptive Parents

IFAPA's Peer Liaisons and Resource Information Specialists provide support to an average of 2,000 foster, adoptive and kinship parents EACH MONTH.

Have a question? Contact one of our staff, if we don't have the answer, we'll find it!

To find your Peer Liaison's contact information, visit our Peer Liaison webpage at: www.ifapa.org/support/peer_liaisons.asp

To contact one of our Resource Information Specialists, visit: www.ifapa.org/support/resource_information_specialists.asp

IFAPA IS HERE TO SUPPORT YOU!



HealthyChildren.org Updates Car Safety Seat Information to Reflect New American Academy of Pediatrics Guidelines

An updated American Academy of Pediatrics policy addressing the use of car safety seats was recently released. The new policy advises parents to keep their toddlers in rear-facing car seats until age 2, or until they reach the maximum height and weight for their seat. It also advises that most children will need to ride in a belt-positioning booster seat until they have reached 4 feet 9 inches tall and are between 8 and 12 years of age.

Several articles on HealthyChildren.org have been updated to reflect the new policy, including:

Car Safety Seats: A Guide for Families 2011: <http://www.healthychildren.org/carseatguide>

Car Safety Seats Product Listing for 2011: <http://www.healthychildren.org/carseatlist>

Car Safety Seat Check Up: <http://www.healthychildren.org/carseatcheckup>

Air Bag Safety: <http://www.healthychildren.org/airbagsafety>

Have You Recently Moved?

Please be sure to add IFAPA to your list of people to notify when you move or have a new e-mail address. It's simple, just send e-mail to our office at smiles@ifapa.org with all of your new contact information and we'll be able to continue keeping you in the loop with the latest happenings.

