

NEWS FROM YOUR PEER LIAISON



CHRISTIE MCGUIRE
IFAPA Peer Liaison

How to Contact Me:
855-929-2005
641-829-2005
cmcguire@ifapa.org

I UNDERSTAND... I AM A FOSTER PARENT TOO

IFAPA recognizes that foster parents often need the perspective of peers during the foster parenting and adoption experience.

I can provide support and assist you with questions regarding:

- Licensing requirements
- Training needs
- Respite care
- Behavior challenges
- Working with birth families
- Confidentiality issues
- And much more!



www.ifapa.org

HAPPY, HAPPY, HAPPY

New Year means new clothing! Clothing allowances start over January 1st. Contact your DHS worker for approval.

Extras can add up! IFAPA's "Friends of Children in Foster Care" has grants available! Apply at ifapa.org/resources

Winter Training Brochure from IFAPA is out! Sign up now at ifapa.org/training

Yuletide Cheer! Enjoy some good cheer and information with IFAPA's Weekly Word arriving in your **EMAIL** each week!

Even Santa needs a well-deserved break! Remember to set up respite with your IKN support worker. Each placement receives 24 days per calendar year.

Adventureland is the place to be for IFAPA's Spring Conference set for March 6-7, 2015. Register at ifapa.org/trainings

Remember, you are making a difference in a child's life!!!
Thanks for all you do!

NEWS FROM YOUR IFAPA PEER LIAISON

Support Group Happenings

NCIFAPA Support Group

- *This support group meets quarterly. **No meeting in January**
- *Watch the newsletter for upcoming information
- *Tuesday, February 10, 2015, at DHS Liberty Room in Mason City
- * 6:30 pm Social Time and Snacks; Training 7-9 pm (2 hours credit)
- *Training topic to be announced
- * Contact Christie McGuire with questions 855-929-2005

HHWW Foster/Adoptive Parent Support Group

- *This support group will be on **WINTER BREAK** for December, January, and February! Trainings **will resume** in March 2015.
- *Watch the newsletter for upcoming information
- *Contact Julie Schroeder for more information at 515-291-3029

Ames Foster/Adoptive Support Group

- *Our next meeting will be Thursday, January 8, 2015
- "Creating and Maintaining Healthy Boundries" (2 hours credit)
- * 6-8 pm @ Cornerstone Church, 56829 US Hwy 30 in Ames
- *Childcare **WILL NOT** be offered at this meeting
- *Contact Christie McGuire for more information at 855-929-2005

Fort Dodge Lunch and Learn

- * The next meeting will be on Thursday, January 22, 11:30-1:00
- * Grace Lutheran Church in Fort Dodge; watch for details!
- *Contact Julie Schroeder for more information at 515-291-3029.

MARSHALL COUNTY SUPPORT GROUP

- *New Hope Christian Church, 3901 S. Center in Marshalltown
- *The next meeting is January 13, 2015, 6-8 pm
- *"Reducing the Risk of Allegations", by Dr. Warren Phillips
- * Contact Mindy Speake for more information at 515-291-1292.
- *Child care is offered--donations accepted.

WINTER TIDBITS

Fun Activities

Some suggestions for snow days!

Play Snow (Not Food)

1/2 c. Suave conditioner
3 c. baking soda
Good for sensory activity.
(Compliments of Sandra Dollen, IFAPA Peer Liaison)

Peanut Butter Play Dough

1/2 c. creamy peanut butter
1/4 c. honey
1/2 c. dry powder milk
Mix above ingredients. Use raisins, chocolate chips and pretzels to make "creative critters."

Play Dough (Not Food)

1 c. flour; 1/2 c. salt
Food coloring; 1/4 c. water
Combine flour and salt . Add water and food coloring. Mix into dough. Add more water or flour for correct consistency.

Would You Like An Answer To Your Questions?

For Northern Service Area counties: DHS Supervisor Natalie Clapp has set aside **every Wednesday** from 3:00-4:30 pm for you to call in and talk about any questions or concerns you may have about DHS or foster/adoptive care. Call 319-292-2327

