

BLACK HAWK FOSTER & ADOPTIVE PARENT NEWSLETTER

INVEST IN IOWA'S CHILDREN...OUR FUTURE

VOLUME 14 ISSUE 6

FEBRUARY 2012

February Meeting

"First Aid"

This month, our training will be "First Aid" provided by the American Heart Association . There will be a **\$15 per person charge** to be paid to the trainer before class. We have a **limited spaces so you MUST RSVP** to Dianna Seedorff, IFAPA Peer Liaison at 319-235-2534 or Seedorff_ifapa@hotmail.com by February 10th to reserve your spot. This will be on a first come first serve basis. All newly licensed foster parents are required to take first aid and all seasoned foster parents are required to complete first aid during, but before the end of every third training cycle. We look forward to seeing you on **Tuesday, February 14th at Grace Lutheran Church, 1024 W. 8th Street, Waterloo. Training will be held from 7 to 9 PM. Doors open at 6:30 PM.**

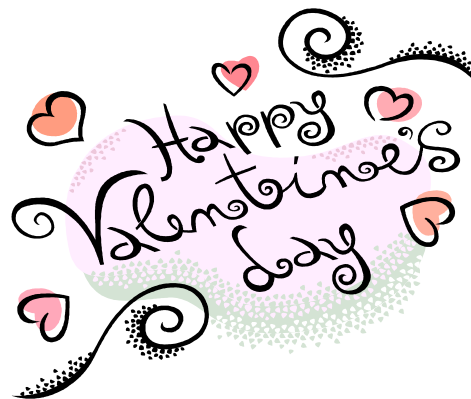
Snacks and beverages will be provided.

Childcare will be available for children ages 0-12 years

Last month our door prize winners were Kurt Cagley, Pam Lawless, and Nicole Grieves.

With winter weather, there is always the chance of snow and icy roads. In the case of inclement weather, we will try to make a decision to cancel, no later than 4:00 PM the day of the meeting. We will post the cancellation on the KWWL Website. If schools in our area are closed or dismissed early, you can assume that we will be cancel the meeting. If in doubt , call any of the numbers below.

If you have any questions please contact Dianna Seedorff, IFAPA Peer Liaison, at 319/235-2534 or one of our dependable co-chairs: Judith Jefferies at 319/610-1861 or Nicole Grieves at 319/939-7693.



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- Waterloo Chapter



Scholarships

Education & Training Voucher– www.ihaveaplaniowa.gov for youth aging out of foster care, shelter, SAL, group care, PMIC, court ordered relative or suitable person, or adopted from foster care after 16.

National Foster Care Association– requires essay and letters of recommendation www.nfpainc.org

Foster Care to Success (FCS) formerly known as Orphan Foundation of America– <http://fc2success.org/> The FCS 2012-13 scholarship application is open from January 1 through March 31, 2012.

College Goal Sunday for youth still needing to fill out the FAFSA at Hawkeye Community College, Tuesday, February 21, 1-4 PM

Contact Kathy Berns with questions :
KBERNS@dhs.state.ia.us

Getting to know our Foster Families

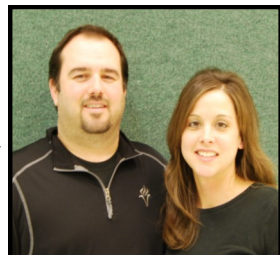
.MEET BRAD AND ANDREA DELLIT

Brad and Andrea just got licensed in November. They are licensed for two children and take ages 0-4 years. They became licensed with the hopes to adopt and to assist children in need. Brad and Andrea are willing to do respite. You can reach the Dellit's at 319-215-3300.



MEET DARIN AND MALANIE TOURNIER

Darin and Melanie have been licensed for four months. They are licensed for two and take ages 2-6 years. They looked at being foster parents as an opportunity to help children in need as well as expanding their family. Darin and Melanie are willing to do respite. You can reach them at 319-939-3344.





NEW PLACEMENT UPDATES

Please contact your local Iowa KidsNet support/renewal staff if you wish to update any information regarding placements in your home, your family's preferences for children being referred to your home, or any other information about your family. You should only contact Iowa KidsNet customer service staff when your family was contacted about a child or children in need of a home, and you are working with the matching worker on potentially being a placement option for the child or children. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your local Iowa KidsNet support/renewal worker.

FOR SALE

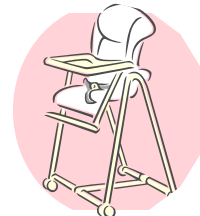
Bouncy seat- \$10.00

Swing- \$30.00

Highchair \$30.00

Bath tub- \$5.00

Please contact Rhonda Greenwood at 319-292-5290.



LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST

Thursday, February 16



Iowa State Capitol
Des Moines

7-9 AM

This is your chance to have your voice be heard. Legislators want to hear from you. They are here to address the needs of all Iowans, including the children in foster and adoptive homes and the parents who care for them.

In these tough financial times it is imperative the IFAPA members keep their legislators informed on the issues facing children in their care. Bring your children and have breakfast with your Legislators!

IFAPA SRPING CONFERENCE

Date: March 2 and March 3

Time: 8:30– 4:30

Location: Adventureland Resort– Altoona, Iowa

Fee: \$45 per person for one day; \$65 per person for two days

Deadline to sign up: February 14, 2012

Six hours of foster parent training credit each day! If you are interested to attending contact IFAPA at smiles@ifapa.org or call 1-800-277-8145 ext. 1 for details.

If you are interested in attending the Spring Conference the Black Hawk Foster/Adoptive Parent Support Group has some scholarships available. Please contact Dianna Seedorff, IFAPA Peer Liaison at 319-235-2534 for details.



Respite

Respite is a temporary planned break from your foster child to reduce stress or it can be used as a planned vacation for foster parents. Respite offers birth children of the foster family quality time with their parents. It also gives foster children a break.

Foster families are eligible for up to 24 days of respite per placement per calendar year. Respite does not have to be an overnight stay. Any partial day counts as a day for respite purposes. DHS, IKN, and foster parents all play an important role in the respite role. As of August 1, 2011, IKN and DHS have implemented the following protocol. Please be sure to follow this when setting up respite. If you have any questions, please contact your IKN support worker.

PURPOSE:

Iowa KidsNet is the primary support to resource families, which includes assistance with respite referrals. Iowa KidsNet is responsible to assist foster parents with arranging respite care as part of ongoing supportive services. IKN Support-Referral Specialist are responsible for providing this assistance to resource families, for their assigned families. Only a licensed foster parent can provide respite.

Families are eligible for up to 24 days for respite per placement per calendar year. DHS placement workers are responsible to reimburse respite care providers through the FACS system. The payment rate respite providers receives is daily rate the child receives in the current home placement. ANY CHILD PLACED THROUGH FOSTER CARE RESPITE IS COUNTED AS A PLACEMENT FOR THE RESPITE HOME.

PROCEDURE:

1. Foster families have three options to locate respite.
 - A. The IKN Support-Renewal Specialist can provide support and assist in locating respite
 - B. Respite care can be arranged between foster families (placements must remain within licensing capacity)
 - C. DHS placement and/or licensing worker can provide support and assist in locating respite care. (if the family contacts DHS, DHS will work jointly with IKN Support-Renewal Specialist to locate respite options.)

Note: Resource families must contact the child's DHS placement worker to inform them of the dates they will need respite, provide the name of the respite family and to get approval for the respite. This needs to be done as far in advance as possible.
2. If IKN customer service is the first to receive a respite care request, the Service Area Leader/Designee will be notified immediately and assigned an IKN Support-Renewal Specialist for assistance.
3. Prior to making a respite placement, records must be accessed to ensure the family has capacity to take another child. If the placement will put the family over licensing capacity, a variance must be approved by the Department. (IKN and DHS will complete the variance according to local protocol.)
4. Upon being given the name, the resource parent will contact the proposed respite family to work out details of the respite care.
5. Once arrangements have been finalized, Iowa KidsNet customer service needs to be notified. The DHS placement worker will be responsible for notifying the IKN customer service either by phone or email of the respite arrangements upon approval.
6. Fill out the respite form on www.ifapa.org and give it to respite family along with title XIX card. Make sure enough clean clothes. For infants and toddlers too many diapers and wipes are better than not enough. Have the child pick out a special toy or stuffed animal to help them at bedtime.
7. When you have finished using respite e-mail or call your worker and tell him/her the exact days of respite, the name of the child, your name, address and phone number in case your worker needs to contact you. This also serves as a friendly reminder to the worker they can now issue payment to your respite provider.



Training Available in Black Hawk County

In Iowa, foster parents need six hours of training annually to renew their foster care license. At least three training hours must be done in a group setting. Foster parents must complete their training two months prior to licensing date. *Note: Families will no longer be granted extensions or exceptions for not getting their training credit on time.*

If you want to receive foster parent training credit, it is your responsibility to send your training certificates to your KidsNet licensing worker within 30 days following the training. Be sure to keep the original copy for your records.

PLEASE KEEP IN MIND - With the exception of CPR, First Aid and Mandatory Reporter classes, foster parents **CANNOT** receive training credit for any class after October 2009 that they have previously attended and used for re-licensing.

Foster parents are mandatory reporters of child abuse. As mandatory reporters, foster parents are required to complete two hours of training in child abuse identification and reporting. This training must be taken within the first year of initial licensing and every five years thereafter. CPR & FIRST AID every three years, but before the end of the third training cycle.

“On Line Training”



DHS has approved that foster parents may receive up to 3 hours foster care training credit for courses listed on www.fosterparents.com. The foster parent will read the course material, answer the test questions, and click on submit button. A certificate will be generated immediately. The certificate will need to be sent to your licensing worker. Remember to make and keep a copy for your records. There is a charge for these trainings.

“Mandatory Reporters Training”

The Iowa Department of Public Health has approved one online Mandatory Reporter Training Class for foster parents to take. Foster parents will receive 2 hours of credit for this course. The cost to take this course is \$18.95 per person. PLEASE REMEMBER- IFAPA promotes this online class as an additional resource for foster parents; however, this is not connected to IFAPA. For detailed instructions on how to take this online course, visit the IFAPA website:

**Need Support? Have a question?
We are here for you!**

Dianna Seedorff, IFAPA Peer Liaison
319.235.2534 or 888.622.4521
seedorff_ifapa@hotmail.com



Patricia Smart,
DHS Licensing Worker for Black Hawk Co.
319.292.2360
psmart@dhs.state.ia.us



Katie Squier,
IKN Renewal and Support Worker
319.859.3588
Katie.squier@lsiowa.org



More Available Training



Licensing Deadline Requirements

If you were licensed in the following month:	All of your training requirements must be completed by the following date:
February 2011	November 30, 2011
March 2011	December 31, 2011
April 2011	January 31, 2012
May 2011	February 29, 2012
June 2011	March 31, 2012
July 2011	April 30, 2012
August 2011	May 31, 2012
September 2011	June 30, 2012
October 2011	July 31, 2012
November 2011	August 31, 2012

DECODING THE MYSTRY OF ADHD

Date: Saturday, March 17, 2011

Time: 9 AM—12:15 PM

Location: Clarion Hotel, Cedar Falls

Credit: 3 hours of approved training

What did Bill Gates, Michael Jordon and Steven Spielberg have in common? They all had ADHD. Often what can be seen as a detriment could also be channeled into an outlet to help a person to succeed. This workshop will present and discuss the patterns of behavior that are characteristic of Attention Deficit Disorders in Children and adolescents. The workshop will also provide specific behavioral strategies that parents can use to help their children achieve more success in school, in social interactions, and at home. Trainers: Dr. Warren Phillips and Dr. Judy Rudman



To register call 800-277-8145 ext. 1 or www.ifapa.org, you will find the link on the home page. You will receive an email or letter one week prior to the class.



Foster Parents must complete their training by the dates below:

**WORRYWARTS AND HOW YOU CAN HELP THEM:
UNDERSTANDING ANXIETY DISORDERS IN CHILDREN**

Date: Saturday, March 17, 2011

Time: 1:30 PM—4:45 PM

Location: Clarion Hotel, Cedar Falls

Credit: 3 hours of approved training

Do you wonder how to help your child relax and cope with things that make him/her anxious? Does it concern you that maybe he/she worries too much? This workshop will present and discuss symptoms and behaviors typical of a variety of anxiety disorders in children and adolescents. Parents will learn specific methods to help their children cope with anxiety and control its symptoms and impact. Trainers: Dr. Warren Phillips and Dr. Judy Rudman

To register call 800-277-8145 ext. 1 or www.ifapa.org, you will find the link on the home page. You will receive an email or letter one week prior to the class.



CPR & FIRST AIDE

Date: Saturday, March 31, 2011

Time: 1:15 PM– 5:30 PM

Location: To be announced, Cedar Falls

Credit: 4 hours of approved training

To register for this class you need to use the form in the IFAPA Spring Training Schedule and mail your payment to IFAPA, 5864 NE 14th St., #5, Ankeny, IA 50023. Spots are limited so register early! Deadline for payment is March 16th, 5 pm. Cost is \$25.00 per person and a \$10 late fee if payment is not received on time. You are not enrolled until payment is received. IFAPA will send you a postcard in the mail confirming that you have been enrolled in the class along with the location specifics. There are no refunds, due to participant cancellations.



PEOPLE OF COLOR: SKIN & HAIR CARE WITH A FAMILIAR TWIST

Date: Saturday, May 12, 2011

Time: 9 AM—4:30 PM

Location: Hawkeye Community College

Credit: 6 hours of approved training

This class will provide a hands-on learning opportunity on the care of hair and skin for children of color, along with health issues and cultural practices. Skin & hair care products will be available. Trainer: Dottie Fouse

To register call 800-277-8145 ext. 1 or www.ifapa.org, you will find the link on the home page. You will receive an email or letter one week prior to the class.

