

JANUARY 31, 2012

## IFAPA LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2012 - DES MOINES, IA

We invite you and your family to our Legislative Breakfast on Thursday, February 16 at the State Capital in Des Moines. Iowa's foster, adoptive and kinship families are improving the child welfare and child protective system by advocating for positive change. IFAPA will continue to work to be a voice for children and families, but we need your help. Legislators want to hear from YOU, their constituents. They are there to address the needs of all Iowans, including the children in foster care and adoptive homes and the parents who care for them.



In these tough financial times it is imperative that IFAPA members keep their legislators informed on the issues facing children in their care. Sharing specific information such as: how adoption subsidy has made a difference for your child; how a child has blossomed with the structure and consistency of foster care; how your family has been able to work with birth parents to return a child home; how a training taught you how to parent a difficult teen—all tell the story of the importance of funding for foster care and adoption programs.

If you plan to attend, please RSVP to IFAPA at 800-277-8145 ext. x 4.

### ANSWERS TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**I have never been to a Legislative Breakfast. How does it work and what should I say to my legislators?** Find helpful legislative and communication tips at the following link: <http://www.ifapa.org/resources/documents/LegislativeTipsIFAPA.pdf>

**I want to advocate for the children in my home, but I can't make it to IFAPA's Legislative Breakfast. What are my other options?** If you cannot attend IFAPA Legislative Breakfast, but want a chance to speak with one of your legislators, consider sending them an e-mail or a letter. Read our tips at the following link: <http://www.ifapa.org/resources/documents/LegislativeTipsIFAPA.pdf>

**Do you have a sample letter I can use to help write to my legislator?** Yes - IFAPA has created a sample letter that families can use. Families can fill in the blanks with your specific family situation / contact information, etc. Read the sample letter: [http://www.ifapa.org/pdf\\_docs/SampleLettertoLegislator.doc](http://www.ifapa.org/pdf_docs/SampleLettertoLegislator.doc)

**I don't know who my legislators are. How can I find their names and contact information?** To find out who your legislators are and their mailing address, phone number and e-mail address, visit the link below and type in your address and it will list your federal and state legislators. <http://www.congress.org/congressorg/officials/congress/>

**What are IFAPA's 2012 Legislative Priorities? What are areas I need to advocate for?** Read IFAPA's Legislative Priorities: [http://www.ifapa.org/pdf\\_docs/2012LegislativePriorities.pdf](http://www.ifapa.org/pdf_docs/2012LegislativePriorities.pdf)

## IFAPA'S ONLINE DISCUSSION GROUP FOR PARENTS

IFAPA maintains a listserv available to all IFAPA members who have an e-mail address. A listserv is an online discussion group which will allow parents the opportunity to discuss issues, ask questions, share resources and connect with families who have common interests. Anyone who is a member will be able to post a question or share information which will then be sent to all other listserv members.

IFAPA's listserv will be moderated, which means an IFAPA staff member will receive and review all messages before they are sent to all the listserv members. If you would like to be part of the IFAPA listserv, you can join by e-mailing [IFAPAMemberListserv-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:IFAPAMemberListserv-subscribe@yahoogroups.com). After you subscribe, you will receive a welcome e-mail with additional information and listserv rules. If you have questions, you can e-mail Nancy Magnall, at [magnall\\_ifapa@msn.com](mailto:magnall_ifapa@msn.com).

## TRAINING CREDIT FOR BOOKS AND MOVIES

DHS has compiled a list of movies and books that have been approved for foster parent in-service training. A maximum of 3 credit hours per training cycle is allowed for movies and books. Foster parents are required to submit a report (**form #470-2540 Foster Parent Training Report**) to their licensing worker about what they read or viewed, including a summary of what they learned and how it applies to increasing their skill as a foster parent.

To view the list of approved books & movies (including recently approved books and movies highlighted in yellow), visit the following page on the IFAPA website: [www.ifapa.org/training/other\\_trainings.asp](http://www.ifapa.org/training/other_trainings.asp)

# IFAPA'S TRAINING SCHEDULE

TO REGISTER - Call 800-277-8145 x 1 or visit: [http://www.ifapa.org/training/training\\_registration\\_form.asp](http://www.ifapa.org/training/training_registration_form.asp)

Date & Time	Name of Training	Hours	Location
Sat., Feb. 4 8:30am-5pm	<i>Caring for Children Who Have Experienced Trauma</i>	6 hours	Ankeny IFAPA Training Center
Sat., Feb. 4 9am-4:30pm	<i>Beyond Consequences...Helping Children with Severe Behaviors</i>	6 hours	Marshalltown AEA 267
Sat., Feb. 11 9am-12:15pm	<i>Snakes, Snails &amp; Puppy Dog Tails... Raising Boys</i>	3 hours	Ames Country Inn & Suites
Sat., Feb. 11 1:30pm-4:45pm	<i>Sugar, Spice &amp; Everything Nice... Raising Girls</i>	3 hours	Ames Country Inn & Suites
Sat., Feb. 11 1:30pm-4:45pm	<i>Mandatory Child Abuse Reporter Training</i>	3 hours	Council Bluffs Country Inn & Suites
Sat., Feb. 18 9am-4:30pm	<i>Dangerous Playgrounds - Drug Awareness and Trends</i> ★	6 hours	Ankeny IFAPA Training Center
Sat., Feb. 18 9am-4:30pm	<i>People of Color: Skin &amp; Hair Care with a Twist</i>	6 hours	Cedar Rapids Coe College
Sat., Feb. 18 1:15pm-5:30pm	<i>CPR &amp; First Aid</i> Payment deadline is Feb. 3rd	4 hours	Sioux City To be announced
Sat., Feb. 25 9am-12:15pm	<i>Snakes, Snails &amp; Puppy Dog Tails... Raising Boys</i>	3 hours	Dubuque Keystone AEA
Sat., Feb. 25 1:30pm-4:45pm	<i>Sugar, Spice &amp; Everything Nice... Raising Girls</i>	3 hours	Dubuque Keystone AEA
Sat., Feb. 25 9am-4:30pm	<i>Responding to Cultural Differences - What's a Parent to Do?</i> ★	6 hours	Sioux City Briar Cliff University
Fri., Mar. 2 8:30am-4:30pm	<i>IFAPA Conference</i> <a href="http://www.ifapa.org/training/ifapa_conference.asp">www.ifapa.org/training/ifapa_conference.asp</a> ★	6 hours	Altoona Adventureland Resort
Sat., Mar. 3 8:30am-4:30pm	<i>IFAPA Conference</i> <a href="http://www.ifapa.org/training/ifapa_conference.asp">www.ifapa.org/training/ifapa_conference.asp</a> ★	6 hours	Altoona Adventureland Resort
Sat., Mar. 10 9am-4:30pm	<i>People of Color: Skin &amp; Hair Care with a Twist</i>	6 hours	Council Bluffs Country Inn & Suites
Sat., Mar. 10 9am-12:15pm	<i>Decoding the Mystery of ADHD</i> ★	3 hours	Davenport Clarion Hotel
Sat., Mar. 10 1:30pm-4:45pm	<i>Worrywarts...Understanding Anxiety Disorders in Children</i> ★	3 hours	Davenport Clarion Hotel
Sat., Mar. 17 9am-12:15pm	<i>Decoding the Mystery of ADHD</i> ★	3 hours	Cedar Falls Clarion Hotel
Sat., Mar. 17 1:30pm-4:45pm	<i>Worrywarts...Understanding Anxiety Disorders in Children</i> ★	3 hours	Cedar Falls Clarion Hotel
Sat., Mar. 24 9am-4:30pm	<i>People of Color: Skin &amp; Hair Care with a Twist</i>	6 hours	Ankeny IFAPA Training Center
Sat., Mar. 24 9am-4:30pm	<i>Dangerous Playgrounds - Drug Awareness and Trends</i> ★	6 hours	Cedar Rapids Coe College
Sat., Mar. 31 1:15pm-5:30pm	<i>CPR &amp; First Aid</i> Payment deadline is Mar. 16	4 hours	Cedar Falls To be announced
Sat., Mar. 31 9am-4:30pm	<i>Dangerous Playgrounds - Drug Awareness and Trends</i> ★	6 hours	Storm Lake Buena Vista University



Starred classes have also been approved for Social Worker CEUs. If you are a social worker and would like to register for a class, please complete the following form and mail in with your payment. [http://www.ifapa.org/pdf\\_docs/CEURegistrationForm.pdf](http://www.ifapa.org/pdf_docs/CEURegistrationForm.pdf)

**MORE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES** - To find out what classes IFAPA will be offering in April and May 2012 (including Mandatory Reporter and CPR and First Aid) visit this link: [http://www.ifapa.org/training/ifapa\\_training\\_schedule.asp](http://www.ifapa.org/training/ifapa_training_schedule.asp)



Adventureland Resort

## IFAPA Spring Conference March 2 & 3, 2012



### Conference Registration Deadlines:

All registrations must be postmarked or dropped off at the office (office hours are 8am-5pm) by Tuesday, February 14, 2012. To register, visit the following link: [www.ifapa.org/training/ifapa\\_conference.asp](http://www.ifapa.org/training/ifapa_conference.asp)

### Adventureland Resort Discounts:

To receive IFAPA's Conference room rate, contact Adventureland Resort by Tuesday, February 14th at 515-265-7321.

## NEW FORT DODGE CLASS!

Saturday, April 14, 2012 (1pm-4pm)

### Sibling Groups...Conquer or be Conquered

- That is the Question!!! (3 hours credit) -

Foster and adoptive parents have learned the importance of keeping siblings groups together whenever possible. "But now what?" How does a family manage the multiple issues, behavior problems, logistics of household management, special needs, and basic survival? Whether you have already fostered or adopted a sibling group or are considering this for the future, this workshop will give you the tools to better advocate for each child and your family. This will be an interactive workshop where parents can share what has worked, what has not, and you will leave with tools that you can implement in your homes. **Trainer: Amanda Friedl**