**Family Enrichment Center** 

July, August, September 2016

## Reminders & Resources

# FEC Highlighter

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Ext. 14 Information Line

Ext. 16 Karen Redd

Ext. 26 Judy Rowland-Smith

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Ext 10 Robert Davis

Ext 19 Ana Sanabria

Ext 20 Chauncey Ellis



What's New -- F.E.C. In the Community

## PLEASE JOIN F.E.C. AT THESE EVENTS FOR LOADS OF FREE FALL FUN WITH A PURPOSE!!







Be sure to stop by the Family Enrichment Center booth at each event!!

## Book Nook...



After her mother is killed by an explosion that also destroys her Vietnam village, four-year-old Kim is alone and afraid. Eventually, she is rescued by soldiers who bring her to an orphanage. Surrounded by the love of the couple who run the orphanage, the companionship of the children who live there, and her mother's promise, "I will always be with you," Kim finds the strength and courage to survive. This picture book for older readers, based on a true story from the Vietnam War, portrays the hope that exists in even the most desperate situations.

Available on Google Play for \$9.99

### **ON-LINE** TRAINING

Below are a few websites where you can access available foster care-giving trainings from reading articles to interactive videos to obtain your hours for re-licensure. Remember, 12 training hours are needed per year, with 1-2 training hours completed each month!

Online Training Resources offer training hours from the comfort of your home with flexible hours....train around your schedule. No need for baby sitters.

Website Resources.

www.centerforchildwel fare.com

http://www.childwelfa re.gov

How YOU Can Help!!

- Help us meet our recruitment goals by joining the Caregiver Activities Committee - attend recruitment events to tell prospective parents about your experience.
- Contact FEC to tape a testimonial to become eligible to be featured on the agency's website. Call Judy Rowland-Smith at x26.
- Go to our updated website at www.fectampa.org and make a donation to be used to support FEC's programs & services.

### WELCOME TO THE FAMILY

Join us in welcoming the following newly licensed foster families:

- **Ruth & Reinaldo Torres**
- Corrie Benfield & Albert "Joe" Pellegrino
- Sara & Joe Quesenberry
- Paul & Shayla Parsons

FEC Partners/Funders



The first name in second chances,<sup>58</sup>

## Important Dates...

### **UPCOMING TRAINING:**

All 4 Kids - Joining Hands & Forces to Stop Child Abuse in Tampa Bay Saturday, October 15th, 11 - 3pm (Community Carnival/Fall Festival/Trunk or Treat/Costume Contest) at Harley-Davidson of Tampa - 6920 N. Dale Mabry Hwy Tampa, FL 33614

FEC In-Service Training Tuesday: TOPIC: "Child Development" Tuesday, October 25th, 2016 at 6:00 pm

"Training Tuesday" Sessions are held at the W.E. Davis Family Support Center - 5407 N. 30th St. Tampa Child care is available on a limited basis due to safety concerns. Please RSVP to your FDS.

FALL FEST - Brandon Mall Saturday, October 29th, 2016 1:00 am to 3:00 pm

**HCFPA Membership Meeting** 

Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016 – 10:00 am HCFPA Meetings are held at the Family Place – 9309 N. Florida Ave. in Tampa near E. Busch Blvd.

FEC in-service: Topic: "Psychotropic Medications"

Saturday, November 12th, 2016 at 12:00 pm

Main Office - 1002 E. Dr. MLKing, Jr. Blvd. in Tampa, FL (Entrance in the rear of the College Hill Conference Center) Sorry, child care is NOT available for this training.

## FEC's Helpful Fostering Tips:

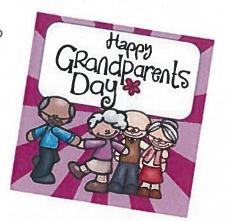
- Mileage submitted for periods exceeding 60 days from date of submission cannot be reimbursed.
- You MUST complete 12 hours of in-service training annually for re-licensing. You must complete at least 3 to 4 hours quarterly. You should complete a combination of classroom and on-line training throughout the year.
- You MUST be fingerprinted every 5 years. Five (5) year and annual background screening results take a minimum of 30 business/working days to return.
- All children 12 to 17 and turning 12 living in your home during the license year must have juvenile clearances completed. Please be sure to advise your FDS when a child in your home turns 12 years old.



## For Relative Caregivers

National Grandparent's Day is a secular holiday celebrated to honor grandparents for their contribution to our lives, and to give grandparents an opportunity to show love for their children's children. This year the day was celebrated on Sunday, September 11, 2016. We appreciate our grandparents and other relative caregivers ....

ALL YEAR 'ROUND!!



## Important Dates...

### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Grandparent/Caregiver Support Group Monday, October 10th, 10:00 am TOPIC: Community Resource Speakers W.E. Davis Family Support Center – 5407 N. 30th St. Tampa

Sorry, Child care is not available for this event



### PHOTO GALLERY



Look for these and other photos on the FEC website at www.fectampa.org



FEC team celebrating July birthdays

## Did You Know...

- \* Cats spend 66% of their life asleep?
- Macadamia nuts are toxic to dogs?
- \* Koalas sleep about 18 hours a day?
- ❖ The average human brain contains around 78% water?
- ❖ You burn more calories eating celery than it contains?
- Your foot has 26 bones in it?



## 7 Ways to Discipline Children in Foster Care

By Amy Morin, LCSW

Updated March 23, 2015

Children in foster care tend to have a variety of special needs that require specific discipline strategies. Abuse, neglect, and trauma can lead to a variety of emotional and behavioral issues. As a result, foster parents need to give careful consideration to behavior management techniques. Regulations prohibit foster parents from using any type of corporal punishment. Children in foster care may have been exposed to domestic violence or physical abuse and it's important for them to feel safe in their foster homes.

Address behavior issues as part of a team effort. When specific behavior problems arise, work with your foster child's guardian, case manager, therapist and other caretakers to identify the best strategies for intervention. Consistency is often the key to helping children in foster care learn the skills they need to manage their behavior. Here are a few general discipline techniques that can be effective for children in foster care:

### 1. Positive Attention and Ignoring

It's important to choose your battles wisely when it comes to addressing issues with a foster child. Focus on the most problematic behaviors first and be willing to <u>ignore less serious behaviors</u> at first – like interrupting or a lack of table manners. Provide plenty of <u>positive attention</u>. Spend one-on-one time together each day to build trust, which is an essential component in any healthy relationship. Have fun together and you'll likely prevent a lot of attention seeking behaviors.

### 2. Praise

<u>Praise is a powerful tool</u> that can reinforce good behavior. Catch your child being good and point out the specific behavior you appreciate. Whether he's playing quietly with blocks, using good manners, or following directions nicely, praising his efforts will give him an incentive to continue.

### 3. Grandma's Rule of Discipline

Grandma's rule of discipline gives children in foster care a sense of having a little bit of control. A sense of control is essential to children who have very little control over most aspects of their lives. Say things like, "When you finish putting your blocks away, you can watch TV." Offer choices and allow your child to earn privileges when he makes healthy choices.

From: www.VeryWell.com

#### 4. Redirection

Use a younger child's short attention span to your advantage. If he's banging his blocks together loudly and you want him to stop, invite him to help you put the dishes away. Similarly, if he's arguing about wanting to go outside, remind him of something you're planning to do tomorrow. Redirection can avoid a lot of power struggles.

### 5. Reward Systems

Reward systems can be very effective with children in foster care. A young child may do well with a <u>sticker chart</u> and an older child could benefit from a <u>token economy system</u>. Invest time in learning what type of rewards would motivate your child and work on establishing a clear plan that will serve as an incentive.

### 6. Time-Out

When negative consequences are necessary, <u>time-out</u> may be an effective choice. It's important to choose the time-out space carefully and it should be discussed with the rest of your child's team. While a time-out chair may be appropriate for some kids, others may do better in a time-out room.

### 7. Removing Privileges

<u>Taking away privileges</u> can also serve as an effective teaching tool. It's important to learn about what types of privileges will be most effective with your child. While taking away TV time may work for some kids, removing a specific toy may be most effective for others.