April, May & June 2017

# Reminders & Resources

# FEC Highlighter

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Family Enrichment Center 1002 E. Dr. Martin Luther King Tampa, FL 33603 813.237.2530 813.231.7196 FAX

#### Foster Care Team

Ext. 13 Michelle Costley Ext. 14 Information Line

Ext. 15 Jonathan Hudson

Ext. 16 Anilcia Garcia

#### Kinship Care Team

Ext 10 Robert Davis Ext 19 Ana Sanabria

Ext 20 Chauncey Ellis

Executive Director
Ext. 26 Judy Rowland-Smith



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

# S.P.L.A.S.H. Summer Camp

Certified teacher instruction by Cultural Exchange Lyfe-style Network, LLC



# "Students experiencing real world learning"

S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math)
Foreign Languages Financial Literacy

Dance Culinary Arts Gardening Music

Spoken Word/Poetry Hip Hop Studio

Register Today!

\$50 per week

June 5th - July 28th 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

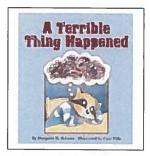
3:30 to 6:00 p.m. (additional fee)

Grades K through 8

At W.E. Davis F.S.C. 5407 N. 30th St. Tampa, FL 33610

CALL (813) 420-7456 to Register

# Book Nook...



# A Terrible Thing Happened By Margaret Holmes

Sherman Smith saw the most terrible thing happen. At first, he tried to forget about it, but something inside him started to bother him. He felt nervous and had bad dreams. Then he met someone who helped him talk about the terrible thing, and made him feel better.

Available on Amazon.com - \$6.97 (used)

### **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



- 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.
- Follow us & LIKE us on Facebook.

## WELCOME TO THE FAMILY

Join us in welcoming our returning and newly licensed foster families:

Bruce & Suzanne Gilley Glenda Jones Kurt & Vicki Malsch

Brenda Hollie

FEC Partners/Funders





# Important Dates...

**PARENT'S NIGHT OUT** Saturday, June 24th from 4:00 to 9:00 p.m. \$20 for the 1st child & \$10 each additional child Ages 3 to 12

### **UPCOMING TRAINING:**

FEC In-Service Training Tuesday: TOPIC: Communication & Partnership Tuesday, June 27h, 2017 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.

**HCFPA Membership Meeting** 

NO MEETING IN JULY, 2017

HCFPA Meetings are held at the Family Place - 9309 N. Florida Ave. in Tampa near E. Busch Blvd.

FEC PRE-service: Topic: "Psychotropic Medications"

Saturday, June 24th, 2017 at NOON

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:

- You MUST call FEC IMMEDIATELY to let us know when children are placed or leave your home.
- 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.
- Mileage and Child Care Reimbursement Requests MUST be submitted by the 5th day of the month. Reimbursements will ONLY be issued for the past 60 davs.
- You and the Transporter MUST call Eckerd Placement immediately when children arrive at your home. The number to call: (813) 210-4276



## For Relative Caregivers

## SHARED RESOURCES

The Family Enrichment Center (FEC) Grandparents Support Group held its monthly meeting, *Monday, May 8, 2017*. Mothers were celebrated with the theme "I Remember Momma in a Special Way". Each participant spent a couple of minutes sharing memorable moments and special thoughts of their own mothers.

The purpose of the support group is to bring caregivers together to discuss issues that are meaningful, productive and meant to reduce a caregiver's feeling of isolation. Group members learn from and share their common concerns. Each month, representatives from the community are invited to share information and resources from caregiver's voiced concerns. The following resources were shared:

- DCF ACCESS Services: Ms. Anjali Pant
- HIPPY (Home Instruction for Parents of Pre-school Youngsters) Ms. Brenda Brinson
- CHIP (Children of Hillsborough Incarcerated Parents) Robert Blount, Abe Brown Ministries
- HOST Program Ms. LaShawn Johnson & Ms. Danielle Murray
- Senior Red Hatters Ms. Richardean Ackbar

# Important Dates...

## **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Grandparent/Caregiver Support Group

Monday, August 14<sup>h</sup>, 2017 at 10:00 am to NOON

W.E. Davis Family Support Center – 5407 N. 30<sup>th</sup> St. Tampa Guest Speakers: TBD

Sorry, Child care is not available for this

THERE ARE NO KINSHIP SUPPORT GROUP
MEETINGS SCHEDULED IN JUNE OR JULY

# Did You Know...

- 1. What is the name of the prehistoric town in which The Flintstones live?
- 2. What do fish use their gills for?
- 3. What type of acid is found in lemons?
- 4. Barbie dolls were first made in which 20th-century decade?
- 5. What does the F stand for in FBI?
- 6. Every time he tells a lie what happens to Pinocchio?
- 7. The Aloha State is what?
- 8. The name of Dr. Seuss's egg-hatching elephant is what?
- 9. American supermarkets introduced what kind of codes in the mid-70s?
- 10. How many carats is pure gold?



Myths & Facts About Foster Care From A Child's Hope International – www.the children are waiting.org

10, 24 Bar codes Нопоп Hawaii Τ. His nose grows longer .6 Federal .6 s,0961 7 Citric acid 3. the water Absorb oxygen from 2. Bedrock **ANSWERS** 

For foster children who never find a permanent home and simply age out of the foster care system, the consequences are significant and long-term.

Only 50% will complete high school25% will be homeless

> 40% will depend on some form of public assistance

27% of males and 10% of females will be incarcerated at least once

## WHAT DOES EMOTIONAL ABUSE LOOK LIKE?

There are six well-known types of emotional abuse.



#### 1. Rejecting

Parents or caregivers who display rejecting behavior toward a child will often [purposefully or unconsciously] let a child know, in a variety of ways, that he or she is unwanted. Putting down a child's worth or belittling their needs are some ways this type of emotional abuse may manifest. Other examples can include

telling a child to leave, or worse, to get out of your face, calling him names or telling the child that he is worthless, making a child the family scapegoat or blaming him for family/sibling problems. Refusing to talk to or hold a young child as he grows can also be considered abusive behavior.

- · harsh criticism, belittling, labeling
- name-calling
- · yelling, screaming or swearing at children
- humiliation or demeaning jokes
- teasing about child's mental capabilities or physical appearance
- refusing love, attention and touch
- · physical or emotional abandonment
- shunning the child from the family altogether
- · kicking teens out of the home
- · locking kids out of the home to discipline or punish

#### 2. Ignoring

Adults who have had few of their emotional needs met are often unable to respond to the needs of their children. They may not show attachment to the child or provide positive nurturing. They may show no interest in the child, or withhold affection or even fail to recognize the child's presence. Many times the parent is physically there but emotionally unavailable. Failing to respond to or consistently interact with your child constitutes emotional and psychological abuse.

- inconsistent or no response to a child's invitations to connect
- failure to attend to an infants physical, social or emotional needs
- refusing to acknowledge a child's interests, activities, schooling, peers, etc.
- abandonment or refusing to acknowledge child as your
  own
- denying medical or health care, and safe, clean environments
- inability or failure to engage a child emotionally or protect a child from harm

#### 3. Terrorizing

Parents who use threats, yelling and cursing are doing serious psychological damage to their children. Singling out one child to criticize and punish or ridiculing her for displaying normal emotions is abusive. Threatening a child with harsh words, physical harm, abandonment or in extreme cases death is unacceptable. Even in jest, causing a child to be terrified by the use of threats and/or intimidating behavior is some of the worst emotional abuse. This includes witnessing, hearing or knowing that violence is taking place in the home.

- excessive teasing, screaming, cursing, raging at a child
- threatening or intimidating behaviors scaring a child or others in front of a child
- unpredictable, unreasonable or extreme reactions
- verbal threats to harm the child, self or others
- hostility among family members
- · inconsistent or unreasonable demands placed on a child
- · ridiculing or humiliating a child in front of others
- threatening to reveal personal or embarrassing information

From Conscious Parenting by Lori Petro

Children and youth who witness family violence experience all six types of emotional abuse.

A 1995 telephone survey suggested that by the time a child was 2

years old, 90% of families had used one or more forms of psychological aggression in the previous 12 months.

#### 4. Isolating

A parent who abuses a child through isolation may not allow the child to engage in appropriate activities with his or



her peers; may keep a baby in his or her room, unexposed to stimulation or may prevent teenagers from participating in extracurricular activities. Requiring a child to stay in his or her room from the time school lets out until the next morning, restricting eating, or forcing a child to isolation or seclusion by keeping her away from family and friends can be destructive and considered emotional abuse depending on the circumstances and severity.

- leaving a child alone or unattended for long periods of time
- not permitting a child to interact with other children or maintain friendships
- keeping a child from appropriate social and emotional stimulation
- requiring a child stay indoors/in their room or away from peers
- keeping a child from playing with friends and activities s/he enjoys
- not permitting a child to participate in social activities, parties or group/family events
- excessive or extreme punishment for typical childhood behaviors
- encouraging a child to reject friends or social contact/invitations

#### 5. Corrupting

Parents who corrupt may permit children to use drugs or alcohol, watch cruel behavior toward animals, watch or look at inappropriate sexual content or to witness or participate in criminal activities such as stealing, assault, prostitution, gambling, etc. Encouraging an underage child to do things that are illegal or harmful is abusive and should be reported.

- encouraging or rewarding unethical or illegal behavior (drugs, stealing, cheating, lying, bullying)
- promoting or rewarding promiscuity
- giving a child or using in the presence of a child: drugs, alcohol and other illegal substances
- allowing or encouraging children to engage in behavior that is harmful to the self or others.

#### 6. Exploiting

Exploitation can be considered manipulation or forced activity without regard for a child's need for development. For instance, repeatedly asking an eight-year-old to be responsible for the family's dinner is inappropriate. Giving a child responsibilities that are greater than a child of that age can handle or using a child for profit is abusive.

- having expectations beyond the developmental stage of the child
- forcing a child to participate in unwanted activities without just cause
- requiring a child to care for a parent or siblings without regard for the child's age or ability
- using blame, shame, judgment or guilt to condemn child for behavior of others (parents/peers/siblings)
- unreasonable expectations to perform chores or household duties
- exposing a child to sexually abusive or inappropriate content



\*FOOD AND FUN INCLUDED