



Families By Choice

Youthville's official newsletter for Resource Parents

Volume 1, Issue 8

April 2007

Youthville Presents: Dr. Wayne Duehn

Do you want help working with children in your home that suffer from sexual issues? We have the training for you.



Youthville is proud to bring in a nationally recognized expert on working with sexually abused children. Wayne Duehn, Ph.D. will be presenting a full day training on May 4th in Wichita and May 5th in Salina. For more information contact your foster care worker or Jennifer Meyer at 316.283.1950, ext.323 or by email jmeyer@youthville.org.



Youthville

Creating Sexual Safety and Promoting Healing in Foster Care and Adoption

PRESENTED BY:
Wayne Duehn

May 4, 2007

8:30 a.m. Registration begins
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
4505 E. 47th St. South
Wichita, KS 67210

May 5, 2007

8:30 a.m. Registration begins
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Rolling Hills Wildlife Adventure
Conference Center
625 N. Hedville Rd
Salina, KS 67401

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QM Connection

*Dear Q,
There is so much paperwork involved with resource parenting! Why is documentation important and how can I improve it's quality?
Signed, Barry D.N. Paperwork

Dear Barry,
Documentation is one of those necessary evils required of all resource parents. **Purpose:** To track information about the foster child's activities, behaviors, and progress while in foster care. The documentation resource parents provide is a historical record of the child's care while in custody and is included in the child's foster care file. **Quality:** Details, details, details. Foster care files can be audited and/or subpoenaed at any time. Be specific and professional in your documentation, especially when it comes to the information included in your Resource Parent Monthly Reports and Medication Logs. It is important that all documentation be accurate, detailed, and turned in to your foster care worker on time.

Youthville

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What would you like to see in the newsletter?
Contact Dusty Buell at 1-800-593-1950, ext. 8162 or through e-mail at dbuell@youthville.org

From the Desk of Shelley Duncan

May is National Foster Care Month and I would first like to say thank you to all of our foster parents for the work they do in caring for Kansas children and their families. Youthville foster parents play a vital role in maintaining a healthy, stable environment for youth in crisis.

Youthville foster parents provide an unmatched commitment for our children. This commitment helps break the cycle of abuse, abandonment, and neglect for generations to come. Because of you, we get the opportunity to see great successes, like when a Youthville child walked across the stage at his high school graduation, becoming the first member in his family to receive a diploma, or when another child opens a letter and learns she earned a scholarship to go to college. Your commitment is helping provide children with a new outlook on life. These milestones help you realize that it truly is worth the time and energy it takes to be a foster parent. For us, these milestones are why we come to work each day. This further proves that together we are making a difference in the lives of children everyday.

Youthville is able to further our mission of *Giving Children Back Their Childhood* only through the hard work and dedication of our foster parents. Foster parents give of themselves in a most selfless and admirable way. We know that the work you do often goes unnoticed on a day to day basis. Because of that, we want to help honor foster parents who have been with Youthville for a significant amount of time and are still helping our children everyday. A capacity fund was established to cover various fostering related needs for our foster parents. Our Board of Directors approved this specially designated fund, and now, for the first time we are able to provide additional funding to our foster parents for special circumstances. For example, if a foster parent needs help with a repair in their home, we will be able to provide that, and if a foster parent needs to purchase something above and beyond for their foster child, we will be able to cover that as well. Of course, there will be guidelines and criteria that we will use to determine who will qualify for these funds, and we are hopeful that we can continue and even grow this fund in the future.

In closing, I would like to mention that Youthville's annual Foster Parent Appreciation events around the state are fast approaching. On the next page you will find a complete list of scheduled activities in your area. I would encourage all of our foster parents to come out and enjoy the day. You deserve it!

Sincerely,



Shelley Duncan

Foster Parent Appreciation Calendar of Events

Pratt - Thursday, May 3rd 6:00p.m. - 8:00p.m.; dinner at the church

Wichita - Saturday, May 5th 10a.m. - 12:30p.m.; check in at the Sedgwick County Zoo, lunch at 12:00pm

Garden City / Liberal - Saturday, May 5th 12p.m. - 2p.m.; Lee Richardson Zoo/Finnup Park Shelter #5, Garden City picnic lunch

Dodge City - Saturday, May 12th, 11:30a.m.-1:30p.m.; Wright Park, Dodge City picnic lunch

Concordia (North Central area) - Saturday, May 12th, 11:30a.m. - 2:00p.m.; Concordia City Park, West 11th, barbeque picnic

Olathe/KC (North East area) - *tentative date Saturday, May 12th; afternoon at the Arboretum

Hutchinson/Newton - Saturday, May 12th 11:00a.m. - 1:00p.m.; Cosmosphere, lunch, movie, and admission provided

Hays (North West area) - Sunday, June 10th 4:30p.m. - sundown; Frontier Park & Hays Water Park for dinner, dancing, and swimming

For more information about events occurring in your area, contact your foster care staff.

10 Tips for Foster Parents To Help Foster Youth Avoid Teen Pregnancy

1. Build a relationship based on trust and compassion.
2. Talk to your foster children often about sex, and be specific.
3. Spend quality time with your foster child.
4. Supervise and monitor your foster children and adolescents.
5. Know your foster children's friends and their families.
6. Know what your foster kids are watching, reading, and listening to.
7. Don't forget the boys- Talk to your foster sons and your foster daughters. Avoid the double standard.
8. Discourage dating at an early age. Watch out for age differences in relationships.
9. Encourage your foster child to become involved in positive activities such as sports, arts, community service, faith-based activities, or other after-school programs.
10. Help your foster teens to have options for the future that are more attractive than early pregnancy and parenthood.

For more information about each of the 10 Tips visit:
<http://www.teenpregnancy.org/fostercare/>

*Taken from The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy

Training Calendar for April - June

Date	Title	Time	Location
APRIL			
4/9/07	Building On Strengths	6:30-8:00p	Wichita-Kin
4/9/07	PS MAPP Update	6:00-10:00p	Colby
4/9/07	Working With SED Children	6:30-8:30p	Olathe
4/10/07	The Angry Child	6:30-8:00p	Newton
4/10/07	Listening Tour	6:30-8:30p	Garden City
4/12/07	Preventing & Managing Aggressive Behaviors	6:30-8:30p	Liberal
4/14/07	Equine Learning & Therapy	9:30-11:30a	Dodge City
4/16/07	Dealing With Challenging Teens 2	6:30-8:00p	Wichita-FC
4/17/07	Listening Tour	7:00-9:00p	Hays
4/20/07	Foster Care Affair	9:00a-4:00p	Wichita
4/21/07	Foster Care Affair	9:00a-12:00p	Wichita
4/21/07	PS-MAPP Update	8:00a-12:00p	Cimarron
4/21/07	PS-MAPP Update	1:00-5:00p	Newton
4/24/07	Listening Tour	6:30-8:00p	Hutchinson
4/26/07	Partnering With Schools	7:00-9:00p	Pratt
4/27/07	Managing Aggressive Behaviors (MAB)-Day 1	6:00-9:30p	Concordia
4/28/07	MAB- Day 2	9:00a-4:00p	Concordia
MAY			
5/4/07	Creating Sexual Safety	9:00a-4:00p	Wichita
5/5/07	Creating Sexual Safety	9:00a-4:00p	Salina
5/8/07	Reactive Attachment Disorder	6:30-8:30p	Garden City
5/10/07	Reactive Attachment Disorder	6:30-8:30p	Liberal
5/14/07	Building On Strengths	7:00-9:00p	Colby
5/19/07	PS-MAPP Update	1:00-5:00p	Concordia
JUNE			
6/2/07	Managing Aggressive Behaviors (MAB)-Day 1	9:00a-4:00p	Garden City
6/4/07	From Foster To Adopt	6:30-8:30p	Concordia
6/9/07	MAB-Day 2	9:00a-4:00p	Garden City
6/11/07	From Foster To Adopt	6:30-8:00p	Wichita-Kin
6/12/07	Sibling Relations	6:30-8:00p	Newton
6/18/07	Preventing & Managing Aggressive Behaviors	6:30-8:00p	Wichita-FC
6/21/07	Fetal Alcohol Syndrome	6:30-8:00p	Wellington
6/28/07	Sibling Relations	6:30-8:00p	Hutchinson
6/28/07	Adolescent Chemical Dependency	7:00-9:00p	Pratt



Don't forget that all licensed resource homes need to have completed the PS-MAPP update by July 1, 2007. Many homes have taken this course over the past year, yet there are still a few that need to meet this requirement. Youthville will be offering classes in selected areas March-June. The update is also available on-line through Children's Alliance. This is a free, self-paced course. Please be in communication with your worker about how you intend to complete the update. For the many homes that have already completed this, please make sure you turn in the certificate to your worker.