



Geauga County Job & Family Services Foster/Adoptive/Kinship Newsletter



Phone: 440-285-9141 or 1-800-209-7590
Email: info@geaugajfs.org

Our hearts go out to all of those who have been affected by the school shooting in Chardon.

If you are in need of resources or support, please do not hesitate to call us at 440-285-9141.



“Women Supporting Women” Educational Grant

Bainbridge Women’s Club serves the women in Geauga County. They will be presenting a \$1075.00 grant to a female resident of Geauga County who has been, or would like to start working toward a college degree, GED, certification class, or other educational program that will help the recipient and her family reach lifestyle goals and financial independence.

Only 15 applications will be made available. Contact Sara Shininger at 440-285-1263 for more information or to obtain an application. Applications must be received by March 31st, 2012.



Save The Date

We appreciate your dedication in helping the families we work with and would like you to join us for a reception to kick off **Child Abuse Prevention month**. Wednesday, April 11th at 11:30 at GCJFS. Light refreshments will be served. Please RSVP by Friday, April 6th to Danette Richards 440-285-1288 RICHAD@odjfs.state.oh.us

April 11th is “**Wear Blue to Work**” day so wear blue to the reception to show your support for families that have been touched by child abuse and individuals that work with abused or neglected children.

Third annual Child Abuse Prevention 5k race and fun walk April 28th 9:00 a.m. Punderson State Park. Registration forms can be found online at www.geaugajfs.org. Call Mark Clark at 440-285-9141 for more information.

Foster Parents. Are you in need of training hours? Would you like to get a lot of hours in a few short days? You are in luck! The **Fourth Annual Foster Parent Spring Conference** is coming May 10-12, 2012 to Summit County Education Center. For more information please see all the details under the training section and sign up now!

Peaceful Parenting is a three-part Parenting class for parents of children ages 0-11. Learn strategies for everyday parenting dilemmas. Tuesdays March 27th, April 3rd and 10th. OSU Extension, 470 Center street, Building 6. The cost is \$25per person with pre-paid registration or \$30 at the door. To register Call OSU Extension, Geauga at (440) 834-4656.



Spring Cleaning?

Geauga County Job and Family Services accepts donations of beds, appliances, and furniture to assist families in the county who are in need. Families in emergent need due to domestic violence or natural disaster, such as a fire or flood, take priority.

All donated items must be in new or nearly new condition. Arrangements can be made for pick up of certain items.

Please contact Sara Shiningier at 440-285-9141, ext. 1263 for more information.

Geauga County Job & Family Services

Woman Safe - The Green House

If you have ever been in a verbally, emotionally, sexually or physically abusive relationship there is HOPE.

WomenSafe HOPE support group is a 10 week gathering of individuals with a shared connection...and a willingness to share experiences...all with the HOPE to initiate healing and empowerment to change their situations.

The next 10-week session begins Tuesday, March 27, 2012 at 7:00pm. This is an hour and a half meeting dedicated to YOU. Free childcare is provided.

The HOPE support group is FREE! All that is required is an individual assessment prior to joining. Please call WomenSafe at 440-286-7154

Open Your Heart to a Child

"Every child needs a home." this child in need?
"Open your heart to a child."

These are phrases we often use for children who are in need of a home when their family is in crisis.

Think of a child who is scared and unsure of where they are going. Could your family open your home and your hearts to

Children need a nurturing family that can provide them with stability and consistency while their own family resolves their issues.

Consider becoming a foster/adopt family for those who need your support.

There will be an information meeting on Wednesday, April 18, 2012, at 6:00 pm, at the Geauga County Job and Family Services Building at 12480 Ravenwood Dr., Chardon. Please **RSVP by April 10, 2012** if you plan on attending. Ask for a Permanency Planning Worker at 1-440-285-9141.

Recipes

Sautéed Irish Cabbage with Noodles

Servings: 6

Ingredients:

4 oz egg noodles
½ pound bacon, chopped
10 cups cabbage shredded
1 medium onion chopped
Salt & Pepper

Directions:

1. Cook noodles in salted boiling water. Drain, set aside
2. Sauté bacon in a skillet and set aside.
3. In the same skillet with the bacon drippings, add onion and sauté until tender. Add cabbage and sauté until warmed through.
4. Now add the bacon and noodles, tossing to heat through. Season with salt and pepper.



Banana Split Ice-Cream Sandwiches

Servings: 18 sandwiches

Ingredients:

2 T butter or margarine
1 pint (2 cups) strawberry ice cream, softened
36 marshmallows (8 oz)
1 medium banana, very thinly sliced
6 cups Chocolate puff cereal

Directions:

1. Line Jelly roll pan, 15 ½ X 10 ½ X 1 inch, with aluminum foil. Spray foil with cooking spray.
2. Place butter in large microwavable bowl. Microwave uncovered on High about 30 seconds or until melted. Stir in marshmallows. Microwave on High 1-3 minutes, stir every 30 seconds, until marshmallows are melted and smooth. Stir in cereal. Spoon mixture into pan; spread evenly and firmly. Freeze 15 minutes.
3. Turn pan upside down onto cutting board; remove foil. Cut into 18 squares. Spoon ¼ cup of ice cream onto 9 of the squares; spread lightly. Place 4 banana slices on each. Top with remaining squares; press slightly. Freeze about 45 minutes or until firm.
4. Cut each sandwich crosswise in half, wrap in waxed paper and



March 2012

Child Spotlight of the Month—Jeffrey DOB 9-7-1993



We would like to recommend Jeffrey as someone you may want to meet. Jeffrey has been described as friendly, outgoing, helpful and happy. He likes sports and plans on participating in basketball, baseball and softball through Special Olympics. He likes the Pittsburgh Steelers and St. Louis Cardinals. Jeffrey likes animals, helping people and shooting hoops. He

also enjoys golfing and learning new skills.

As many teenagers he will eat almost anything, well except for

olives and mushrooms! So as long as you do not put olives and mushrooms on his part of the pizza, sounds like he would fit in well with many families.

Jeffery gets along well with most kids his age. He is working at Good Will in hopes of gaining experience in the work force. In school he is doing well. Jeffrey has been diagnosed with Borderline Developmental Disability and is on an IEP. He may be eligible to remain in school until he is 22 to continue learning Independent Living skills in order to be self-sufficient. Jeff is learning many independent living skills that he will be able to use in the future. He has his own checking account and is beginning to take more responsibility for himself

While Jeff is looking for a family, he wants to maintain contact with his birth family. Jeffrey would like to remain in his current foster home as he has been there for over a year. During this past year Jeffrey has made huge improvements socially and therapeutically. He has matured and is very polite and respectful. Jeffrey would be a great asset to any family. How about yours? Contact Rebecca Calabrese 440-285-1265.

Trust-Based Relational Intervention Training

Being a foster parent requires special training to cope with the challenges that children may have. Many have been abused or neglected by their birth family or caretakers. Foster families provide a safe and caring environment until they can return home.

Trust Based Relational Intervention is a family relation-based intervention designed for children who have experienced traumas such as maltreatment, neglect, multiple separations, and institutionalization. TBRI training is being brought to Geauga county in April for

parents, caretakers and professionals. Training emphasizes three intervention principles: Empowering, Connecting, and Correcting. The goal is to educate those working with at-risk children to provide simple and effective ways to help build trust, form attachments, and reach their full potential. The foundation of the TBRI approach is to provide the opportunity for playful engagement and safe interaction. The use of value scripts, role plays, and redo's are prevalent as well as conveying the importance of appropriate nutrition and stabilized

blood sugar to provide the greatest opportunity for success.

Training will be held Saturday, April 21st at Metzenbaum Center 8200 Cedar Road. Training is free and child care will be available.

For information please call 440-285-9141.



Help Support the Geauga JFS Foster/Adoptive/Kinship Newsletter

Please take a moment to help support the Geauga JFS Foster/ Adoptive/Kinship Newsletter. You can opt to receive your issues of our monthly newsletter via e-mail and help us keep costs down.

Simply send your email address to Kathi Serafino, LSW at serafk@odjfs.state.oh.us or Dawn Bates at batesd@odjfs.state.oh.us



Training Reminders

Even if you are not currently a certified foster or adoptive family with us, you are still welcome to attend our trainings. All we ask is that you call to register.

Please remember that if there are less than 5 people signed up for training, a week prior to the training, the training will be cancelled.

To register for training you can call the county directly, call the Foster Parent Training Line at 1-866-294-3787 or contact [Julie Hayden](mailto:Julie.Hayden@geauga.ohio.gov), at 330-379-1976.

Want to know what trainings are being held by other counties? Visit the Northeast Regional Training Center website at <http://www.ocwtp.com/neortc.htm>



This year we are going to give you some things that make you say hmmm. . .

1. How do you know when you've run out of invisible ink?
2. When I erase a word with a pencil, where does it go?
3. If a picture is worth a thousand words, what is a picture of a thousand words worth?
4. If a word in the dictionary were misspelled, how would we know?
5. Why do they put Braille dots on the keypad of the drive-up ATM?
6. What do sheep count when they can't get to sleep?
7. When we say our mind wanders - where does it go?
8. Where did Webster look up the definitions when he wrote the dictionary?
9. Are you telling the truth if you lie in bed?

Rainy Day Activity

Cereal Rainbow

Supplies:

Fruit flavored Circle cereal
Paper Plates
Glue Cereal

Directions:

Cut the paper plate in half so you have a half circle.
Separate the cereal by color. Follow the curve of the paper plate and glue the cereal on it to form a rainbow. Let the glue dry.



Geauga County Job & Family Services On-Going Training Schedule

- Tuesday, March 6, 2012: Dealing With The Impact Of Early Sexual Trauma
Trainer: David Zidar Time: 6-9pm
- Wednesday, April 4, 2012: Suicide Risk Among Children and Adolescents: Recognition and Intervention
Trainer: Ruth Simera Time: 6-9pm
- Thursday, April 26, 2012: Psychotropic Medications: Questions to Ask. The Who, What, How, When and Why of Kids on Meds.
Trainer: Stacy Simera Time: 6-9pm
- Tuesday, May 8, 2012: Working with Birth Parents: Making it a Positive for Everyone
Trainer: Sherry Doherty Time: 6-9pm
- Saturday, May 19, 2012: Managing the Hurt: When Your Foster Child Leaves
Trainer: Kathy Lowery Time: 6-9pm
- Tuesday, May 22, 2012: Standing in the Gap: Becoming an Advocate for Your Foster/Adopted Child
Trainer: Regina Kupecki Time: 6-9pm
- Tuesday, June 5, 2012: Mood Disorders Among Children and Adolescents: Recognition and Intervention
Trainer: Stacy Simera Time 6-9pm
- Saturday, June 9, 2012: A Special Child: Recognizing and Responding to Special Needs in Infants and Toddlers
Trainer: Katie Terry Time: 9am -4pm
- Saturday, June 16, 2012: Foster Families and How They Grow: Understanding the effects of Fostering
Trainer: Ronna Johnson Time: 9am -4pm
- Tuesday, June 19, 2012: Pro-Social Skills
Trainer: Dave Zidar Time: 6-9pm

Pre-Service Schedule

Pre-Service will be held starting February 25, 2012 on Saturdays through March 31, 2012.

Lake County Job & Family Services On-Going Training Schedule 440-350-4218 or 440-918-4218

- Tuesday, March 6, 2012: From Bullying To Befriending: Helping Youth Change The Culture Of Bullying
Trainer: Anthony President Time: 6-9 pm
- Thursday, March 22, 2012: Discipline Your Children Without Punishing Yourself
Trainer: Beth Philley Time: 6-9 pm
- Wednesday, April 11, 2012: "Ignorance Is Not Bliss!" Teen Sexuality – Choices And Challenges
Trainer: Roma Johnson Time: 6-9pm
- Saturday, April 14, 2012: Experiencing The Frustration Of The Learning Disabled Child
Trainer: Pam Himes Time: 9am-4pm
- Thursday, April 19, 2012: Helping Children With Mentally Ill Parents
Trainer: Sue Tucker Time: 6-9pm
- Tuesday, April 24, 2012: Life Books: The Gift That Keeps Giving
Trainer: Beth Cardina Time: 6-9pm
- Thursday, May 3, 2012: Opening The Door To Independent Living, Part 1 – Overview
Trainer: Kathleen Lowery Time: 6-9pm
- Tuesday, May 15, 2012: Suicide Risk Among Children And Adolescents: Recognition And Intervention
Trainer: Ruth Simera Time: 6-9pm
- Tuesday, June 5, 2012: Working With Birth Parents: Making It A Positive For Everyone
Trainer: Sherry Doherty Time: 6-9pm
- Tuesday, June 19, 2012: Working With Aggressive Children
Trainer: Madeleine Rybicki Time 6-9pm
- Thursday, June 21, 2012: Anxiety Disorders Among Children And Adolescents: Recognition And Intervention
Trainer: Stacey Simera Time: 6-9pm

Ashtabula County Children's Services Board On-Going Training Schedule 440-998-1811

Thursday, March 15, 2012: Substance Use and Abuse Among Children And Teens: Prevention, Recognition and Intervention
Trainer: Stacy Simera Time: 6-9 pm

~~Thursday, March 22, 2012:~~ **Rescheduled for Tuesday, March 27, 2012:** Beauty And The Beast: Providing Trauma Sensitive Care To Children
Trainer: Kathleen Terry Time: 6-9 pm

Thursday, April 19, 2012: Anxiety Disorders Among Children and Adolescents: Recognition and Intervention
Trainer: Stacy Simera Time: 6-9pm

Saturday, April 21, 2012: Baby, Sister And Me: A Plea To Keep Siblings Connected
Trainer: Anthony President Time: 9am-4pm

Monday, April 23, 2012: The Impact of Adoption On Birth Children in The Adoptive Home
Trainer: Ann Bagley Time: 6-9pm

Tuesday, May 15, 2012: Talk, Talk, Talk: What's Too Much? Issues of Confidentiality
Trainer: Pam Reid Time: 6-9pm

Thursday, May 24, 2012: Taking Back The Night: Protecting Young Women From Sexual Assault
Trainer: Beth Philley Time: 6-9pm

Thursday, June 7, 2012: Working With Aggressive Children
Trainer: Sr. Madeleine Rybicki Time: 6-9pm

Monday, June 11, 2012: Helping Children of Mentally Ill Parents
Trainer: David Zidar Time: 6-9pm

Monday, June 25, 2012: Caring For Children Who Have Experienced Trauma – Module I And II: Trauma 101
Trainer: David Zidar Time: 6-9 pm

Pre Service Training Schedule

Pre-Service will be held starting March 1, 2011 on Thursdays through May 2011.

Spring Foster Parent Conference May 10-12, 2011 Summit County Children Services Education Center Building Akron, OH 44306

Thursday, May 10, 2012: Healing ADD in Children and Adults
Trainer: John Ward Time: 9am – 4pm

Thursday, May 10, 2012: Substance Abuse, Chemical Dependency and Kids
Trainer: Brian Lowery Time: 9am – 12pm

Thursday, May, 10, 2012: Don't Talk . . Don't Trust . . Don't Feel: Growing Up With an Addicted Parent
Trainer: Brian Lowery Time 1-4pm

Thursday, May 10, 2012: Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA): Understanding The Role of The Guardian Ad Litem in Child Welfare
Trainer: Beth Cardina Time: 6-9pm

Friday, May 11, 2012: Difficult Conversations: Why Do I Have To Live With You And Not My Mom?
Trainer: Gene Smiley Time: 9am-4pm

Friday, May 11, 2012: Introduction to E-Track
Trainer: Jodie Hembree, Julie Hayden Time: 9am – 12pm

Friday, May 11, 2012: "Leaders of Tomorrow" Youth Panel
Trainer: Michelle Dufore Time: 1-4pm

Friday, May 11, 2012: Sufficient Time To Regroup and Mend: Preventing Placement Disruption in Foster Care
Trainer: Gene Smiley Time: 6-9pm

Friday, May 11, 2012: Effective Dealing With Children Issues in Visitation
Trainer: Susan Tucker Time: 6-9pm

Saturday, May 12, 2012: "Do" Able Discipline
Trainer: Jim Still-Pepper Time: 9am-4pm

Saturday, May 12, 2012: Compassion Fatigue For Foster Parents Caregivers: A Short Course
Trainer: Patty Harrelson Time 9 am-4pm