

# News You Can Use

From the Foster and Adoptive Care Coalition

Fall 2008

## Illinois Edition



### FosterServe Program

FACC FosterCare program matches potential volunteers with mentoring or tutoring opportunities.

Foster/adoptive parents make great KidStore volunteers. Become a regular once-a-month volunteer at the KidStore and get **half off** KidStore clothing for your kids.

For more information, prospective volunteers may contact Shelley Thomas-Benke, Director of FosterServe at 800.FOSTER.3 (800.367.8373), or via e-mail at: shelleythomasbenke@foster-adopt.org.

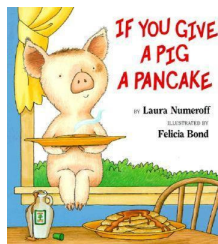
### CH&A Services

Difficulties (attachment problems, behavioral problems, family adjustment challenges, adolescent identity concerns, mental health issues and school problems) can arise any time after an adoption takes place.

**Children's Home and Aid (CH&A)** provides services to adoptive families who are experiencing adoption-related difficulties. Services can include in-home and office based assessments, and counseling. All therapists have a Master's degree and receive ongoing training in adoption related issues, including attachment work.

The following counties are served by CH&A: Bond, Clinton, Jersey, Madison, Monroe, Randolph, St. Clair, Washington, and portions of Calhoun and Macoupin. Services are funded by the Illinois Department of Children Services.

Persons in need of services or interested in further information can call Jan Gann at 618.452.8900 x147.



### FREE Night at the Theatre

Each year, FACC celebrates Adoption Awareness Month by offering foster/adopt/relative families a night at the theatre. The one-hour children's theatre production is always a hit with children of all ages.

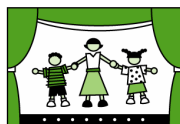
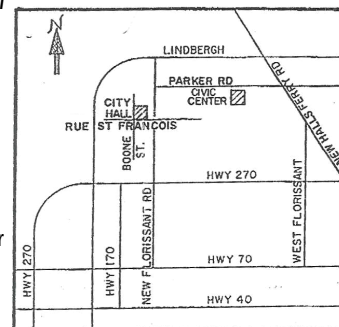
The **9th Annual Family Ties** event will take place **November 29th, 2008** at 6:30p.m. This year's production is a children's favorite, "**Give a Pig a Pancake and Other Stories**," based on book by Laura J. Numeroff.

*Make sure to bring your cameras, as costume-characters will arrive at 6:00p.m. to meet your entire family!*

*To reserve your tickets, call FACC at 800.FOSTER.3.*

### Directions to Florissant Civic Center Theatre

- Take Hwy 270 to New Florissant Road
- Travel north on New Florissant Road
- Turn right on Parker, and follow one-mile to the James J. Eagan Center (formerly the Florissant Civic Center)



### FREE FAMILY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES

**FAMILY TIES**

This coupon will admit \_\_\_\_\_ to the performance of "Give a Pig a Pancake" on **Saturday, November 29th**. Exchange this coupon for tickets at the box office the night of the event. **This is a sold out event... please arrive early to ensure ticket availability.**



### Upcoming Foster Parent In-Service Training

DCFS Office of Training has many opportunities coming up for you to receive your in-service training hours. You can also view the training schedule via their website: [http://www.state.il.us/DCFS/library/com\\_communications\\_train.shtml](http://www.state.il.us/DCFS/library/com_communications_train.shtml).

Click on "Foster caregiver in-service training" and "Class description for foster caregiver in-service training" for details regarding upcoming classes. To register, call DCFS Office of Training at 877.800.3393. If you have any additional questions about in-service training, please contact your licensing representative.

- **December 6 / 9:00 a.m. - 1:00p.m. / Saturday**  
**Child Trauma** (4hrs), Southwestern IL College, 2500 Carlyle Ave., Room MB05, Belleville, IL 62221
- **December 13 / 9:00 a.m. - 4:00p.m. / Saturday**  
**Module 7: Promoting Children's Personal & Cultural Identity** (6hrs), Southwestern IL College, 2500 Carlyle Ave., Room MB05, Belleville, IL 62221



314.FOSTER.3 • 800.FOSTER.3

[www.foster-adopt.org](http://www.foster-adopt.org)



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111 N. Seventh Street, Suite 402  
St. Louis, MO 63101

800.FOSTER.3 • fax: 314.241.0715  
www.foster-adopt.org

For Every Child... a Place to Call Home

### MISSION STATEMENT

The Foster and Adoptive Care Coalition is a not-for-profit agency which strives to create permanency in every foster child's life by recruiting and supporting foster/adoptive homes in the St. Louis metropolitan community.

### Tom Kircher

Co-Director of Illinois Recruitment  
tomkircher@foster-adopt.org

### Jan Joeckel

Co-Director of Illinois Recruitment  
janjoeckel@foster-adopt.org

### KidStore Happenings

The KidStore is a resale shop open exclusively to foster/adopt, relative/kin caregivers, caseworkers and GALs/CASAs.

### September Special:

**Bag Sale:** 3rd - \$2.50, 6th - \$2.50,  
13th - \$2.00, 17th - \$2.00, 20th -  
\$1.50, 27th - \$1.00

**Hours: 1st and 3rd Wednesday;  
All Saturdays**

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

**Located 10 Min. from Poplar St.**

**Bridge Directions:** From Illinois, cross the Poplar Street Bridge. Take the 2nd exit to I-55/I-44. Take I-44 West to Grand, Exit 288. Take the exit, then turn left on Grand and travel south. Take the first right onto Shaw. Turn left on 39th, left on Flora, and left on Spring. It is located at 2109 South Spring, on the second floor of Tyler Presbyterian Church. Our entrance and parking are at the back of the church.

### Holiday Little Wishes Deadline is October 15th!

Thanks to **KSDK-TV** and thousands of generous donors, children in foster care will receive special Holiday gifts. Children are eligible if they live in Metro St. Louis and are currently in the foster care system, or were in foster care, and now live with their adoptive or guardianship family.

*The fastest, easiest, and most fun way to request gifts for your children is to log onto:*  
**www.foster-adopt.org/littlewishes/holiday**

Before you log on, make sure that you have your **FACC Caregiver ID**, which can be found above your address on the outside of this newsletter. **The deadline is Oct. 15th.** Don't have access to a computer? No problem! Fill out the enclosed forms and return it to our office by **Oct. 15th.**

A couple of things to know:

- 1) gifts will be shipped to your home and **cannot be shipped to a PO Box**
- 2) name of **current case manager** or subsidy worker must be provided, and **WILL be verified**

How many gifts can your child request? Each child that qualifies for Holiday Little Wishes may choose a **total of two (2) gifts from the white pages** of the enclosed catalog. Please fill in the item numbers for the child's first choice and second choice (only **ONE** of these may be a gift card). Children ages five and older who are **CURRENTLY IN FOSTER CARE** may also choose one (1) wish from the yellow page.

How many gifts will your child receive? That depends upon how many donors grant the wishes. **All efforts will be made to fulfill at least one (1) request per child.** One last thing to know: **children currently in foster care always receive priority.** We will contact you by mail when your children's gifts have been fulfilled. For more information, please contact Barbara Kane at 800.FOSTER.3 x26, or email [barbarakane@foster-adopt.org](mailto:barbarakane@foster-adopt.org).

### FACC Training Extravaganza October 18, 2008: 7.5 Training Hours **THEME: Cultural Connections**

FACC will host their last Training Extravaganza of the year on **Saturday, October 18th, from 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.** The Extravaganza allows foster/adoptive/relative caregivers to receive 7.5 in-service training hours in one day, and allows you to bring the kids. Space is limited to 200 adults and 100 children. Because childcare fills up in the first few days, we use a lottery method to process registration. Download a registration form at [www.foster-adopt.org](http://www.foster-adopt.org). In addition to registering with FACC, you **MUST** also register with the **DCFS Office of Training** by calling **877.800.3393**.

#### PLEASE PRINT

	Child's First Name	Age
Date: _____	_____	_____
Name: _____	_____	_____
Name: _____	_____	_____
Address: _____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
Zip code: _____	_____	_____
Day Phone #: _____	_____	_____
Home #: _____	_____	_____
E-Mail Address: _____	_____	_____

**REGISTRATION CLOSES Oct. 1st**  Yes, I am still able to attend if childcare is unavailable.

In order for you and your child(ren) to participate, you must agree to attend all workshops, complete the registration form, return it, and receive verification from FACC that you are registered. All families who register will be **notified by mail.**

**Send registration form to:** FACC, ATTN: Training Extravaganza, 111 North Seventh Street, Suite 402, St. Louis, MO 63101, or fax to: 314.241.0715.

Please call 800.FOSTER.3, if you need to cancel your registration. No phone registrations accepted.