



KFAPA News

National Adoption Day 2009

Volume 2, Issue 2

October 2009

In November 2000, National Adoption Day was launched as the National Adoption Day Coalition worked with law firms, state foster care agencies, child agencies, child advocates and courts to complete hundreds of foster care adoptions in nine jurisdictions nationwide (New York City; Los Angeles; Chicago; Dallas; El Paso; Fort Worth; Washington, D.C.; Omaha, Nebraska and Columbus, Ohio).

As this grassroots effort took hold across the United States, the number of events grew quickly, from 17 in 2001, to 120 in 2003, and to 300 events in 2006 in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

Today National Adoption Day is celebrated nationwide as hundreds events are held each year throughout the country to finalize the adoptions of children in foster care, and to celebrate all families who adopt. In total, more than 25,000 children have been adopted from foster care on National Adoption Day during the last 10 years.

To see the scheduled celebrations in your area go to www.nationaladoptionday.org/2009/events/index.asp and click on Kansas!!

Congratulations to all of our families who are celebrating this year's National Adoption Day. Thank you for stepping up and making a difference in the life of a child. KFAPA celebrates you everyday!!

For more information and access to free adoption resources please check out www.davethomasfoundation.org.



Home, Home, Take Me Home

(To the Tune of Home On The Range)

Oh give me a home
One where I can belong
And be loved and accepted as me
With a family that cares
And openly shares
Then I know just how happy I'll be.

CHORUS: Home, home, take me home

To a place where I can belong
And be peaceful and free
Take a change please on me
Then I know just how happy I'll be.

Oh give me a home
Where I won't feel alone
I'll have parents and things that are mine
Where the only thing heard
Are encouraging words
I can't wait for a life that's so fine.

CHORUS: Home, home, take me home

To a place where I can belong
And be peaceful and free
Take a chance please on me
Then I know just how happy I'll be.

Lyrics by Sandra Hiller



Meet the Board

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KFAPA Board Meeting Schedule

December 19, 2009

(teleconferencing will be available)

see www.KFAPA.org for more information or to view

2009
**Governor's
Conference**
for the Prevention of
Child Abuse
& Neglect



No one knows kids better than the Kansas Children's Service League. For more than 100 years, they've provided a continuum of programs and services, advocated for children, and collaborated with public and private agencies to impact the lives of more than 40,000 children and families each year. KCSL is dedicated to providing services and advocacy efforts that focus on keeping children safe, families strong, and communities involved.

The Governor's Conference for the Prevention of Child Abuse & Neglect is hosted by KCSL and attended by hundreds of families and professionals every year. The 3-day conference offers workshops and educational sessions on a variety of subjects; Immigration, Autism, Safety for the Home Visitor, In-Home Therapy, Keeping Kids Safe Online, Animal Assisted Therapy, Kinship, Father's and Daughters, are just a few of the subjects that will be explored.

The conference is a wonderful opportunity to network with other families and professionals as well as gain a wealth of knowledge on subjects relevant to your family's needs.



KFAPA is a 501 c 3 approved organization.

KFAPA Marches in the McPherson County Fair Parade

The Kansas Foster & Adoptive Parent Association participated in the McPherson County Fair Parade in July 2009. Displaying our banner, we marched the parade route with adopted animals Misti the goat and Clancy the Goldendoodle. Thanks to the CPAs and Children's Alliance for donating PR materials that we distributed to parade watchers along the route.



We were surprised when we learned at the end of the parade that we had won some prizes as well: Clancy and his handler won a small cash prize for their age group, and Misti and her handler also won a small cash prize. Our entry also won first place for organizational floats with a small cash prize. It was a fun and easy way to raise awareness about foster care and adoption. It was one of the hotter days we had this past summer, as you can see from how tired and thirsty Misti and Lancy were at the end of the parade.



The Invisible Killer

What is carbon monoxide? Carbon Monoxide, or CO, is an odorless, colorless gas that can cause sudden illness and death. It is produced by burning fuel. Therefore any fuel-burning appliance in your home is a potential CO source.

Where is CO found? CO is found in combustion fumes, such as those produced by cars and trucks, small gasoline engines, stoves, lanterns, burning charcoal and wood, gas ranges and heating systems.

What are the symptoms of CO poisoning? Common symptoms are headache, dizziness, weakness, nausea, vomiting, chest pain, and confusion. High levels of CO inhalation can cause loss of consciousness and death.

How can I prevent CO poisoning from my home appliances?

- Have your heating system, water heater and any other gas, oil, or coal burning appliances checked by a qualified technician every year.
- Do not use portable flameless chemical heaters indoors. Although these heaters don't have a flame, they burn gas and can cause CO to build up.
- Install a battery-operated CO detector in your home and check or replace the battery annually.
- Never burn anything in a stove or fireplace that isn't vented.
- Have your chimney checked or cleaned every year.

Where Should I Place a Carbon Monoxide Detector?

Because carbon monoxide is slightly lighter than air and also because it may be found with warm, rising air, detectors should be placed on a wall about 5 feet above the floor. The detector may be placed on the ceiling. DO NOT place the detector right next to or over a fireplace or flame-producing appliance. Keep the detector out of the way of pets and children. Each floor needs a separate detector.

Be aware that the average life span of a detector is about **2 years**. The "test" feature on a detector checks the functioning of the alarm and not the status of the detector. Also, they are designed to protect healthy adults, so take the ages and health of family members into account when assessing the effectiveness of a detector.



First Chance Scholarship



Through a partnership between the University of Phoenix and the National Foster Parent Association, NFPA will be providing 50 full tuition scholarships redeemable at any University of Phoenix campus for youth in foster care affiliated with NFPA.

Recipients may choose any campus they want to attend, including the online campus. The program will be administered by the NFPA under the First Chance Scholarship umbrella.

For a First Chance Scholarship Application visit www.NFPAonline.org

Links to Check Out

www.flu.gov

Prevent the spread of influenza and H1N1

www.nfpaonline.org

National Foster Parent Association website

www.KFAPA.org

Kansas Foster & Adoptive Parent Association website

www.kfapataalk.blogspot.com

Our newly developed blog site provides educational and informative postings . Take a look!

www.usa.safekids.org

Does your child know the sound of the smoke alarm?

Adoption Sites

www.adoptuskids.org

www.nacac.org

www.baprc.org

www.adoptioninformation.com

www.adoptioncouncil.org

www.aspiranet.org



Is it a Cold, or is it the Flu?

Source: FluSTAR.com

Do you know the difference between a
COLD and the **FLU**??

Cold - A viral infection of the nose and throat.

Symptom: coughing and sore throat.

Flu - A more severe viral infection.

Symptom: sudden onset of fever, cough, chills, and aches and pains.

Symptoms

Cold

Flu

Symptoms	Cold	Flu
Tiredness/Weakness	Very Mild	Can Last 2 to 3 Weeks
Fever	Rare	High > 101 °F, 3-4 days
Chest Discomfort	Mild to Moderate	Common
Stuffy Nose	Common	Sometimes
Aches and Pains	Slight	Usual, Often Severe
Headache	Rare	Prominent
Sneezing	Usual	Sometimes
Extreme Exhaustion	Never	Early and Prominent
Sore Throat	Common	Sometimes
Cough	Hacking can become severe	Non-productive



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