



Resource Family Reader



For: Relatives, Foster Parents, Adoptive Parents, Legal Guardians, Extended Family Members, Foster Family Agencies, Group Homes, & Small Family Homes.

Volume 5,
Issue 1

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month

April, 2010



"Mecca's Day of the Child Resource Fair"

FREE

Wednesday, April 28, 2010

2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Mecca Family Service Center & Community Health Clinic Courtyard 91-275 66th Ave., Mecca, Ca 92254

**For more information please contact
Maria G. Machuca-Site Coordinator**

Mecca Family & Farm worker's Service Center

Tel: 760-863-7860

Email: mamachuc@riversidedpss.org

Give-a-ways
Arts & Crafts
Contests

FREE

Face Painting
Music & Dance
Balloons

FREE

Games
Gifts & Prizes
Information



**To report suspected Child Abuse
please call 1-800-442-4918**

Autism Awareness

Coachella Valley Autism Society of America
P.O. Box 3605
Palm Desert, CA 92260
(760) 779-0012

www.info@coachellavalleyautism.org
www.autismspeaks.org



Inland Empire Autism Society of America (IEASA)

2276 Griffin Way Ste. 105-194
Corona, CA 92879
(909) 204-4142 x339

www.ieautism.org

San Diego County Autism Society

P.O. Box 420908
San Diego, CA 92124
(619) 298-1981
www.sd-autism.org

Always
Unique
Totally
Interesting
Sometimes
Mysterious

Visit or link to the Bilingual Autism Resource Guide at
www.asdatoz.com/autismResourceGuide.html

Source: www.autismsocietyca.org or www.info@autism-society-ca.org

Autism Society of California
P.O. Box 1355,
Glendora, CA 91740
1-800-869-7069



The Heart Gallery—Afternoon Tea

Share love, share family, Adopt a child...

It was standing room only for the 5th Annual Heart Gallery Tea on February 23rd. This year 52 children were featured, 65 Social workers were in attendance and over 85 families walked through this moving portrait exhibit. Twelve families left interest cards inquiring about 39 children and six children are in potential matches. Many other families took information about adoption and the children to ponder. Susan Lowe spoke about this program's 80% success rate of finding permanent homes for the children of Riverside County during the past five years. Each year the program has grown and it now includes a limited number of DVDs of some of our children playing and talking about why having a family is important to them.

The Heart Gallery travels around the county to community events last year's travels took it to 36 venues. Be sure to check out the website to see our children @ www.heartgalleryriverside.org

“Planting Rainbows of Resources”



The Rubidoux Community Resource Center in collaboration with the Rubidoux Advisory Board will be hosting “Planting Rainbows of Resources”

Community Fair on Wednesday, May 12th

from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

at the Rubidoux Community Resource Center located at 5473 Mission Blvd., Riverside.

We will have over 50 organizations providing valuable resource information, children activities, and giveaways. For more information please call (951) 328-1575.



Dear Editor:



Q: I have been invited to a Team Decision Making Meeting. Is it necessary for me to attend? What can I contribute?

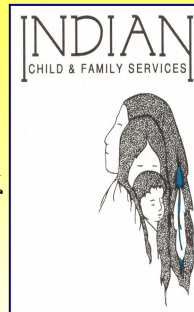
A: Team Decision Making Meetings, or TDM's, are part of the Department's Family to Family Initiative, and designed to make family, friends, and caregivers a part of the decision making process, specifically in regards to placement. A caregivers' participation in this meeting is invaluable. First, you probably know more about the current condition of the child (ren) in your care than anyone else at the table. And we ask you to attend the meetings to share this perspective. Second, you might have information to share in terms of what the child (ren) have expressed to you about their wants and needs. Third, a TDM meeting is an opportunity for you to meet the child's biological parents and relatives, to ask them questions, and to find out a little more about the children in your care.

What we know is that children experience greater stability and well being in care when their caregivers and all interested parties aid in the Department's decision making. TDM's are the way to do that.

Do you have a question you want answered? Or a helpful article that we can feature in our next newsletter? Fax it to (951) 358-7297.

Or mail it to: Editor Family Resource Reader
10281 Kidd St, 2nd floor, Riverside, CA 92503.

“Uma Nemingkim” All My Relations



Hundreds of abused and neglected American Indian children are in need of homes. Open your heart, help restore the circle.

Make a difference in the life of an American Indian child.

To find out more call Indian Child and Family Services Tribal Consortium at 1-800-969-4237 ext. 24

May is Care Giver Appreciation Month!!

We can't thank you enough for all the love, time and support you share each day to the children in your care. Thank you for being a mentor and role model to children and families.

We appreciate you all.

Kinship Warm Line 1-800-303-0001

Support services for relative caregivers & children.

2010 Training For Caregivers



Riverside Community College's Foster and Kinship Care Education Program' provides on-going continuing education classes and workshops for Resource Families. These classes are accepted as fulfillment of the annual requirements from the state and county for maintaining licensure.

The program offers classes throughout the county – sites in Banning, Corona/Norco, Lake Elsinore, Moreno Valley, Palm Springs, Rancho Mirage, Riverside and Temecula/Murrieta. Most areas have classes in the morning and in the evening at least once a month. Classes in Spanish are offered monthly in four locations – Banning, Norco, Hemet, and Moreno Valley.

The February to June 2010 brochure is available and can also be downloaded from www.rcc.edu ; go to Student Services, then to Workforce Preparation, in the purple menu on the right. Click on Foster and Kinship Care Education. At the bottom of the page, is a link to access the brochure.

For more information on classes, or to receive a copy of the schedule of classes, please call the Director of the FKCE program, Penny Davis, at (951) 222-8937, or email to penny.davis@rcc.edu.