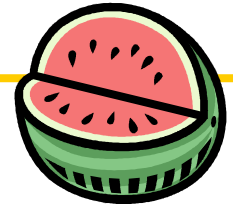


Foster Parent Times

Newsletter Date
July 2008



Indiana Care Select New Medicaid Program for Foster Children

Care Select is a new management program created by the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration. ADVANTAGE Health Solutions, Inc and MDwise, Inc. are the two Care Management Organizations (CMOs) that will be providing Care Select. Beginning July 1, 2008, foster children will begin to be enrolled into the Care Select program. If a child is enrolled before October 1, 2008, the foster parent, Department or Child Services case worker, or other person responsible for the child will have the ability to enroll the child into the CMO the child's primary care physician is participating. On October 1, 2008, foster children not already enrolled into Care Select will be auto assigned a primary care physician. This could mean a disruption in services as the child could be assigned a new doctor or doctor further from the foster home.

For questions or to obtain further information, please call the Indiana Care Select Help Line at 1-866-963-7383. Help Line hours are Monday to Friday from 8:00am to 7:00pm and Saturdays from 8:00am to 1:00pm. A brochure regarding this new Medicaid program is enclosed in the newsletter. As always, if you have any questions, please contact your Bethany foster care caseworker.

Inside this issue:

Family Fun Activities	2
Family Fun Activities	3
Training	4

Welcome Vicki Browning
Therapeutic Foster Care
Supervisor!

Please join Bethany in welcoming Vicki Browning as our new foster care supervisor. Vicki is native Hoosier. She worked in Birmingham, Alabama at a homeless shelter for 3 years, before moving back to Indiana. She has also worked as a social worker for Reid Hospital in Richmond, Indiana and as the director of a group home in Indianapolis.

Vicki resides in Indianapolis with her husband.

Vicki may be accompanying Lanna and Lisa on various home visits to learn more about our foster families and children in care.

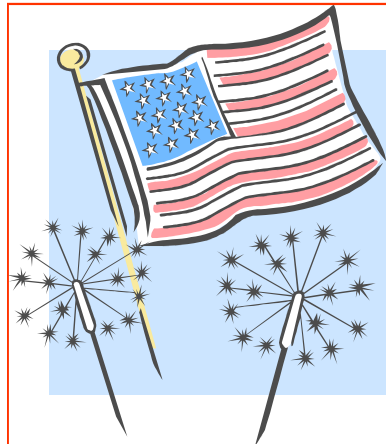
Please extend a warm welcome to Vicki. She will be a great asset in helping our ever growing foster care program!



Family Fun Activities

Connor Prairie Glorious Forth July 4th- 6th

Celebrate Independence Day with flair! From historic baseball to patriotic games and crafts, we have a colorful Fourth for the entire family. Warm up with watermelon seed-spitting or dive face first into the pie eating contest. In the true spirit of the holiday, help us honor our country with the presentation of the flag and recognition of war veterans. Visit Conner Prairie's website for more information, www.connerprairie.org



Regions Bank Freedom Blast

July 4, 2008

Indy's largest fireworks display, starting at dark and synchronized to patriotic music.

July 4th- Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social
President Benjamin Harrison Home
1230 N. Delaware Street.
11:30am to 3:30pm



Cold ice cream on a hot day is always inviting, especially when it is the Fourth of July! Enactors and live music will fill the President Benjamin Harrison Home with summertime sounds, music and memories. Silly Safaris, Victorian puppet show (Punch and Judy), Caricaturist, Juggler, Magician, Thomas Jefferson re-enactor, Indianapolis Fire Dept. (with fire truck), Croquet, and a variety of Victorian games will be available on our spacious south lawn. Special activities will include a scavenger hunt for children and a re-enactment of President Harrison's July 4, 1888, acceptance speech (which he gave from his Delaware Street home) to be the nominee for President of the United States. Residence to Indiana's only U.S. President, the Harrison Home is an ideal location to celebrate the Fourth of July. A wonderful idea for those who want to enjoy a spirited yet relaxed atmosphere before the fireworks. Visit www.pbhh.org for more information.



Bring a picnic and enjoy the outdoor amphitheater at White River State Park

White River State Park

Family Arts Series

Visit www.in.gov/whiteriver for more information on fun and free performances at the Celebration Amphitheater at the White River State Park. Upcoming performances include Dance Kaleid-scope, Shakespeare on the Canal, Asante Children's Theater, and The Indianapolis Opera.

Animals and All That Jazz... at The Indianapolis Zoo.... July 31, 2008

The Zoo grounds will be filled with music from some of the areas hottest jazz musicians as concerts take place at Café on the Commons in the middle of the Zoo and allow for plenty of seating at the picnic tables or guests can bring their own chairs. Should bad weather interrupt, the concert will be moved under the big top of the Party Pavilion.

Animals and All That Jazz is a fun-filled, laid back event where guests of all ages can enjoy the animals, great music, Zoo mascots, small animal greets and additional food offerings. The concerts are free for members and included with regular Zoo admission.

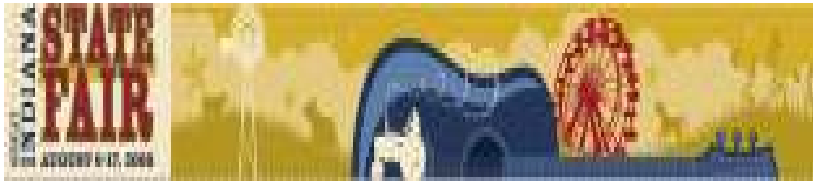
ANIMATION

Step into the amazing world of animation



**At the
Children's
Museum now
until January 4,
2009**

What child hasn't spent hours after school or on Saturday mornings watching their favorite cartoons? What adult doesn't have fond memories of watching them? In Animation, a new exhibit from the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry in collaboration with Cartoon Network, children and adults can explore the art, math, science and technology of animation from concept to finished product. Familiar characters from "Dexter's Laboratory," "Foster's Home for Imaginary Friends" and other favorites will illustrate the process.



General Fair Hours:

Sunday-Thursday 6:00am-11:00pm

Friday 6:00am-12 Midnight

Saturdays 6:00am-12:30am.

Gate Admission: \$8, children 5 and under are free

Parking is free when available.

Over 750,000 people visit the Indiana State Fair each year for family fun, rides and games, barnyard animals and fabulous fair food.

September 24, 2008– Indianapolis
Artsgarden/Visitor Center

The Chocolate Fest features Indy's top chefs presenting their most artistic desserts to raise money in support of arts education programs in Indiana schools. It also includes some of the areas best chocolatiers and chocolate companies.

Admission to the Artsgarden is free, but you need a ticket to sample the desserts. Each ticket is good for ONE dessert.

Visit www.yaindy.org/chocolatefest.html for more information.

Ringling Bros. Barnum & Bailey Circus

Come see amazing animals, from alpacas to zebras. See Over the Top, a wacky circus spectacular where dogs fly, elephants stomp, hop and grove, amazing aerial acts with double-decker trapeze and Chinese acrobats propelling through the air. Show dates are Thursday September 4th to Sunday, September 7th. Ticket prices vary. Visit www.ringling.com for more information.



Upcoming Training

July 8-August 7, 2008. Foster Care Pre-service Training. If you know of anyone that is interested in fostering and would make a great foster parent, please inform them of our next training session. The classes take place every Tuesday and Thursday from 6:00-9:00pm.

In Service Training Opportunities

Monday, July 14, 2008

Conversation Peace: Talking with Children & Others About Adoption. Facilitated by Patty Jewell. 6:00-8:00pm

Participants will learn age appropriate strategies for addressing questions and issues

at various developmental stages, as well as skills to respond to insensitive inquiries or comments from others.

Wednesday, August 6, 2008

The Adoption Circle: Panel Discussion with Birth & Adoptive Parents. Facilitated by Irene Evans. 6:00-8:00pm

Saturday, August 23, 2008

Ask the Doctor: An Adoption Medicine Primer with Riley Staff
**Special Time 10am-12pm

Topics will include medical & developmental issues common to post-institutionalized children, recommended screenings & evaluations and the post-adoption resources available to your child.

Monday, September 15, 2008

What Transracially Adopted Children Need from Their Parents. Facilitated by Tara Vander-Woude
This course helps participants gain the insight and tools to initiate and maintain an ongoing dialogue with their children about race, as well as identify the diversity in their lives, and assimilate culture and heritage.



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Foster Parenting....The toughest job you'll ever love!