

## FINANCIAL AID & FOSTER YOUTH

According to the John Burton Foundation, most current and former foster youth cannot afford to put themselves through college and have no one to help contribute to their education. Accessing financial aid gives youth an opportunity for a better educational outcome.

## **TYPES OF AID** State programs Federal programs College/university programs **Scholarships IMPORTANT DATES** 12 This is the most impor-tant deadline date for Cal Grants. Be sure to submit the FAFSA and verified Cal Grant G.P.A. by the March 2 application deadline. If attending a California commu-2 nity college in the fall and missed the March 2 deadline, submit the application by September 2. A limited number of awards are available for those applying in the fall, so be sure to meet the March 2



deadline.

## RECENT CHANGES

Although the FAFSA/Dream Act and Chafee applications were available earlier than previous years, October 1, the priority deadline still remains March 2.

## THE PROCESS

Complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid): www.fafsa.gov

If an undocumented, an AB540 or DACA student, complete the Dream Act: www.dream.csac.ca.gov

Complete File Verification: provide college with the "Foster Youth Verification" letter from the county. Students may obtain a letter by contacting the ILP social worker of the day at (714) 704-8000. Letters are provided by the jurisdiction county. For example, LA dependents must contact LA County's ILP.

NOTE: Foster youth are considered "Independent Students" if they meet the following criteria: "orphan or ward/ dependent of the court or foster care at least one day after age 13."

## RESOURCES



For more details, visit www.fosteryouthhelp.ca.gov/PDFs/ FINANCIALAIDRESOURCES.pdf



For eligibility questions, call (714) 704-8000 and ask to speak to the assigned social worker or the social worker of the day in ILP.





## Immunizations and Preteens

By Mubula Naku, M.P.H.

Health Educator, Orange County Health Care Agency

Preteen Vaccine Week (PVW) is a statewide campaign celebrated yearly during the second week in February. In 2017, it will be February 8th through the 12th. PVW promotes the importance of immunizations and highlights preteen doctor visits as the opportunity to receive vaccines that protect teenagers from serious but preventable diseases.

Getting preteens immunized on time is one of the best ways to keep them healthy. Since 1994, PVW has served as a call to action for parents, caregivers and healthcare providers to ensure that preteens and teens are fully immunized against vaccine-preventable diseases. This year's theme, "HPV is Cancer Prevention", highlights how important the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine is for preteens and teens.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend the following for preteens and teens in consultation with their primary care providers:

- All kids should get the flu vaccine every year, with three other vaccines starting from 11 to 12 years old.
- Older teens should be reminded by health care providers about the shots they have missed.
- Teens may also need a booster of a vaccine that needs more than one dose.

Overall, immunizations can help protect your kids as well as their friends, community and other family members around them, such as grandparents and babies who are too young to be immunized. Did you know that as boys and girls get older they are at significant risk for some infections? As a result of the increased risk, routine office visits like appointments for camping or sports physicals provide opportunities to ask the doctor, nurse, pharmacist, or clinic about shots kids need that include the following:

### TDAP

Tdap vaccine is a booster against tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis. Pertussis, or whooping cough, can keep kids out of school and activities for weeks. It can also be spread to babies, which can be especially dangerous.

### FLU

Flu (influenza) is much more serious than the common cold. Even healthy, young people can get the flu and its effects can be serious. Children with chronic conditions like asthma or diabetes are especially at risk for pneumonia or even death. Due to the significance of potential health risks, the flu vaccine is recommended every year.

#### MENINGOCOCCAL

Meningococcal vaccine protects against meningococcal disease that's caused by certain bacteria that can spread to others during close or lengthy contact. Meningococcal disease is also the leading cause of bacterial meningitis (a serious infection surrounding the brain and spinal cord). Coughing, sneezing, kissing and sharing drinks are all ways the bacteria can be spread.

#### HPV

HPV vaccine protects girls and women against the types of Human Papillomavirus (HPV) that most commonly cause cervical cancer. The HPV vaccine can also help protect boys against genital warts and anal cancer.

Don't wait to vaccinate. Older children and adults who are vaccinated can help protect children who are too young to be fully immunized. For more information about immunization and HPV, please visit the Health Care Agency's website for (free and low cost immunization) assistance by clicking resources.



## Because They're Worth It Birthday Celebration

On October 8, 2016, twenty of our children in care were treated to a special party in honor of their birthdays during the fall. Courtnay Brown, founder of Because They're Worth It, and her volunteers created an amazing day filled with games, food, presents, and a guest appearance by Spiderman. Lunch was catered and gifted by The Flaming Taco Cart and the owner, Edward Rodriguez, is a county employee with the Public Works agency. This party marks the fifth one in the past two years and more parties are planned for the upcoming year. Thank you Courtnay, Edward and friends for your dedication to children in out-of-home care.



## OPEN ARMS ADOPTION RESOURCE GROUP FOUNDATIONS, FRIENDSHIP AND FOREVER FAMILIES

Meets the 2nd Saturday of the month at

Keller Williams Realty 17822 E. 17th St., Suite 102 Tustin 92780

9 a.m. to noon

Open Arms provides an opportunity to be together with others in a caring and understanding environment. Get straight answers to questions from people who have been there and learn creative and caring problem solving techniques.

\*Adults only, please!

To register or for questions, please e-mail Guiselle Scott at gmquiel@hotmail.com or call (714) 599-4473

> Facilitated by Darren & Guiselle Scott County resource parents

# Foster Care Auxiliary

By Kathy Harvey

he Foster Care Auxiliary always strives to offer the most in providing services, trainings, events, and products to our focus members with foster and adopted children. We have services and programs that have been listed here before and which you can get more information by visiting our web site, but I would like to highlight our two newest programs, which gives even more reasons for joining our membership.

#### Mentoring Fundays and Academic Mentor Tutoring for Qualified Youth in Member Families

Do you have a foster or adopted child between the ages of 6 and 17? We have our Mentoring Fundays program where your kids get to enjoy a day of FREE, supervised fun while you get to relax. We also have our Mentoring Tutor program where we match your student with a tutor to come to your home and work with the child on a weekly basis.

For information on how to become a member and start receiving these and other services and to request a membership form, please visit www.FosterCareAux.com or call (714) 778-3383.



## Foster & Kinship Care Education

he Foster and Kinship Care Education program at Saddleback College provides quality education and

support opportunities to caregivers of children in out-of-home care. The free classes are designed to assist the caregivers in meeting the children's educational, emotional, behavioral, and developmental needs.

In order for foster parents to meet their annual eight hours of training, monthly classes are offered throughout Orange County. To view classes, visit www.saddleback.edu/hs/fkce or call (949) 582-4884 to request a class catalog and to register for classes.



@OCLetsFoster

4.



# **L younglife**. Impacting Hearts

Young Life Impacting Hearts youth clubs are PARTIES with a PURPOSE. Get ready for a night of wild and fun games, delicious food and an inspirational message. We provide dinner, so come hungry! There's also door prizes, raffles and giveaways.

#### WHEN: Every Thursday at 7 p.m. WHERE: Sarang Church, Building E 1990 E. Crescent Ave., Anaheim 92801

For questions and more information, please contact Shane Panther, Area Director, at (502) 644-9510 or e-mail Shane at Shwp1291@yahoo.com.

## SAVE THE DATES

## **Super Saturday Trainings**

The RFA Training and Recruitment Team will provide three Super Saturday trainings in 2017. The trainings are typically held from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and offers all resource families the opportunity to obtain valuable training and support. Receive credit towards the required, on-going training hours.



Training topics and more specific information will be announced as it gets closer to the training dates. Hope to see you there!



Foster and Community Youth Services

Orangewood Foundation offers Children's Trust Fund (CTF) Dependent Grants of up to \$250 per fiscal year (July 1 through June 30) per child for current Orange County foster youth ages 0 to 18. The grants are designed to support qualifying expenses such as:

- Camperships
- Yearbooks
- School pictures
- Prom/formal dances
- Graduation expenses
- Extracurricular activities (school/sports)
- Bicycle for work/school
- Up to an additional \$300 may be available for driving school

For CTF Dependent Grant guidelines, instructions and application, visit www.orangewood4you.org/childrens-trustfund/. For additional information, contact Mike McKenzie, program supervisor, at (714) 619-0212 or mmckenzie@orangewoodfoundation.org.



# Knowledge at your fingertips

Training you need when and where you need it.



Quality Parenting Initiative California Just in Time Training

Just in Time is a free web based program designed by QPI California to connect resource and kinship caregivers with training all from the comfort of their homes or offices. For Orange County Children and Family Services, four hours can be taken on this website and counted for credit. Watch a video, take and pass the test at the end of the module and print the training certificate in order to receive credit. Be sure to select a training module that includes a test at the end. Visit www.qpicalifornia.org.



happy holidays 2017

Wishing you the joy of family, the gift of friends and the best of everything in the New Year.

### Resource Family Approval Recruitment & Iraining Ieam



## Education Travel Reimbursement

Keeping children's connections alive and strong.

oster children have the right to remain in the school in which they were last enrolled for the duration of the involvement of the Juvenile Court. This promotes educational continuity and is in the best interest of the children, including non minor dependents.

Reimbursement is provided to resource parents for transporting foster children to their school of origin over three miles each way. If the child has an individualized education plan (IEP) that specifies the district will provide transportation to school, the child is not eligible for the education travel reimbursement.

Resource parents are expected to transport the children to school activities such as sports or social events, as well as attending any required school meetings or conferences. Reimbursement is on a monthly basis and the distance is calculated utilizing Map-Quest.

The child's assigned social worker needs to submit a request for reimbursement (School of Origin Transportation Expense Form) to the child's assigned Eligibility Technician. Flat rates are paid based on the distance from the placement to the school of origin.

## Quality Parenting Initiative Peer Mentor for Investigations

By Carole Pei, Resource Parent

ight years ago, I received an allegation involving my care of a foster child. Over the last eight years, to anyone that would listen, I brought up the need for support for resource familes (aka foster and kinship parents) who have received an allegation that was investigated. My plea was heard! The State of California QPI has initated a peer mentor program to help resource parents. If you receive a complaint investigation and you would like support, please contact me at (714) 642-3948 or e-mail carolepei@hotmail.com. You are not alone.

## vew California Car Seat Law Changes

**EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2017** 



2017, children under 2-years old must be rearfacing unless they weigh 40 pounds or more, or are 40 inches tall or more.

Children must be properly buckled in a car seat which is rear-facing until age 2

## CURRENT LAW

Children under age 8 must be buckled into a car seat or booster in the back seat.

Children age 8 or older, or who are 4'9" or taller, may use the vehicle seat belt if it fits properly with the lap belt low on the hips, touching the upper thighs, and the shoulder belt crossing the center of the chest. If children are not tall enough for proper belt fit, they must ride in a booster or car seat.

Everyone in the car must be properly buckled up.

## FINES & PENALTIES

For each child under 16 who is not properly secured, parents (if in the car) or drivers can be fined more than \$500 and get a point on their driving records.

## Keep your children safe. It's the law!















For answers to your child safety seat questions, contact your local health department or visit cdph.ca.gov/vosp.

## Most children will outgrow an infant seat before age 1

The next step is a convertible car seat.

- Rear-facing is 5 times safer than forward-facing.
- The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that children ride rear-facing to the highest weight or height allowed by the car seat manufacturer.

## Kaitlyn's Law

It's against California law to leave a child under the age of seven alone in the car without the supervision of a person at least 12 years old if:

- 1. The keys are in the ignition or the car is running, or
- 2. There is a significant risk to the child.

amilies and Communities Together, also known as FaCT, is a network of 15 Family Resource Centers (FRC) located throughout Orange County's highest-risk communities providing essential family support services, education and resources.

#### **Family Resource Centers:**

Each FRC is a family-friendly, community-based site that provides access to comprehensive prevention and treatment oriented social, educational and health services for all families, including birth, blended, kinship, adoptive and foster families. FRCs serve as vehicles for engaging local residents and community organizations in the identification and resolution of community concerns related to raising healthy children. Every FRC is unique to its community; services are offered by multicultural and multilingual staff that reflect the surrounding neighborhoods and the families they serve.

#### **Services Provided:**

(Services are offered at all FaCT funded FRCs)

- Counseling
- Parenting Education
- Family Support Services
- Domestic Violence Personal Empowerment
  Program
- Information & Referral Services
- Comprehensive Case Management Team Services
- Out of School Time Youth Programs
- Family Reunification Fun Activities
- Adoption & Promotion Services

#### Additional FRC Services:

(Services vary across FaCT funded FRCs)

- Family Health & Wellness Family Economics & Self-
- Sufficiency
- Child Development Activities
- Emergency Assistance
- Family Literacy and Education
- Application Assistance
- Legal Assistance

### Locations:

Anaheim Harbor Family Resource Center 819 S. Harbor Blvd. Anaheim, CA 92805 Phone: (714) 399-0590 Fax: (714) 399-0595

El Modena Family Resource Center 18672 East Center St. Orange, CA 92869 Phone: (714) 532-3595 Fax: (714) 532-3593 Community Health Enrichment Collaborative (CHEC) 27412 Calle Arroyo San Juan Capistrano 92675 Phone: (949) 489-7742 Fax: (949) 489-7748

Family Oasis 131 W. Midway Dr. Anaheim 92805 Phone: (714) 517-7107 Fax: (714) 956-1990 Corbin Family Resource Center 2215 W. McFadden Ave. Suite G Santa Ana, CA 92704 Phone: (714) 480-3737 ext. 0 Fax: (714) 543-4947

Friendly Center Orange Family Resource Center 147 W. Rose Ave. Orange, CA 92967 Phone: (714) 771-5300 Fax: (714) 771-7627 Costa Mesa 307 Placentia Ave. Suite 209 Newport Beach 92663 Phone: (949) 764-8100 Fax: (949) 764-4543

Friendly Center Placentia 900 S. Melrose St. Placentia 92870 Phone: (714) 769-8660 Fax: (714) 632-3851

#### La Habra

Family Resource Center 301 W. Las Lomas Dr. La Habra, CA 90631 Phone: (714) 447-3460 Fax: (714) 447-3753

South Orange County Family Resource Center 23832 Rockfield, Ste. 270 Lake Forest, CA 92630 Phone: (949) 364-0500 Fax: (949) 364-0575

#### Magnolia Park Family Resource Center 11402 Magnolia St. Garden Grove, CA 92841 Phone: (714) 530-7413 Fax: (714) 530-7908

Stanton Family Resource Center 11800 Santa Paula St. Stanton, CA 90868 Phone: (714) 379-0129 Fax: (714) 379-0139

#### Minnie Street

Family Resource Center 1300 E. McFadden Ave. Santa Ana, CA 92705 Phone: (714) 972-5775 Fax: (714) 972-5781

Westminster Family Resource Center 7200 Plaza St. Westminster, CA 92683 Phone: (714) 903-1331 Fax: (714) 903-1881

#### Oak View Family Resource Center 17261 Oak Lane Huntington Beach, CA 92647 Phone: (714) 842-4002 ext. 0 Fax: (714) 842-4184

## Directory

FOSTER CARE INFORMATION LINE (888) 871-KIDS (5437)

CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES RECEPTION (714) 704-8000 (714) 935-7171 (emergencies & after hours)

ADMINISTRATION Mike Ryan Social Services Director

Nathan Nishimoto Interim Children & Family Services Director

Anne Bloxom CFS Deputy Director

Joanne Munro CFS Deputy Director

Ken Santini CFS Deputy Director

Christine Smith Snapper CFS Deputy Director

#### **RESOURCE FAMILY APPROVAL & SERVICES PROGRAM**

Norean Lubchenko, Administrative Manager II Victor Chavez, Administrative Manager I Susan Collins-Rogers, Administrative Manager I Sylvia Cordova, Administrative Manager I Marlene Telegadas, Administrative Manager I

#### **RECRUITMENT & TRAINING**

Angela Santos, Senior Social Services Supervisor (714) 704-8952

\*\*Lianne Vu, Social Services Supervisor (714) 746-8433

Rick Bazant, Community Program Specialist (714) 944-6473

Roylyn Burton, Community Program Specialist (714) 746-2778

\*Nena Casis, Recruiter/Trainer (714) 833-0179

\*Elizabeth Hutchison-Cervantes, Recruiter/Trainer (714) 704-8911 Geeta Karir, Recruiter/Trainer (714) 697-6098

\*Yazmin Leal, Staff Specialist (714) 704-8828

Helen Lindsey, Recruiter/Trainer (714) 704-8997

\*Lorena Rodriguez, Information Hotline 1-888-871-5437

Diemmy Tran, Recruiter/Trainer (714) 380-8361

\*Angelica Zikoor, Recruiter/Trainer (714) 746-7762

## FOSTER & KINSHIP CARE LIAISON

\*Joanna Hussey (714) 704-TALK (8255)

#### LICENSING

Brent Payne, Supervisor (714) 704-8887

Stephanie Aspgren, Analyst (714) 746-6038

\*Paul Sanchez, Analyst (714) 697-2895

FOSTER CARE ELIGIBILITY Becky Lawrence (714) 704-8866

Manuel Roa (714) 704-8441

BIRTHDAY GIFTS FOR FOSTER CHILDREN (714) 679-2438 Call for an appointment

TRANSITIONAL PLANNING SERVICES PROGRAM Jaime Muñoz, Administrative Manager II

\*Lourdes Chavez, Supervisor (714) 704-8058

\*Mayola Miranda, Supervisor (714) 940-3965

### TREATMENT FOSTER CARE OREGON,

ORANGE COUNTY Dr. Mary Eason, Program Supervisor (714) 704-8238 Terry Maher, Program Supervisor (714) 704-4122

Michelle Medina, Recruiter/Trainer (714) 746-1774

Denise Odom, Recruiter/Trainer (714) 697-8914

#### SPECIAL MEDICAL PROGRAM

Karen Werno, Placement Coordinator (714) 704-8533

Mary Ewart, Medical Intake Coordinator (714) 704-8531

Cindy Hutchison, Medial Intake Coordinator (714) 704-8531

TIME OUT FOR PARENTS (TOPS) New Alternatives, Inc. (714) 245-0045

WORKING CAREGIVER CHILDCARE \*Karen Pinkerton (714) 704-6145

FOSTER & KINSHIP CARE EDUCATION Saddleback College (949) 582-4884

FOSTER CARE ADVISORY BOARD Sallie Miller (714) 848-2558 Karen Templeton (714) 556-5250

#### CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUPS

Fountain Valley Sallie Miller (714) 848-2558

Single Parents (Male/Female) Cynthia Bradbury (714) 843-6835

Orange/Spanish Support \*Joanna Hussey (714) 704-8255

ORGANIZATIONS California Children's Services (CCS) (714) 347-0300 CalOPTIMA Cydney Weber, Liaison (714) 796-6132 Member Services (714) 246-8500 Claims Department (714) 246-8885

Child Health & Disability Program (CHDP) (800) 564-8448

Denti-Cal (800) 322-6384

Foster Care Auxiliary of Orange County Kathy Harvey (714) 778-3383 www.fostercareaux.com

Kinship Center (714) 957-1004

Olive Crest Kinship Support Program (657) 622-4094

Orange County Mental Health (714) 834-5015

Orangewood Foundation Linda Levshin, Director Youth Transition Services (714) 619-0239

Vision Services Plan (800) 877-7195

\*Spanish Speaking \*\*Vietnamese Speaking

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