

AUGUST 30, 2016



WAITING CHILD SPOTLIGHT

WILL YOU CHEER FOR NOAH?

Noah is a funny, outgoing, friendly young man looking for a family who will love him and accept him into his forever home.

Noah, 9, is very athletic, and enjoys playing wrestling and soccer. He likes to watch sports on TV, especially WWE wrestling, but his favorite sport of all time is football. Noah wants to find a family who will let him play football when he is old enough.

Noah is looking for a family in Iowa or bordering states that will help him stay in touch with his older sister. He would love a family in which he can be the youngest child in the home. A family for Noah must understand he has experienced trauma in the past, and parents should maintain a patient and structured environment.

Noah gets along well with his teachers and peers, and he has an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) to help him succeed at school.

Noah's dream is to have a family who will cheer him on from the bleachers during his football games. Could you make Noah's dream come true? [REQUEST MORE INFORMATION](#)



Pictured are IFAPA staff members, Phyllis Pierce (Director of Operations), Crystal Thomason (Communications Coordinator) and Kaci O'Day-Goldstein (Executive Director).



IFAPA held its annual appreciation event at Adventureland on Saturday, August 20th. Over 1100 people enjoyed the day and connecting with families across Iowa. [CHECK OUT OUR NEXT EVENT](#)

**“There is an
instinct
in a woman
to love most
her own child;
and an instinct
to make any child
who needs her love,
her own.”**

- Robert Brault

I'M A FOSTER PARENT. AM I A MOM?

By Georgene Smith Goodin

My sister-in-law sent me a Mother's Day gift this year, the first I've ever received. I felt like an imposter when I opened it.

I hadn't forgotten the toddler, the Infant and the newborn living with me - three sisters all under the age of three, but my status as a foster parent is ambiguous by nature. Do I count as a mom? Legally? No.

When my husband and I couldn't have biological children, we chose foster-care adoption. Children stay with us while a court determines the competence of their parents. If the parents' rights are terminated, we adopt. It's a Russian-roulette system that guarantees a painful bullet to all involved. It's a system where the parents have lawyers, and the children have lawyers, and my husband and I stand voiceless in the wings, waiting to return the girls on a moment's notice.

I understand my place within the confines of this legal system; my confusion breeds outside its insular walls.

The nurses in our pediatrician's office call all female caregivers "Mom." It's a knife every time, not just for me, but for the toddler, too, who struggles to define who I am. "The girls call me Georgene," I remind the nurses gently. Bewilderment, then embarrassment, flickers across their faces. It's the same flicker I see on the teachers at the Early Head Start program, and the other parents at the park. I see it on our friends' faces, and even on family. [CONTINUE READING](#)

PRE-PLACEMENT QUESTIONNAIRE FOR FOSTER PARENTS

IFAPA has created a list of pre-placement questions foster parents can ask before agreeing to the placement of a child in their home. There will be times and circumstances when a worker has limited information about the child they need to place, especially if it is for an urgent placement. When information is available, however, it will help you determine if the child will be a good fit for your family and your parenting abilities.

[VIEW QUESTIONNAIRE](#)

SEPTEMBER TRAININGS

Date, Time & City	Name of Training & Trainer
Sept. 10, 2016 (9am-4:30pm) CARROLL	Family Matters - Working with Birth Families in the 21st Century (Mike McGuire)
Sept. 10, 2016 (9am-12:15pm) CEDAR FALLS	A Guide to Trauma and PTSD in Children (Jolene Philo)
Sept. 10, 2016 (1:15pm-4:30pm) CEDAR FALLS	You Can't Push My Buttons Anymore: Resolving Your Own Trauma so You Can Parent Traumatized Children (Jolene Philo)
Sept. 10, 2016 (9am-12:15pm) CEDAR RAPIDS	Decoding the Mystery of ADHD (Warren Phillips, Ph.D.)
Sept. 10, 2016 (1:15pm-4:30pm) CEDAR RAPIDS	Worrywarts and How You Can Help: Understanding Anxiety Disorders in Children (Warren Phillips, Ph.D.)
Sept. 17, 2016 (9am-12:15pm) ANKENY	Love is All You Need? (Cultural Responsive Parenting) (Tammera Bibbins, MSW)
Sept. 17, 2016 (1:15pm-4:30pm) ANKENY	Why Can't They Stop: Addiction and New Drug Trends (Bobbie Jo Sheridan, LBSW)
Sept. 17, 2016 (9am-4:30pm) DAVENPORT	ACT on Your Stress: Stress Management for Parents (Warren Phillips, Ph.D.)
Sept. 17, 2016 (9am-4:30pm) MARSHALLTOWN	Utilizing the Nurtured Heart Approach in Helping Children with Challenging Behaviors (Kim Combes)
Sept. 17, 2016 (9am-12:15pm) SIOUX CITY	Calming the Trauma Storm (Marty Wallace, LMHC)
Sept. 17, 2016 (1:15pm-4:30pm) SIOUX CITY	Time to Get the Schools on Board (Marty Wallace, LMHC)
Sept. 24, 2016 (9am-4:30pm) ANKENY	Counteracting the Effects of Disrupted Attachment with Love, Attunement & Play (Dorothy Lifka)
Sept. 24, 2016 (9am-4:30pm) BURLINGTON	Family Matters - Working with Birth Families in the 21st Century (Mike McGuire)
Sept. 24, 2016 (9am-4:30pm) CLINTON	Utilizing the Nurtured Heart Approach in Helping Children with Challenging Behaviors (Kim Combes)
Sept. 24, 2016 (9am-4:30pm) MASON CITY	Hope For Healing: Trust Based Relational Intervention (Darcie Van Voorst)
Sept. 24, 2016 (9am-12:15pm) NEWTON	The Brain: Normal Development vs. Brain after Trauma (Joann Seeman Smith, Ph.D.)
Sept. 24, 2016 (1:15pm-4:30pm) NEWTON	The Magic of Healing the Brain & Fostering a Secure Attachment (Joann Seeman Smith, Ph.D.)

[VIEW OCTOBER & NOVEMBER TRAININGS](#)

[REGISTER ONLINE](#) OR CALL 800-277-8145