

NOVEMBER 1, 2016

NOVEMBER IS NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH

The Iowa Foster and Adoptive Parents Association (IFAPA) wants to recognize and thank all the wonderful families who have given Iowa's children a permanent home. Your dedication and steadfast support for children is appreciated.

IFAPA recognizes that whether you have adopted from foster care or privately (both domestically and internationally), you are often not fully aware of your child's neonatal, developmental or environmental histories. As a result, you face a special set of circumstances when parenting your child. No matter the type of adoption, living in Iowa means you are eligible to utilize any of IFAPA's trainings or support!

We encourage you to check out our training schedule on the next page and take advantage of courses that can help you to better understand the behaviors of your child as well as find ways to make daily life more manageable for all.

RESOURCES FOR ADOPTIVE PARENTS:

- Take advantage of using your five days of **ADOPTION RESPITE** per fiscal year (for Subsidized Adoptions)
- Contact our **RESOURCE INFORMATION SPECIALIST** for resources and support.
- Check out our **ONLINE RESOURCES FOR PARENTS** page to find articles and videos about building connections with your child, parenting challenging children, discussing adoption with your child, parenting transracially, understanding children exposed to trauma and more.
- Visit our **EVENTS** page to view upcoming adoption-related events.
- Print our free **LIFEBOOK PAGES** and help document your child's history and celebrate their accomplishments.
- View our **ADOPTION SUBSIDY** resource booklet as a reference guide after placement.
- Attend a **SUPPORT GROUP** and meet other parents like you.

Evan Wants a Family Who Will Love Him Unconditionally

Playing with Legos and puzzles. Rolling a perfect strike at the bowling alley. Running in the backyard with his beloved dog.

These are all moments 11-year-old Evan dreams of experiencing with his forever family.

Evan's fun and quirky personality shines through to anyone he meets. The adults in his life say Evan is outgoing, and he loves getting to know new people. His quick smile is the first thing friends notice about him.

Families from any state will be considered for Evan. He will do best in a home in which he is the youngest child. Potential parents should provide a structured, patient environment to best support Evan.

This bright-eyed boy loves to learn new things each day and he enjoys school. An Individual Education Plan helps Evan stay on track in his classes, and it helps the adults in his life work together to ensure his success.

What Evan wants most is a family. A family to play games with him. A family to take him to the mall. A family to love him unconditionally. It's not too much to ask. Perhaps your house could be the place Evan calls home. **REQUEST MORE INFO**





Cedar Rapids Service Area Peer Liaisons
(from left to right): Gwen Timmerman, Janet Rorholm,
Candice York, and Kelli Vermeer

PEER LIAISONS NAVIGATE THE WORLD OF FOSTER PARENTING BOTH PERSONALLY AND PROFESSIONALLY

Peer Liaisons are living the life of fostering just like you! So what can you really expect from your Peer Liaison? IFAPA Peer Liaisons will be in touch with foster parents via phone, mail, e-mail or in person at least once each fiscal quarter, they can help you navigate the world of confidentiality, provide information and resources on trainings, support groups, foster home licensing regulations, offer contacts for DHS chain of command and offer assistance with communication needs. Connect with your Peer Liaison, you will probably be correct in assuming they've dealt with whatever it may be! If they do not know the answer to a question, they will help find the needed information. IFAPA Peer Liaisons will maintain confidentiality at all times.

The Cedar Rapids Service Area (SA #4) Peer Liaisons are Gwen Timmerman, Janet Rorholm, Candice York and Kelli Vermeer:

- Gwen has been a foster/adoptive parent for seven years. She has been an IFAPA Peer Liaison for one and a half years and serves Benton, Black Hawk, Bremer, Butler, Grundy, Marshall and Tama counties.
- Janet has been a foster/adoptive parent for 10 years. She has been an IFAPA Peer Liaison for three years and serves Johnson and Linn counties.
- Candice has been a foster/adoptive parent for 19 years. She has been an IFAPA Peer Liaison for three years and serves Appanoose, Clarke, Davis, Decatur, Iowa, Jasper, Lucas, Mahaska, Marion, Monroe, Poweshiek, Wapello & Wayne counties.
- Kelli has been a foster/adoptive parent for eight years. She has been an IFAPA Peer Liaison for almost one year and serves Cedar, Des Moines, Henry, Jefferson, Jones, Keokuk, Lee, Louisa, Muscatine, Scott, Van Buren & Washington counties.

CONTACT MY PEER LIAISON

NOVEMBER TRAININGS

Date & Time	Name of Training & Trainer	Location
Nov. 5, 2016 (9am-4:30pm)	Utilizing the Nurtured Heart Approach in Helping Children with Challenging Behaviors (Kim Combes)	Ankeny IFAPA Training Center
Nov. 5, 2016 (8am-12:15pm)	CPR and First Aid (Register & Pay Here)	Davenport TBA
Nov. 5, 2016 (1:15pm-4:30pm)	Mandatory Child Abuse Reporter Training	Davenport Best Western Plus
Nov. 5, 2016 (9am-4:30pm)	What Are You Trying to Tell Me? Responding Effectively to Troubling Behaviors (Lois Smidt & Krista McCalley)	Dubuque Holiday Inn
Nov. 12, 2016 (9am-4:30pm)	Hope For Healing: Trust Based Relational Intervention (Darcie Van Voorst)	Ames Gateway Hotel
Nov. 12, 2016 (9am-12:15pm)	The ABC's of Early Childhood Connections: Nurturing Social & Emotional Development in Infants & Toddlers (Gwen Babberl, LMHC, CADC)	Cedar Falls Hawkeye Comm. College
Nov. 12, 2016 (1:15pm-4:30pm)	Everything You Wanted to Know About Foster Care But Were Afraid to Ask (Bambi Schrader)	Cedar Falls Hawkeye Comm. College
Nov. 12, 2016 (9am-4:30pm)	Foster Care Meets Mental Health: A Foster Parent Dilemma! (Christy Meyer)	Council Bluffs Holiday Inn Express
Nov. 12, 2016 (9am-4:30pm)	The Grieving Process: How to Help You & Your Kids Heal (Matthew Hiveley, Ph.D.)	Davenport Best Western Plus
Nov. 12, 2016 (9am-12:15pm)	Grrr...I'm Just So Mad, Helping Young Children Deal with Their Anger (Joann Seeman-Smith, Ph.D.)	Ottumwa Great Prairie AEA
Nov. 12, 2016 (1:15pm-4:30pm)	Parenting the Willful Child: Helping Your Child Use Their Power for Good & Not Evil (Joann Seeman-Smith, Ph.D.)	Ottumwa Great Prairie AEA
Nov. 12, 2016 (9am-4:30pm)	Utilizing the Nurtured Heart Approach in Helping Children with Challenging Behaviors (Kim Combes)	Sheldon Holiday Inn Express
Nov. 19, 2016 (9am-4:30pm)	Integrative Parenting: Strategies for Raising Children Affected by Attachment Trauma (Renaee Jones, MS, LMHC)	Ankeny IFAPA Training Center
Nov. 19, 2016 (9am-12:15pm)	Cultivating Spirituality in Youth - Even When Different from Your Own (Rebecca Dickinson)	Cedar Rapids Clarion Hotel
Nov. 19, 2016 (1:15pm-4:30pm)	Communicating with Your Child Through Play (Rebecca Dickinson)	Cedar Rapids Clarion Hotel
Nov. 19, 2016 (9am-4:30pm)	Family Matters - Working with Birth Families in the 21st Century (Mike McGuire)	Charles City TBA
Nov. 19, 2016 (9am-12:15pm)	Mandatory Child Abuse Reporter Training	Sioux City Stoney Creek Inn
Nov. 19, 2016 (1:15pm-5:30pm)	CPR and First Aid (Register & Pay Here) To avoid late fees, pay by Sun., Nov. 6	Sioux City TBA

**TO REGISTER FOR A CLASS:
CALL 800-277-8145 OR REGISTER HERE**