

LA FOSTER & ADOPTIVE PARENTS

January 2012



LFAPA Newsletter

Mission Statement

To empower foster and adoptive parents and the children in their care by providing communication, support, training and advocacy services.

Peggy Kirby, President
Faye Brock, Exe. Vice President

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President's News

Welcome to our newest newsletter. We hope to keep you informed about the activities and support service of LFAPA. It will be a means of communication so you can keep up to date on agency policy changes, legislative advocacy and training opportunities at our annual conference.

Your Board of Directors will continue to work hard for Foster/Adoptive Parents across the state, in partnership with the Department of Children and Family services to improve the Child Welfare System.

LFAPA worked hard during the last Legislative session advocating against proposed decreases in the support services to foster/adoptive parents. We coordinated a legislative email blast day

with letters from parents across the state and provided personal testimony before the Finance Committee.

Your Board of Directors also serves on or speaks at several statewide committees including the Court Improvement Project, LAAB, Citizens Review Committee, and the Coordinated Systems of Care Governance Board.

Stay updated by visiting our website, for information, links, training opportunities, youth scholarships, service awards and contact information, lfapainc.org.

Send your newsletter articles and information to kirp50@juno.com.

Louisiana Advocacy Support Team (LAST)

LAST is a LFAPA sponsored advocacy program for foster/adoptive families throughout Louisiana. Our LAST volunteers are foster parents who receive ongoing training so they can help other parents deal with allegations and offer assistance with other child related issues. The LAST volunteer knows what the parents are experiencing. They will listen, will not make judgments, will explain the DDCFS/CPI process, will help parents prepare for meeting with staff, and will maintain confidentiality according to state laws.

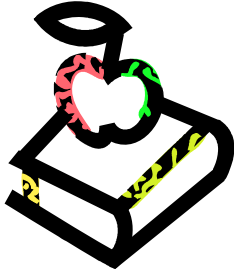
LAST will not only assist you during an investigation but will find answers for you concerning any DCFS policy, resources available and training needs questions.

Call (888) 655-9564 toll free. Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

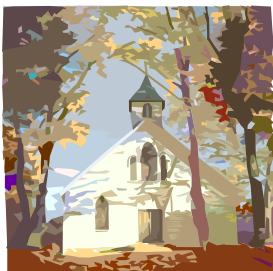
REACH OUT FOR HELP DURING A
DIFFICULT TIME.

Upcoming Events

- ◆ February Conference
- ◆ Scholarship Deadline 5/30
- ◆



*Educational
opportunities for
our youth*



*Bless all those who
make a difference
in the lifetime of
a child*

Youth Scholarships

LFAPA offers eight (8) \$1,000 scholarships for foster/adoptive youth, ages 18 - 21. These scholarships are for secondary education through universities, community colleges, vocational schools and online degrees.

Through generous donations we are able to offer two (2) Carrie B. Adger scholarships to youth in the Shreveport region and one (1) Linda Christmas

Scholarship in the Monroe region. We also offer a Nancy Miller statewide scholarship as well as five LFAPA statewide scholarships.

Applications are available on our website. We ask foster/adoptive parents to encourage the youth in their homes to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity.

HOPE Scholarship Donation Fund

We are seeking donations from community leaders, businesses and individuals to enhance the availability and number of scholarship by offering the HOPE Scholarship Donation Fund (Helping Others by Promoting Education).

Our goal is to be able to offer even more scholarships. To reach this worthy goal, we need financial support from

others.

Donations to the fund are now being accepted. Levels of donations are:

Diamond Level: \$1000 & up

Emerald Level: \$500 - \$999

Ruby Level: \$250 - \$499

Opal Level: \$100 - #249

Gem Level: \$1 - \$99

Donations can be mailed to: LFAPA
P O Box 332 Baton Rouge LA 70821

Prayers for Children in Foster Care by Janet Farrand

Pray for children entering foster care today, that there is a kind & loving family to care for them.

Pray for the sibling groups entering foster care today, that they will be placed together.

Pray for all the children in care, that their first foster home is their last foster home.

Pray for more families to become foster parents who are able and willing to meet the special needs of their foster children.

Pray for God's intervention with all families to enable them to recover and allow reunification of foster children with safe and caring birth families.

Pray that foster & adoptive families and their children receive the support and understanding of their agency and communities.

Pray that God blesses all DCFS caseworkers and staff who make decisions daily which impact the lives of children and families.

Pray that God's hand guides the judges to make their decisions in the child's best interest.

Pray for those children who are freed for adoption and waiting for a family.

LFAPA asks that you pray for our leaders, our agency, and our communities that they always remember the children in need.

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We're on the Web!

LFAPAINC.ORG

LFAPA Board Members 2012

Peggy Kirby, President 318-614-8177	Faye Brock, Exe. VP 985-839-9639
Mickie Orsborn, VP of Membership 318-472-8701	Maple Martin, VP of Fundraising 318-326-4731
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2012 Annual Training Conference

Our 36th Annual Training Conference will be held **February 12 - 14, 2012** at the Embassy Suites, 4914 Constitution Ave, Baton Rouge, LA 70808.

This exciting conference will provide up to 15 hours of training for foster/adoptive parents, great speakers and an excellent opportunity to mix and mingle with other people who understand the stresses of working within the child welfare system.

LFAPA members receive a reduced registration fee, lodging (double occupancy required) and all meals served at the conference.

Make your reservations now by calling Embassy Suites at 225-924-6566. Registration information is available on our website.

For more information regarding registration and reserving rooms please contact:

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