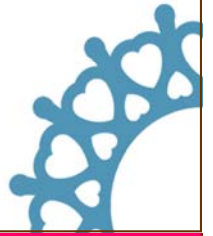


WATERFORD COUNTRY SCHOOL FOSTER CARE



FEBRUARY 2012 NEWSLETTER

WCS Support

Our **North Support Group** will meet on the **2nd Tues., 2/14** at 10am at the Central Coffee Café located at 610 Wauregan Road, Route 12 in Danielson. Questions contact Jenn x185 or jgil@waterfordcs.org



Our **South Support Group** will meet the **last Thurs., 2/23** at 10am at Panera Bread, 903 Hartford Tpke. in Waterford. Questions contact Rachel x175 or rnewer@waterfordcs.org



Adoptive Support Group for Parents with Challenging Children will meet the **4th Monday, 2/27** from 6:30-7:45 at Clinic Drive. All adoptive parents are welcome. Contact Lisa Crowley x310 or lcrowley@waterfordcs.org

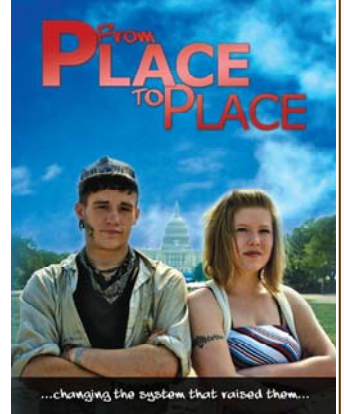


"The art of love ...is largely the art of persistence."

Albert Ellis

WCS Training

Pizza and a Movie: "From Place to Place." Join us for dinner and a movie on 2/21 from 6-8pm. "From Place to Place" follows the lives of Micah, Mandy and Raif who have recently aged out of foster care. The movie tells the story of the invisible children who grow up in America's foster care system....The film follows their lives for over two years as they struggle to make it on their own, find their voice and impact the system.



This is the kind of movie that will make you angry, sad and inspired all at once. We highly recommend it for our families and staff and anyone else who is interested in hearing the "real" stories of teens who grew up in foster care. RSVP for pizza and childcare to Rachel x175 or rnewer@waterfordcs.org

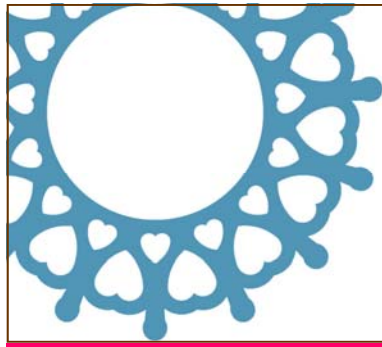
First Aid & CPR Class is being offered:

- Wednesday, 2/8 at the Ken Grube Safe Home at WCS main campus
- Tuesday, 3/13 at 2 Clinic Drive.

Both classes are 9-3:30pm with a break for lunch which is not provided. Contact Rachel at x175 or rnewer@waterfordcs.org to register for either of these classes.



TCIF Follow-Up is scheduled for 2/28 from 9:30am to 2:30 at Clinic Drive. Parents who have already completed the full 20 hour TCIF class can attend this class to stay fresh on the principles of Therapeutic Crisis Intervention for Family Providers. We will also discuss how to practically use the techniques at home. Lunch will be provided. RSVP to Rachel x175 or rnewer@waterfordcs.org



WATERFORD COUNTRY SCHOOL FOSTER CARE



Recruiting News

The **Recruiting Advisory Panel** will meet the first Thursday of the month on 2/2 at 6:30pm. We're working on:

- Billboard posters
- Radio ads
- Media campaigns
- Community presentations

We need all the help we can get in strengthening and growing our foster family team. Contact Elena at x170 or efrench@waterfordcs.org for more info.

More Training

Responding to the Signs and Symptoms of Sexual Abuse will be presented by CAFAP on two Wednesdays, 2/8 and 2/15 from 6-9pm at our Clinic Drive office. The training will address topics of understanding sexual abuse and responding to those who have been impacted by sexual abuse. Contact 800-861-8838 to register. Childcare is available upon registration.

Upcoming Opportunities

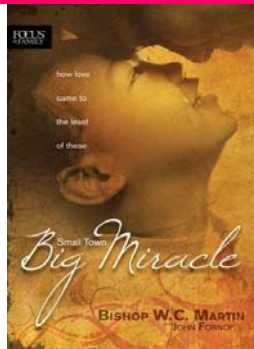
Therapeutic Crisis Intervention for Family Providers is scheduled to for Mondays and Thursdays evenings in March. Specific dates are to be determined. **We highly recommend TCIF for all foster parents.** If you have not yet attended please make every effort to join this class. This new and improved curriculum from Cornell University focuses on how to prevent crisis, de-escalate a crisis and how to help a child learn after a crisis. Stay tuned for more info.

"I wish I had taken TCIF sooner. I think that having these techniques would have helped save my first foster care placements."

A WCS Foster Parent

Book Review

Small Town, Big Miracle—by Bishop W.C. Martin is an inspiring true story of how one tiny town made a huge difference for children in foster care. The book follows the story



of Bishop Martin and his wife as they decide to adopt children from foster care. Through their example, other families in their church began to look into adoption. Eventually 72 of the toughest kids in the foster care system were adopted by families in this one tiny church in a Possum Trot, Texas! Their story is so inspiring it has been featured on the Oprah Winfrey Show and has appeared in Reader's Digest, Family Circle and People magazine. Check it out from our foster care library today!



The Lighthouse Voc-Ed Center is having their **6th Annual Grace Curtis Conference** on Sunday, March 25 from 8-4pm at the Mystic Marriott in Groton. Presentations will be given by Gina Gallagher & Patricia Konjoian, authors of "Shut Up About Your Perfect Kid: A Survival Guide for Ordinary Parents of Special Children." The sisters speak openly about the frustrations, stigmas, joys and challenges of parenting children with disabilities. In addition, speaker LeDerick Horne, will present "Beyond Classification" which provides strategies for increasing the academic performance, self-determination and self-advocacy skills of students with disabilities. The cost is \$40 and the deadline is 3/9. Register at www.lvecenter.com or call 860.445.7626 x109 for more info.