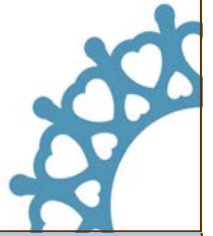


WATERFORD COUNTRY SCHOOL FOSTER CARE



JANUARY 2012 NEWSLETTER

WCS Support

Our **North Support Group** will meet on the **2nd Tues., 1/10** 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 **Evening Support Group** has been discontinued. In the event that we have more foster families needing an evening support group, we will start one up again!

Our **South Support Group** will meet the **last Thurs., 1/26** 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, 1/23** from 6:30-7:45 at Clinic Drive. All adoptive parents are welcome. Contact Lisa Crowley x310 or lcrowley@waterfordcs.org

WCS Training

Required Training: Negotiating Expectations and Designing

Consequences A few times throughout the year we offer training that we think is really important for successful foster parenting. In an effort to all be on the same page and help you get your training hours in, we make this a “required training” for all foster parents. This training will be presented by Bill Martin and Rachel and is from the new Therapeutic Crisis Intervention material. All foster parents must sign up to attend one of four sessions. Contact Laura x180 or lhustus@waterfordcs.org to sign up for one of the following training sessions:



- Tuesday 1/17 6-8pm (childcare available)
- Tuesday 1/24 10am-12 noon
- Thursday 1/26 6-8pm (at United Services in Dayville)
- Thursday 2/9 6-8pm (childcare available)

CPR is being offered:

- Tuesday, 1/10 at Clinic Drive
- Wednesday, 2/8 at the Ken Grube Safe Home
- Tuesday, 3/13 at Clinic Drive.



All classes are 9-3:30pm with a break for lunch. But lunch is not included. Call Rachel, x175 or rnewer@waterfordcs.org for more information.

Other Training

CAFAP is sponsoring the training **Supporting Relationships Between Children and Their Families** presented on two Saturdays: **1/21 & 1/28** from 9am-4pm at 2 Clinic Drive. The focus of the training will be on respecting and supporting birth family ties and becoming partners in parenting. Registration is required contact 800-861-8838. Childcare is available on a first come first serve basis.

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Recruiting News

The [Recruiting and Advisory Panel](#) will be split into two separate groups. If you are interested in lending your advice to recruiting (i.e. the website, Facebook, fairs, events, media presentations, etc) you can still meet with Elena the first Thursday night of the month! Next meeting is **January 5th at 6:30pm.**

If you want to voice your concerns or give suggestions about our program a separate meeting will be held with Chris and Sara. More info to come on this!

Calling all Writers!

We have just started a WCS foster care blog! For those of you unfamiliar with blogs...they are online journals that allow people to write posts about topics while adding links to other information or news. We'll be able to provide more parenting tips and foster care topics that are too long to discuss through Facebook or the newsletter.

Check it out here:

www.wcsfostercare.wordpress.com

If you are interested in contributing to our blog, we would love to have foster parents AND foster kids as frequent contributors. If you have a topic that you think needs to be discussed that would be helpful too. Contact Elena at x170 or efrench@waterfordcs.org

Looking ahead



A [Follow Up Class](#) for Therapeutic Crisis Intervention for Family Providers (TCIF) scheduled for **Feb. 28 from 9:30-2:30.** Mark your calendars!

Creative Opportunities

Lifebook Workshops for Parents

Informal sessions for interested parents to get together and work on their foster or adopted children's Lifebooks are still happening monthly at WCS.

Having a Lifebook is so important for children but takes some time and effort.

Come out and have some fun working on it together. Next workshop is **Saturday 1/14** from 5-9pm at 2 Clinic Drive. For more information contact Alana Jones 860.710.1593 or Alana@heartshandsandhomes.org



Creative Arts for Foster Children (Ages 6-10)

Creative Arts for Developing Minda, a CT non-profit is offering an 8 week session of creative arts activities. Music, art and movement are combined in a series of fun, exciting and educational activities that encourage creative expression. These sessions will be held Wednesdays 1/11 through 2/29 from 5-6pm at Clinic Drive. The cost is \$75. To register your child call Nan Arnstein at 860.834.3359 or email narnstein@creativeartsdm.org

"Cheers to a new year and another chance to get it right!"