



Department of Children and Family Services  
Kinship Support Division

Providing Assistance and Support to Relative Caregivers  
Volume 3: November 2011

QUOTE OF THE MONTH:

"In everyone's life, at some time, our inner fire goes out. It is then burst into flame by an encounter with another human being. We should all be thankful for those people who rekindle the inner spirit." *Albert Schweitzer*

IS HAVING A CO-GUARDIAN A GOOD OPTION FOR YOU? By Marianne Yamato, CSA I with the Kinship Division

I was recently in a tear jerker meeting at DCFS. A child with special needs had been put into DCFS custody as her Legal Guardian had passed. At the meeting, a distant half-sibling came in tears not only because she had lost her mother, but because her sibling was now in foster care. With background checks, home inspections and everything else that is needed before the child could be placed in the sister's home (as required by Law), all that I could see was days passing!

If you are experiencing any life-threatening situations, or just want to be proactive in planning for your child's future, you may want to consider having a Co-Guardian for your child. You need to file what is called the JV-180 form requesting a WIC 388 Petition, for an order to be made. DCFS Kinship can help you. Call (323) 526-6082 if you have any questions or would like assistance.



IF YOU BUILD IT, THEY WILL COME-- KINSHIP'S RESOURCES OF THE MONTH:

\*Komputers 4 R Kids: 16317 ½ Piuma Ave., Cerritos, CA 90703, (562) 860-7463, [www.K4RK.org](http://www.K4RK.org).

**Need a computer? Low on cash?**

This non-profit agency refurbishes computers and provides them to needy families at either no or low cost, as low as \$40. Komputers 4 R Kids also accepts your donations of old computers to use for parts. Think **Green** and check out Komputers 4 R Kids!

\*Tomorrow's Future: 5824 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90035, (323) 468-9760.

**Tomorrow's Future** is the Los Angeles Police Department's first ever youth mentoring center. The center serves children from the ages of 10-18 years old from 2pm until 7pm. The program is **free!** Children come to the center and first complete their homework. UCLA students are mentors and tutors for the program. After their homework is done, recreational activities are available including a video game center, arts and crafts and computer center.

Officer Catherine Massey is the Center's coordinator. She stated that the children that come to the center often need help with structure. She and Officer Kirk Barnes are there to help them with that structure, and to just help them with their life and appropriate social skills. Eighty-eight children are currently using the center. Parents are continuously expressing satisfaction that their children are safe. Local teachers have expressed their satisfaction that their students are completing their homework. There has been an 8% reduction in crime around the center's location.

Check out and support this center today!



**KIDS CORNER:** Kinship is looking for teenagers between the ages of 13-17 who are interested in joining a teen group in Santa Fe Springs, CA 90607. **Call Marianne Yamato at (562) 324-5282 if you are interested.** We are waiting for YOU!

**LOCAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL OFFERS  
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN UNIQUE  
CORPORATE PROGRAM:**

Verbum Dei High School, 11100 S. Central Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90059, (323) 564-6651, offers a corporate internship program that supports young men who are economically and academically underserved. Since 2002, an innovative Corporate Work Study Program is the primary means of financial support for the children to attend this private school. ***No student is denied admission for financial reasons.*** The work study program requires students to work five days per month, as a member of a four-student team employed by local firms who pay the school for services rendered. Students gain work experience by performing entry level clerical work in professional environments such as law, accounting, financial service firms, health care, etc. For more information contact CSA Ron Rios at:

[riosr@dcfs.lacounty.gov](mailto:riosr@dcfs.lacounty.gov)



**STRICTLY BUSINESS:**

**UPCOMING ASSEMBLY BILL 12 WORKSHOPS** will be held at the following locations:

November 2, 2011: Glendora DCFS Office, 725 S. Grand Ave., Glendora, CA, Room 1689, 10am-5pm.

November 9, 2011: Pasadena DCFS Office, 532 E. Colorado Blvd., Pasadena, CA, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 10am-5pm.

November 16, 2011: El Monte DCFS Office, 4024 N. Durfee Ave. El Monte, CA, Interview Room, 10am-5pm.

November 16, 2011: Lancaster DCFS Office, 1150 West Avenue J, Lancaster, CA, 10am-5pm.

November 19, 2011: Nativity Catholic Church, 3743 N. Tyler Ave. El Monte, CA, Parish Center, 10am-3pm.

RSVP by calling (562) 777-1751 as soon as possible.

**SAVE THE DATE!**

***Relative Caregiver Christmas Celebration:***

For Marina Del Rey reservation, contact (323) 298-3515 (December 10, 2011 from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm)

For Whittier reservation, contact (562) 777-1751 (December 17, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.)

*\*If you have any special talent that you would like to share at the Christmas Celebration(s), please contact Marianne Yamato at: (562) 324-5282.*

**ASK A PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE**

Thanksgiving is rapidly approaching. Thoughts of turkey, pie, and family usually come to mind. In these times of celebration, tension often occurs between families. Public Health Nurse, Betsy Blankfield, RN, BSN, PHN, provides Kinship with some useful information.

**Question:** I never hit anybody. Why do people say



**I NEED ANGER MANAGEMENT?!!**

Even if anger does not lead to violence, anger expressed in the form of verbal abuse, intimidating or threatening behaviors can have negative results. Your loved ones, friends and co-workers may resent angry outbursts and be frightened. Family members may stop trusting you, and children will express anger in the same ways. Don't forget the simple truth: angry words hurt and cause pain, long after they are spoken. Learn to be aware of the anger habit, and learn strategies to control anger. This is the goal of anger management therapy. You also get support from others in the process. Typically, anger management group counseling involves 12 weekly sessions. The way we express anger is usually influenced by the family we grew up in. Make a new family tradition of **no rages, no hurtful words, no threats** expressed in anger. In L.A. County, call 211 for a referral to an affordable mental health provider located close to you.

Information contained in this month's Ask-A-Public Health Nurse column is based on a publication of U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, "Anger Management Therapy Manual". Betsy Blankfield, Public Health Nurse, All Rights Reserved, 2011. Contact: [blankba@dcfs.lacounty.gov](mailto:blankba@dcfs.lacounty.gov).

**Questions?** Please call Kinship at 1-562-777-1751 or 1-888-MYGRAND, or e-mail any questions to [youser@dcfs.lacounty.gov](mailto:youser@dcfs.lacounty.gov). We are also on the internet at <http://dcfs.co.la.ca.us/> (click on the Kinship section to the far right of the page.)

