



**Kinship Support Division of
Department of Children and Family Services
Providing Assistance and Support to Relative Caregivers
Volume II, Issue 6, June 2012**

QUOTE OF THE MONTH: I know in my heart that man is good. That what is right will eventually triumph. And there's purpose and worth to each and every life.
-Ronald Reagan

HAPPY JUNE KINSHIP FAMILY!

This month, there is a lot going on in the world of Kinship from new staff to a Kinship Conference and lots of great events and resources. I wish you all a happy beginning of summer and enjoy this month's newsletter-Marianne Yamato, CSA I

WELCOME:



With great joy Kinship welcomes **Department of Mental Health, Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Martha Glomah** to the Kinship Resource Center North (5035 W. Slauson Ave. Suite G. LA, CA 90056). Ms. Glomah is now available to provide support and referral to mental health services for children in relative care. Her office hours are Wednesdays from 8am -12pm. Call (323) 298-3515 for more information.

Kinship also welcomes the **Department of Public Social Services Toy Loan Program** to The Kinship South and North Resources Centers this month. Visit our centers and let your children in Kinship Care check out a toy just as they would a library book! There are incentives to consistently returning toys. Call (562) 777-1751 for hours and more information.

Reminder: There is a **Department of Public Social Services Social Worker** available for caregivers at the Kinship South Office (9834 Norwalk Blvd. Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670) on Thursdays from 10am -12pm. Call (562) 777-1751 to schedule your appointment.

KINSHIP CONFERENCE: JUNE 7, 2012



Caregivers...sign up for the Kinship Conference to be held on June 7, 2012. Free continental breakfast, lunch and informational topics and resources. Call the Kinship Resource Center North at: (323) 298-3515 to sign up. (Transportation is provided at certain pick-up sites throughout Los Angeles County.)

KEPS (KINSHIP EDUCATION PREPARATION SUPPORT) ORIENTATIONS FOR MONTH OF JUNE 2012

Attention: New Relative Caregivers / Non-Related Extended Family Members:
Come learn about DCFS in a comfortable setting- Learn about the legal process, home approval (ASFA), etc.-Resources for caregivers- Opportunity to ask general questions about DCFS and where to get additional support. We are setting up dates and times throughout the County. Palmdale: June 12; Lakewood: June 19; East L.A: June 26; July meetings are being scheduled in Glendora, Compton, Santa Fe Springs and Pasadena. Orientation is free. Snacks provided.

To register for any of these orientations, call (562) 777-1751. CALL TODAY! SPACE IS LIMITED!

**KINSHIP CAREGIVERS / SISTERS,
RHODENA SHIELDS AND JESSICA
WILSON, A CONVERSATION ABOUT
FATHER'S DAY**



By CSA I, Marianne Yamato

I recently met two sisters, Rhodena Shields and Jessica Wilson who are also dedicated kinship caregivers. After a few hours of intriguing chatter, we were about to part when Father's Day was brought up. Ms. Wilson stated that her child was asked at school to make a presentation about their father and the child stated, "Well, what am I going to do Grandma?" (The child's father was not in his life.) Ms. Shields decided to speak with her child about father figures. At this point, Ms. Wilson stated, "At Father's Day and other days like that (holidays), it is hard for kids" (in kinship care.) With this, just as a reminder, every holiday is not a joyous time for our children like the media may try to lead us to believe. This Father's Day pay attention to what your children are watching during commercials. Expect advertisers to show a loving father holding their child and gazing into their eyes, with an announcer saying, "Let's Thank Dad for all he does for us". Be sensitive to your child knowing that this type of advertisement may make them feel sad or upset especially if they do not have their father in their lives. Please do not become frustrated if your child is crying or throwing a tantrum unexpectedly. They may have innocently been watching their morning cartoon and got a reminder in a commercial of someone they do not have.

Some free and low cost ideas for keeping your children entertained through these potentially emotional times and or bonding with their special father figure follow:



World City-Kule Mele (music and dance from West Africa)

June 16, 11am & 12:30pm

Site: W. M. Keck Children's Amphitheatre, Walt Disney Concert Hall, 111 S. Grand Ave. Downtown Los Angeles

Cost: FREE

More Information: 213-250-ARTS,
www.musiccenter.org

Fiesta de las Flores (the streets of Olvera Street will be decorated to create scenes from Los Angeles' historic past)

June 16, 11am-7pm

Site: El Pueblo Historical Monument, 125 Paseo de la Plaza, Los Angeles

Cost: FREE

More Information: 213-485-8372,
www.calleolvera.com

Mixed Roots Film and Literacy Festival (storytelling of the mixed racial and cultural experience: workshops, readings, film screenings, live performances and comedy)

June 16 & 17, 9am-9pm

Site: Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. First St. Los Angeles

Cost: FREE

More Information: 310-712-1632,
www.mxroots.org

Concerts on the Green (outside concert featuring top pop, jazz, classical, folk and world music)

June 3, 10, 17, 24, 6pm-8:30pm

Site: Warner Park, 5800 Topanga Blvd., Woodland Hills, CA

Cost: FREE

More Information: 818-704-3456,
www.valleycultural.org

LA Film Festival

June 14-24 Various Times

Site: Regal Cinemas L.A. Live Stadium 14, John Anson Ford Amphitheatre.

Cost: \$12.00

More Information: 866-FILMFEST,
www.lafilmfest.com

Adobe Brick Making, Gold Panning and Blacksmithing

June 6, 2012 9:30-11:30am

Site: Dominguez Rancho Adobe Museum, 18127 S. Alameda St. Rancho Dominguez, CA 90220

Cost: FREE. More Information: 310-603-0088,
www.dominguezrancho.org

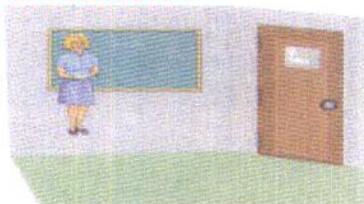
MORE FUN EVENTS:

-“Your One and Only Life, a Training Day for Kinship / KinGAP & Foster Care Families & Youth in Your Care” **June 21, 2012** from 8:30am-4pm at Citrus College Campus Center, 1000 W. Foothill Blvd. Glendora, CA 91741.

-“Summer Fling at Cerritos College” (Hosted by Cerritos College and Grandparents As Parents). All relative caregivers are invited to attend this fun event which will include bouncers, fun booths, bingo, free food and a caregiver zone to earn continuing education credits. **June 23, 2012**, 10am-3pm, Cerritos College: 11110 Alondra Blvd. Norwalk, CA 90650. For more information contact: (818) 264-0880.

-New Hope Resource Awareness & Caregivers Appreciation Day. (Sponsored by Calvary Chapel Downey, DCFS Spa7 and DCFS Kinship.) Lots of activities for everyone including free BBQ, bouncers, resource tables, massages and more. Register at the event and all of the activities are free. **June 30, 2012**, 9am-3pm, Hermosillo Park, 11959 162nd Street, Norwalk, CA.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT: HARVARD UNIVERSITY



Harvard University recently announced that undergraduate students from low-income families **pay no tuition**. If a family is earning less than \$60,000 a year with an honor student graduating

from high school, Harvard University wants to pay the tuition. For more information visit Harvard's financial aid website at: <http://www.fao.fas.harvard.edu> or call (617) 495-1581.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION MEETINGS FOR CAREGIVERS:

June 5, 2012: 9:30am-12:30pm: **Common Mental Health Behaviors in Foster Care**, Training by Rio Hondo College at the Los Nietos Community Center, 11640 Slauson Ave., Whittier, CA 90606.

June 9, 2012: 9:00-2:00pm: **Mentor City**. This event will help current and former foster youth in regards to looking for an apartment, filling out job applications, budgeting money when shopping, opening a bank account, dressing for job interviews. El Camino College, 16007 Crenshaw Blvd. Torrance, CA 90506, RSVP by calling: (562) 938-3593 ext. 3585

June 11, 2012: 9:00am-1:00pm, **Life Books Workshop**. Free. A detailed training in how to capture the history of children who move from one home to another without any part of their life recorded for them. Space is Limited. Pre-Registration is Required (562) 908-3435. Training by Rio Hondo College at the Los Nietos Community Center, 11640 Slauson Ave., Whittier, CA 90606.

June 15, 2012, 6-8pm: **Fetal Alcohol Syndrome**, instructed by UCLA Seminal Institute at The Samoan Center, 20715 S. Avalon Blvd. Ste 200, Carson, CA 90746. To register call El Camino College at (310) 660-3593 ext. 3585.

June 26, 9:30-12:30pm: **How to Handle Teenage Problems**, Training by Rio Hondo College at the Los Nietos Community Center, 11640 Slauson Ave. Whittier, CA 90606.

