



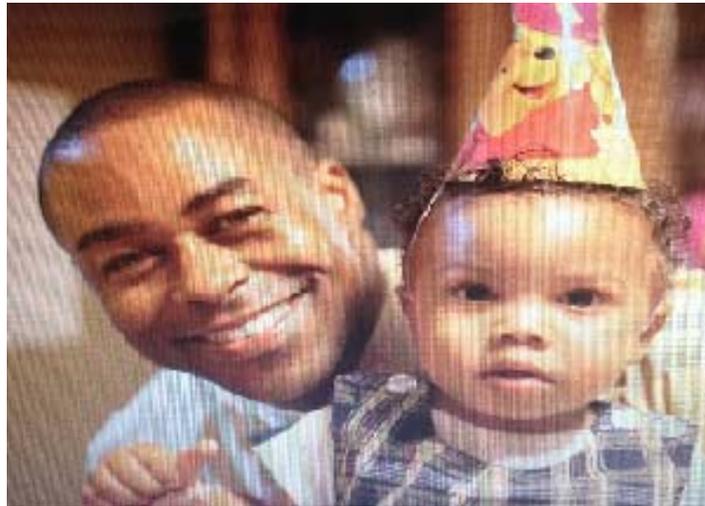
**Kinship Support Division of  
Department of Children and Family Services  
Providing Assistance and Support to Relative Caregivers  
Volume II, Issue 10, October, 2012**

**QUOTE OF THE MONTH:** “Pretend that every single person you meet has a sign around his or her neck that says, **Make Me Feel Important. Not only will you succeed in sales, you will succeed in life.**” **Mary Kay Ash (1908-2001), entrepreneur.**

Summer has come and gone, the children are settled in school, and now, it is time to think a little bit about you. It has been a pleasure meeting many new caregivers at community events and Kinship Orientations. It's amazing to find out that so many caregivers are experiencing some of the same difficulties and emotions. Please remember...DCFS Kinship Resource Centers, provide a helping hand to relative caregivers! We look forward to serving you!

*Marianne Yamato, CSA I*

### **World -- Meet Daireon!**



One-year-old Daireon has endured some challenges in his first year of life. A few months ago his young mother, who resides outside of California, became unable to care for Daireon. It was abrupt. It was unexpected. And it was final. Daireon was lucky enough to have different family members who could take turns caring for him temporarily, but no one was in a position to do so long term. The needs of a one-year-old are demanding and 24/7.

Here is where Daireon met his new family. While on a business trip out of state, cousin Sylvester “Duke” Givens traveled to see his family. Duke saw first hand the need for a permanent home for Daireon. No one else was in a position to provide the care that a young child needs. Family members appealed to Duke to take Daireon. But Duke already knew it was meant to be. Right away, Duke knew that his family was about to grow.

It took a phone call to his wife, Julie, and a few trips to sort out legal matters. Within a few days, Daireon was on his way to his new home. He is now surrounded by his California family, including his Grandpa who is always pretty close by. Duke and Julie have negotiated full-time work schedules and child care so that Daireon is always in good hands and thriving.

Thank you Duke and Julie for extending your arms to Daireon and for sharing your story. You are an inspiration to us all.

*Rosella Yousef, Program Manager, Kinship*

### **DCFS KINSHIP SATELLITE OFFICES OPENING THIS MONTH:**

DCFS Kinship Division will be opening two satellite offices this month to better serve you. One of the satellites will be at the Boys and Girls Club of San Fernando Valley and the other will be at Aspiranet in Long Beach, CA.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR **GRAND OPENING EVENTS** AND LEARN ABOUT THE RESOURCES AND SERVICES THAT THE KINSHIP DIVISION CAN HELP YOU WITH AT THE SATELLITES.

**Grand Opening, October 17, 2012, 11:00am to 2:00pm:** Boys and Girls Club of San Fernando Valley is located at: 11251 Glen Oaks Blvd. Pacoima, CA 91331.



**\*\*Grand Opening of Long Beach Site at Aspiranet Foster Family Agency (5500 E. Atherton St. Long Beach, Suite 316, Long Beach, CA 90815) is in the planning stag, please call: (323) 298-3515 for exact date and time of the Grand Opening Celebration.**

As a Reminder, DCFS Kinship Resource Centers are located at:

**Kinship South: 9834 Norwalk Blvd. Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670, (562) 777-1751**

**Kinship North: 5035 W. Slauson Ave., Suite G, Los Angeles, CA 90056, (323) 298-3515**

Or phone: 1-888-694-7262 or visit the Kinship Division Website at: [www.lacdcfs.org](http://www.lacdcfs.org)

**DCFS Kinship Support Division in partnership with South Bay Ford Lincoln Presents: Recognition and Prevention of Substance Use among Teens: Tips for the Caregiver**

Wednesday, October 31, 9am-12pm, at South Bay Ford Lincoln, 5100 W. Rosecrans Ave. Hawthorne, CA 90250. Free Training, Free Parking and Free Continental Breakfast. [Space is limited. Call \(562\) 777-1751 to reserve your spot.](#) The training is presented by Dr. Donnie Watson, Ph.D, Clinical Psychologist and Program Director at the Thelma Mc Millan Center for Chemical Dependency and Treatment. Dr. Watson has designed a workshop geared towards relative caregivers and the unique challenges they face. Participants in this workshop will learn how to: identify drug abuse; recognize signs of substance abuse; and understand prevention and intervention strategies.

**KINSHIP HOT RESOURCES**

**Reach Out Wireless Program:** Funded by the California Life Line Program, the cell phone is free, but the family must to pay for the call minutes. Some restrictions apply, for more information please check the website for the government assisted wireless phone services at: <https://www.reachoutmobile.com/apply.php>

**Los Angeles Regional Foodbanks:** There are numerous food banks located throughout LA County if you should ever feel yourself in need of extra food for you and your family. For a food bank in your area called Kinship at 1-888-694-7262 or visit the Los Angeles Regional Foodbank website at: <http://www.lafoodbank.org/pantry>

**Los Angeles County Area Agency on Aging (LACAAA):** This agency can assist with the following: Community Education-Information and Resources on Current services available.; Counseling-Guidance with the responsibilities of the caregiving role to therapy for stress or depression.; Respite Care-If you need a break from daily caregiving responsibilities, they can arrange for an in-home or out of home caretaker so you can spend some time focusing on the following: Support Groups-Interact with other caregivers in a group setting led by a trained facilitator.; Training-learn self-care skills to reduce your stress and receive tools to handle difficult situations.

**Abilities Awareness Faire:** Come visit Kinship staff at the Faire on Monday, October 22, 2012, 10:00 am to 12:30 pm. Community Center and Joe Miller Field, 7630 Washington Ave., Whittier, CA 90602. There is free parking, admission and activities. For more Information, please phone (562) 567-9480.

**Rita Walters Learning Complex:** 915 W. Manchester Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90044 (Corner of Manchester and Vermont), (323) 789-4717, offers a variety of free classes that help to transform people and change their lives. Classes include, but are not limited to, Spanish Classes; Computer Classes; Adolescent Anger Management Classes; Parenting Classes; Financial Literacy Classes; ESL Classes; After School Program for children between the ages of 7-12; Employment Support; and Sports Leagues. Call for more information today!

**SPECIAL NOTE: SPA 6 COMMUNITY ADVISORY AND ADVOCACY COUNCIL AND DCFS KINSHIP REMINDS YOU TO REGISTER and GO OUT AND VOTE!!!**

**FREE / LOW COST HALLOWEEN EVENTS:**



**Hollywood Halloween Street Fair :** A more family friendly version of the West Hollywood street fair without the parade. There is no official event in Hollywood, but over 100,000 individuals have attended in the past. Costumed kids can trick-or-treat from shop to shop on Hollywood Blvd., **Location:** Hollywood Blvd., **Date:** October 31, **Hours:** Dusk to 10:00 pm **Cost:** Free

**Dia De Las Muertas Event at Olvera Street, Los Angeles:** The celebration that merges pre-Columbian beliefs with Catholic rituals. Honor loved ones who have passed away. Activities include children's workshops, music, dancing, parades, unique altars and more! **Location:** **Calle Olvera**, W-26 Olvera Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012, (213) 687-4391.

**Haunted Jail House:** October 30, 11:00 am - 4:00 am, **Location:** Santa Clarita Valley Sheriff's station, 23740 Magic Mountain Parkway, Santa Clarita, California 91355. In conjunction with the Sheriff's Department and the City, the Boys & Girls Club of Santa Clarita Valley will again offer a Halloween event for the family, complete with costume contests, food, games, and entertainment.

**Heritage Haunt Pumpkin Festival:** The Santa Clarita Valley Historical Society presents the family-friendly event with hayrides, live dance and music performances, pumpkin carving, Halloween makeup demonstration and a talk on paranormal activity at Heritage Junction, 10 am - 2 pm, October 13. Admission is \$5 or free admission with a donation of two cans of food (to be donated to the Santa Clarita Valley Food Pantry); free for children 17 and younger. Heritage Junction, 24101 Newhall Ave., Newhall. 661-254-1275. [scvhs.org](http://scvhs.org)

**Revenge of the Ninja: The South Bay's Best Maze:** October, 27, 28, 31 from 6:30 pm – 10:00 pm. Admission is free, however, a \$5.00 donation is appreciated. On Halloween night, the maze will be accompanied by a block party with food, games and fun for all ages. The Way of the Shadow Martial Arts Academy, 18727 Crenshaw Blvd., Torrance, CA 90504, (310) 503-3370.

**KEPS, THE NEXT GENERATION ORIENTATIONS:**



***(Pictured above is one group of September, KEPS, the Next Generation, Orientation Participants)***

**KEPS=Kinship Education Preparation and Support**

**Attention Relative Caregivers / Non-Related Extended Family Members:**

Come learn about DCFS in a comfortable setting, and learn about the legal process, ASFA, resources for caregivers, as well as an opportunity for those to ask general questions about DCFS.

**Orientations will be held:**

October 11, 2012- 9am-1:30pm: Presented by Rio Hondo College at Kinship South, 9834 Norwalk Blvd. Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670. [For this Orientation Only, call: 562-908-3435 to register.](http://www.keps.org)

October 19, 2012, 9:30am-12pm: Kinship North, 5035 W. Slauson Ave. Suite G Los Angeles, CA 90056

October 26, 2012: 9:30am-12pm: DCFS Pomona Office, 801 Corporate Center Drive, Pomona, CA. 91768.

*Phone 323-298-3515 to reserve your spot for the Orientations. To register for October 11 Orientation, see above.*

## IMPORTANT REMINDER PRIOR TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIVE LEGAL GUARDIANSHIP

At the time that your social worker talks to you about closing your case with Kin-GAP, recommending Legal Guardianship, this is an opportunity to discuss co-guardianship. Appointing a co-guardian at the same time that a primary legal guardian is appointed, and prior to court terminating jurisdiction, promotes stability and permanency for your child. If the co-guardian lives in a home different from you, an ASFA home assessment must be completed for the co-guardian by your social worker. The co-guardian must also sign the SOC 369 and SOC 369A forms prior to the establishment of the guardianship. Having a co-guardian appointed will also help avoid funding disruptions should you not be able to care for the child for some reason and the co-guardian takes over as the primary guardian.

## MUSEUM OF TOLERANCE TOUR



Free to kinship caregivers and **children 13 or older**, however, space is limited. Phone (323) 298-3515 immediately to reserve your spot. The date and time is Friday, November 30, 2012, 10:30 am tour. Please plan on arriving by 10:00 am. No late entries. Tour starts promptly at 10:30 am. Address: 9786 W. Pico Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90035. Parking and Directions: The Museum of Tolerance does not charge any fee for its underground parking. The entrance is on Pico Blvd. Please do not park on residential side streets. You will be ticketed and/or towed. For bus and rail information, please phone (323) 466-3876.

## DCFS KINSHIP'S GRANDPARENTS DAY EVENT AT THE DOMINGUEZ RANCHO ADOBE MUSEUM...



*(Pictured above left, the grounds at the Museum, and above right kinship caregiver and advocate Betty Halle, from the Office of Samoan Affairs and Kinship Manager, Marianne Yamato).*

On September 8, 2012, close to 70 kinship family members came out to celebrate Grandparent's Day at the Dominguez Rancho Adobe Museum in Rancho Dominguez, CA. Kinship families participated in candle making, sewing, brick making, toured the museum and were provided with a nice lunch in the museum gardens. Thanks to everyone that attended!

## LOOKING AHEAD...

**\*DCFS Kinship Division Annual Christmas Celebration.** December 15, 2012. More information to follow.

**\*MEND, Christmas Basket Registration**, 10641 San Fernando Rd. Pacoima, CA. 91331, (818) 896-0246  
WHO QUALIFIES: The Christmas Basket Program is only open to Low-Income Families with Children 14 years and younger. MEND serves Residents of Pacoima, Arleta, San Fernando, Sylmar, Lake View, Terrace, Mission Hills, and North Hills **ONLY**.  
REQUIREMENTS: In Order to Register, Families **MUST** bring **ALL** of the Following: \*Proof of Address; \*Proof of Family Income; \*ID for Each Adult; \*ID for Each Child Age 14 and under (Example: Birth Certificate, Medi-Cal Card, or School ID)  
REGISTRATION SCHEDULE: Registration was taken in September, last day to register if still available is Monday, October 1, 9:00 am - 4:30pm. Note: **Registration closes after 1,400 applicants.**

