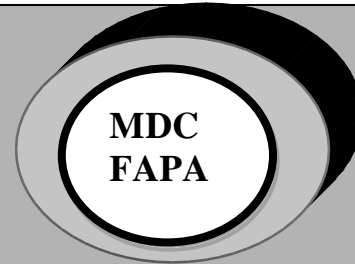


MIAMI DADE COUNTY FOSTER AND ADOPTIVE PARENT ASSOCIATION (“MDCFAPA”)

(Our Motto: “You Are Not Alone”)



MAY 2011 Newsletter

2011 MDCFAPA Board Members

(open to all resource parents = foster & adoptive parents, kinship and non-relative caregivers, as well as supporters of our mission in Miami-Dade County)

EMAIL: shabenj@aol.com

- **Shamele Jenkins, President**
(305) 469-1157
- **Valerie Somers, Vice President**
(305) 975-4582
- **Joann Jones, Corresponding Secretary**
(305) 308-5881
- **Edythe Smith, Recording Secretary**
(305) 205-0456
- **Ethel Rivers, Treasurer**
(305) 620-1658
- **David Oriee, Parliamentarian**
(305) 620-7492
- **Minister Willie Hardemon, Chaplain**
(786) 512-5946
- **Antoinette Moss, Board Member at Large**
(305) 835-6945
- **Percy Chin, Board Member at Large**
(786) 357-1899

The Miami Dade County Foster & Adoptive Parent Association (“MDCFAPA”) is open to all resource parents (foster, adoptive, biological parents & kinship and non-relative caregivers) in Miami Dade County as well as those interested in being advocates!

THREE (3) MEETINGS PER MONTH
1st Saturday & 3rd Wednesday
3rd Saturday (Homestead)

Sat. MAY 7, 2011

When: 1st Saturday of the Month,
10:00 a.m.

Where: **The Cultural Arts Center**
6161 NW 22nd Avenue

Topic: FOCUS GROUP

Speaker: many

When: 3rd Wednesday of the Month, 7:00 pm

Wed. MAY 18, 2010

Where: **Caleb Meeting Room**
5400 NW 22nd Ave– Miami

Topic: **MFC - Medically Needy Foster Or otherwise**
how to handle medically needy youth

Speaker: Marianne Penichet-Fox
Jackson Health Systems

Sat. MAY 21, 2011

TIME 10:00 a.m. - Noon

Where: **Philco Williams Community Center**
951 Southwest 4th Street
*HOMESTEAD 33030

Topic: ANGER MANAGEMENT

Speaker: **David J. Dowd, LCSW**
Terilee Wunderman, Ph.D.



MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Our annual membership dues are now **\$15.00** for the calendar year (Jan. – Jan.). For each “new member” you refer who joins you will receive “\$5.00” cold hard cash in return! To be added to the mailing list to receive the monthly meeting notice, please call **Joann Jones** at (305) 308-5881.



Events 2011

(All events are free for our members ONLY unless otherwise indicated! These events are not open to the public)



FAMILY NIGHTOUT

THE RED THREAD

(a play)

SATURDAY, MAY 21, 2011
7:30PM

The Playground Theatre
9806 NE 2nd Avenue - Miami Shores
Admission: \$2.00 per person
(only 100 seats available)

ANNOUNCEMENTS



FACEBOOK – join us

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=108551252524935&ref=ts>

Miami Dade County Foster & Adoptive Parent Association

MONTHLY CONFERENCE CALL

For all Foster/Adoptive Parents
1-888-808-6959 (toll free)
Code #9229094 * 8:30p – 9:30p

MAY 2, 2011

special date

(always the first Monday)

Monthly Teleconference with FSFAPA

This is your time to ask questions to the FSFAPA board, DCF staff, and CBC agencies.

F. A. S. T.

Foster Allegation Support Team
1-800-327-8119

HOMESTEAD BOUND

Sat. MAY 21, 2011

TIME 10:00 a.m. - Noon

Where: Philco Williams

Community Center

951 Southwest 4th Street

JUNE 2011

June 16-18, 2011

Florida State

Foster & Adoptive Parent Association Conference

Lake Buena Vista, Florida

Walt Disney World Dolphin Hotel, Lake Buena Vista

Room Rate: \$129 per night

Conference Registration: \$175 per person (includes lunch on Friday and the Awards luncheon on Saturday and continental breakfast)

Child care Friday – Saturday \$50 per day per child

Teen Conference: \$100 per teen

Bus Transportation will NOT be provided



POST-ADOPTION UNIT:

ADOPTION SUBSIDY ISSUES, HEALTH CARE AND MORE?

Our Kids of Miami Dade/Monroe, Inc.
Sandra Stewart – 305-455-6000

ADOPTION HOTLINE

1-866-894-1220 or 305-496-5098

POST ADOPTION SERVICES/QUESTIONS

- When another Community Based Care Agency/county needs assistance with:
- Family inquiry about specific child on state web site and upset no one will call them, including child's worker?
- Adult adoptee has requested non-identifying info and Reunion Registry must request closed adoption record?
- Adoptive family has requested post adoption services?
- Adoptive family is requesting tuition waiver letter for adopted child?

Sandra Stewart Miami-Dade and Monroe 305-455-1049

stewarts@ourkids.us

Bree Bofill Miami-Dade and Monroe 305-455-6000 Bofillb@ourkids.us

Adoption Tax Credits

The Affordable Care Act raises the maximum adoption credit to \$13,170 per child, up from \$12,150 in 2009. It also makes the credit refundable, meaning that eligible taxpayers can get it even if they owe no tax for that year. In general, the credit is based on the reasonable and necessary expenses related to a legal adoption, including adoption fees, court costs, attorney's fees and travel expenses. Income limits and other special rules apply.

GO TO: NACAC.org for more info

ONLINE TRAINING

www.fosterparents.com
www.fosterclub.com



SMOKE ALARMS

We have a free smoke/fire alarm for each and every family! Come to one of the FAPA meetings to get yours! **FREE one per family

MCKAY SCHOLARSHIPS– WARNING

Far too often, parents who have children accessing the McKay Scholarship seek summertime activities for their child and make the mistake of enrolling them in summer programs provided by the local school district, thereby losing the scholarship.

Children participating in ANY program funded by the school district through the FEFP (Florida Education Finance Program) are regarded as a "return to public school" and will result in forfeiture of the McKay Scholarship. These programs may include Extended School Year, Driver's Education, remedial programs, summer camp, or any other program for which the district receives FEFP funding.

Intent Date deadline for next school year:

Parents seeking to apply for the McKay Scholarship must file intent online by July 3, 2011 to receive 100% of the scholarship amount.

For more McKay Scholarship information please visit www.floridaschoolchoice.org or call 1-800-447-1636.



DENNY'S RESTAURANT MDCFAPA

Don't forget to visit specialty Denny's - And get your 15% discount

(see list on the back of your Denny's card)

Every MDCFAPA member is issued a Denny's Discount card – do you have one?

HOT WEBSITES

- Adoption Forum (<http://forums.adoption.com/florida-foster-adoption/>)
- Foster Family-Based Treatment Association (www.fft.org)
- Grandparents Raising Grandchildren (<http://www.grandspplace.org/gp4/fl.html>)