



MDC
FAPA

MIAMI DADE COUNTY FOSTER AND ADOPTIVE PARENT ASSOCIATION

(“MDCFAPA”)

(Our Motto: “You Are Not Alone”)

NOVEMBER 2011 Newsletter



MDC
FAPA

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,**
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(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

Sat. NOV. 5, 2011

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

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

Topic: CHI – Community Health of South Florida, Inc.

Speaker: Marie M. Alcineus
&
MDCFAPA Elections & Annual Reports

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

Wed. NOV. 16, 2010

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

Topic: CHI – Community Health of South Florida, Inc.

Speaker: Marie M. Alcineus
&
MDCFAPA Elections & Annual Reports

**** 3rd Sat. meeting**

Sat. NOV. 19, 2011

TIME 10:00 a.m. - Noon

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

Topic: CHI – Community Health of South Florida, Inc.

Speaker: Marie M. Alcineus
&
MDCFAPA Elections & Annual Reports

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.**

**DID YOU KNOW WE
RECOGNIZED AS THE
NUMBER #1 FOSTER &
ADOPTIVE PARENT
ASSOCIATION IN THE
STATE OF FLORIDA**

Thanks for your support!

Events 2011

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

NOV 2011

NOVEMBER IS NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH

Thurs. Nov. 3, 2011

7:30pm



Weakley Rodeo

4271 Davie Road/SW 64th Ave.
in Davie

FREE: 305-469-1157

National Adoption Day

Friday, November 18, 2011

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Adoption Awareness Picnic & Resource Fair

Saturday, November 19, 2011

Noon – 4pm

Dodge City, 16330 SW 147th Ave

Need more info: petkovij@me.com

ADOPTION SUPPORT LINE

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS



FACEBOOK – join us

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=1085512524935&ref=ts>

Miami Dade County Foster & Adoptive Parent Association

Our new website will be up and running in mid-November

www.miamidadefapa.org

F. A. S. T.

Foster Allegation Support Team

1-800-327-8119



DENNY'S RESTAURANT
MDCFAPA

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

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



ALL DAY CAR RENTAL

You will receive a 10% discount on car & van rentals
3900 NW 25th Street (airport)
(305) 634-3422

Show your membership card and Acct. #0017 and get your 10% off

DID YOU KNOW THAT

Florida State Foster & Adoptive Parent Assoc. has a new website - <http://www.floridafapa.org>

FSFAPA Monthly teleconference calls have been suspended!



If one or more of your children receive free school lunches, your household may qualify for Internet Essentials: <http://www.facebook.com/VAOACK1RXAQAuyshTFbUONXqQoO9oZWj7X3XrM65armzdQ/InternetEssentials.com/index.html>



TID BITS

GETTING A DIVORCE? The State of Florida now requires all parents seeking dissolution of marriage to complete a “parenting course” before granting a pending divorce!

TYPES OF ADOPTIONS

Open Adoptions: Many Families are moving towards open adoptions in Florida. They can provide the birth mother, child, and adoptive family with open communication and the ability to exchange information on family medical issues as well as other information that may be useful as the child matures and develops. **Closed Adoptions:** Other families prefer to have little or no contact with once the child has been adopted. With a Closed Adoption there is no further contact between the birth mother and the adoptive family.

Step-Parent Adoptions: Have the right to give your surname to the child; Have the right to participate in all major decisions regarding the child, including what happens if you and/or your spouse become incapacitated during the child's minority; Assume legal responsibility for the welfare of the child; Be listed as the child's parent on his or her birth certificate; Receive an expedited completion for uncontested adoption; Most stepparent adoptions occur when a divorced parent remarries and their new spouse adopts a child from a previous marriage. It is also common for a stepparent to adopt a child born out of wedlock. Florida adoption law has provisions by which a stepparent can adopt a child without the consent of the non-custodial, biological parent. **Grandparent and Relative Adoptions:** Grandparents often decide to adopt a grandchild for a variety of reasons, including an attempt to keep the family together: • Parents are unwilling to act responsibly • Mental health or medical problems • Parental substance abuse • Death of a parent • Child abuse, neglect or abandonment • Teenage pregnancy • Poverty. Grandparents may choose to adopt in order to provide health insurance, receive subsidized housing that includes the child, and enroll their grandchildren in school. The adoption process for a grandparent is often less complicated than for non-relative or newborn adoptions and generally requires less paperwork, which allows for an expeditious adoption process.