

Mental Health Providers Training for Trainers



Florida

With a funding stream from the county Children’s Board, the Sylvia Thomas Center (STC) of Tampa has partnered with NACAC to launch an adoption competency training for mental health providers in Hillsborough County. This eight-day series was developed and facilitated by NACAC’s *Jockey Being Family™* funded staff and national experts on attachment and clinical issues. The initial training was received with high praise by the 24 participants; these trainees are already scheduled to take the learning to the community in four trainings during 2009.

For information on how your community can benefit from the Adoption Competency for Mental Health Providers training, please contact Kim Stevens by email at kimstevens@nacac.org, or by phone at 508-254-2200.



Wisconsin

Eau Claire, WI CCN coalition members are traveling to St. Paul, Minnesota this December for some hands-on training in the parent liaison model. NACAC staff, including the program manager and regional liaisons will

be meeting with our Eau Claire partners for a day-long session on program implementation and support.

As a result of the widespread interest in this proven parent-to-parent post adoption model, NACAC staff is developing an implementation guide. The guide will be available in early 2009. For more information and to schedule training, please contact kimstevens@nacac.org



St. Louis

The first activity for the CCN project in St. Louis is to provide a trauma workshop for St. Louis-area parents and case managers. This two-day training will identify the profound effects abuse and neglect has on a child’s behaviors and development. Learning objectives include: 1) understanding the internal effects of trauma and how the abused or neglected child may behave; 2) developing trust and connection; 3) creating boundaries and structure for the child; 4) effectively responding the help a child heal; and 5) current program and treatment policy and practices. NACAC staff will be delivering the training in March or early April.

The St. Louis coalition is also looking to NACAC staff for technical assistance before and during the Missouri legislative session, with the goal of expanding funding for Missouri Adoption Resource Centers. Kudos to the St. Louis coalition for this creative use of CCN resources!

Ontario

The province of Ontario continues in its march forward for post adoption supports and services. Parents and professionals have formed a united front and are working in partnership with the Ministry, the CAS agencies, and the Adoption Council of Ontario to develop creative funding streams for implementing a parent support network, ongoing competency training, and an information clearinghouse. NACAC staff presents on the issues surrounding openness in adoption for CAS staff in Cobourg this December. This is the latest in a number of additional training opportunities that the CAS agencies have funded for staff and parents.



Alberta

NACAC is very pleased to announce a partnership with the Adoption Council of Canada (ACC) in launching the Community Champions Network project in Alberta. By combining resources (both human and financial), we are able to expand our outreach to families throughout the western regions of Canada.

During the first week of December, NACAC staff will host community forums in throughout Alberta. Following the forums, ACC and NACAC co-host a 3-day parent leadership training in Edmonton. Participants from Alberta, Manitoba, Vancouver, Saskatchewan, and the Northwest Territories will be in attendance. As the CCN-Alberta attendees begin

their journey in developing a post adoption support agenda for Alberta, the participants from other provinces will be working with ACC to develop a nation-wide liaison program.



Virginia

NACAC staff will introduce the CCN project to Virginia families and professionals with some help from our friends at the FACES of Virginia Families support network. FACES has a grant with the Virginia Department of Social Services to host community roundtables. They have graciously welcomed NACAC as a partner in these forums as we move forward in launching Community Champions Network. Stay tuned for more news from Virginia in early 2009!



Los Angeles

Parents in Los Angeles County have come forward to coordinate and host a Kids & Judges Day this May, in celebration of National Foster Care Month - stay tuned!

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