

Post Adoption Support Surveys

In an effort to more accurately understand and speak out on behalf of who our adoptive families are, and what they are both needing and finding success with, CCN staff has created and disseminated surveys in each of the Community Champions Network sites, and will soon post a national survey on the NACAC web site. We urge you to complete and submit the survey, as well as encourage other families you know to do so. The information we gather will inform advocacy messages and support our efforts at creating federal commitments in the US and Canada to provide the supports children need to stay safe and stable in their adoptive families. All survey links are posted below.

All Canada:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/P5SWFCP>

New Brunswick:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/6J8MMNY>

Nova Scotia:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Q92RPSM>

Ontario:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NVWGP56>

California, L.A. County:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NXWMB8M>

California, Sacramento:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NMCWNR5>

Colorado:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/LSHLNF6>

District of Columbia:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/HYTPN3Y>

Florida:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BLHCBN8>

Mississippi:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/C5D782Y>

Missouri:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/XSTP256>

Wisconsin:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/QYZK9R2>

Virginia:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/HDCP8LM>



Advocacy Training

CCN representatives from each US site and Parent Leadership representatives from NACAC's urban project will be joining forces in Washington, D.C. this May for a three-day advocacy training and meetings "on the Hill" with Senators and Representatives. The focus of the message will be state and federal commitments to post adoption supports and services. Our message is clear: children who have been placed from foster care into adoptive families need and deserve governmental support after permanency to help ensure lifelong family stability. And families know best both what is needed and what works - experienced adoptive parents and adopted youth are our best resources for one another's success!

Your voice matters - please complete and submit the survey (see above) to be heard!



Colorado

The Colorado Post Adoption Resource Center (COPARC), Colorado Coalition of Adoptive Families (COCAF) and CCN staff collaborated in February to host the "Find Your Voice" advocacy training. Close to 50 parents and professionals attended the two-day event, learning and sharing ideas related to educational, mental health, media, legislative, subsidy, collaborative and other advocacy issues. Evaluations were very positive and participants left with a renewed sense of commit-

ment and energy for their important work on behalf of children, youth and families.



Nova Scotia

It is with both sadness and gratitude that we are marking Lynnette Douglas' transition to a new job within the Nova Scotia government, after having served admirably in the role of Post Adoption Coordinator for the province. Lynnette's commitment to the families and children of Nova Scotia was greatly appreciated and she will be missed. Good luck in your future endeavors, Lynnette!



Sacramento

Sacramento CCN and the Capital Adoptive Family Alliance are hosting a two-day training for social workers and community mental health providers on June 3 and 4, followed by an adoptive parent community forum on June 5. Topics covered include: adoption competency overview; attachment and bonding; trauma, healing and development; brain development in adolescents; openness and kin; effective interventions; and family-centered practice. CEU's will be provided.



Ontario

The Heart Gallery of Ottawa launched in the Government Caucus Room of Parliament Hill on Thursday, April 15, 2010. Program highlights included: a panel discussion with current and former youth in care, presentations by adoptive parents, and the opportunity to view the portraits and profiles of the first 18

referrals to the project. Follow up dialogues with Parliament and adoptive parents were held in the next days. Congratulations to Ontario for a wonderful Heart Gallery debut!



Adoption Competency for Mental Health Providers

Congratulations to the Harden House Adoption Program at Southern Christian Services for Children and Youth in Mississippi for bringing the training for trainers to their state. Over eight days in January, February and March, NACAC staff and consultants worked with a team that included a state Department of Human Services manager, school-based counselors, treatment foster care therapists and managers, adoption specialists, and program directors. The training was very well received and the participants were engaged and excited - even developing new partnerships where there had been the expected professional rivalries.

Although we initially thought that this was the only assistance Mississippi was looking for, the closing conversation in MS about advocacy opportunities and challenges have us rethinking inclusion of Mississippi as a fourteenth CCN site!



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