



Crawford County Kinship Connection

224 Norton Way, Bucyrus, OH 44820 ~ 1-877-419-6049
Connie Taylor (ext. 236) & Peggy Reeves (ext. 235)– Kinship Coordinators

April 2011 - Volume 2 - Issue 4

UPCOMING EVENTS

4-28-11

Support Group

@ 6pm

Location:

Council on
Aging
Bucyrus

Support Group Meetings:

Our March Support group meeting speakers were Amy Bings & Linda Hess of the Capstone Enrichment School. Amy & Linda gave a presentation on bullying. We also received informative handouts, and if you would like one please call. Some information on bullying: ask your child if any children are mean to them, because not all children share this; inform the Principal as soon as you are aware of any bullying; document all that happens; keep talking to your child(ren) on a regular basis about bullying; and it can happen at any age. Children need to stay in groups to help reduce any bullying that may occur. Children need to learn to be confident and do not bully back. There are three counseling options in our county if you feel you child may need any extra support: Community Counseling Inc, 2458 Stetzer Road, Bucyrus -419-562-2000 & 1-866-562-2003, Affinity Healthworks, P.O. Box 722, Bucyrus, 419-569-6229 & Lutheran Social Services 1-877-343-2187.

April POTLUCK!!! We are having our April Support group meeting at Council On Aging in Bucyrus! Come join us in Bucyrus on **April 28th at 6pm.** Last month's support group decided they wanted to have a potluck! Bring your favorite dish, beverages and place settings will be provided. **Please call Connie at 1-877-419-6049 @236 and let her know by 4/22** with the number of children that are attending so we can ensure we have enough childcare & supplies!

We have decided to start sending a reminder TXT to those that wish to have a reminder about childcare for the meeting and another TXT just prior to the meeting. We can also call you on home phone for a reminder if you wish. If you would like to be added to this list, then please call Connie.



Kinship Job Support

Job openings are posted on our Kinship Facebook page. Please let us know if you do not have internet and would like us to mail you with the job openings on a regular basis! Please call Connie! To locate our Facebook page, please search for Crawford County Kinship Connection.



Kinship Support Group Meetings for 2011

Here are the meeting dates for next year. These are subject to change.

April 28 th Bucyrus	July 28 th Galion	Sept 29 th Galion
May 26 th Galion	Aug 25 th Bucyrus	Oct 27 th Bucyrus
June 30 th Bucyrus		Dec 1 st ????

Dec 1st should be our Christmas Party. The location will be announced closer to the party date! Clip this and stick it to your fridge!

Bucyrus-Council on Aging, 200 S. Spring Street & Galion-Child Care Choices, 601 South St.

Toll Free Kinship Care Line

**1-877-419-
6049 @235**

or

**419-569-0160
419-562-0015**

Kinship Website
www.kinship.ohio.org

Capstone Enrichment Center will be holding it's 7th Annual "Art Saves Lives" Art Show and Sale on Fri. May 20th from 10 am to 2pm @ 120 Harding Way East, Galion, Ohio. Students create art work throughout the year, and then present it in a "Gallery Opening" type setting, complete with appetizers. The proceeds from the sale of art work will go to Capstone's field trip fund.

The students are very proud to see their art work framed and presented in a "professional" manner. They enjoy taking visitors through the show, and pointing out their own pieces of work. This has become a very popular community event. We hope you can join us!

Kids Club:

Here is a picture from our Kids Club event for last month!

Odyssey, Kory and Kyle enjoyed the flower pot craft!

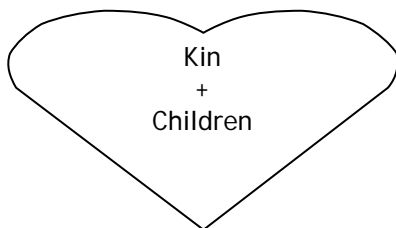


Kinship Directory:

Come prepared to have your picture taken at our next meeting! The support group has decided to have a Kinship Directory. Members would like to have contact information when someone wants to reach out for a listening ear of someone who has been there and is there going through a similar situation. This directory will have pictures of our kinship families and contact information. It is up to you if you want your entire family in the directory for the picture or no picture at all. It is up to you what type of contact information you want included. This directory will be mailed to all new members. We can also come to you to take family pictures! You can also forward a picture and contact information to Peggy (reevep01@odjfs.state.oh.us). If you have any questions about this directory, please come to our next meeting or call us!

Kinship – Spread The Word:

We want to reach out to all kinship families to let them know we are here! We are currently trying to put together a float for area parades. Are you creative or handy? We need you! We are also looking for a short logo to represent our Kinship Group. We want to have a few creative ideas for everyone to vote on. Here is one:



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Kinship Connection

Crawford Park District Activities:

Viewing the Night Sky - Saturday, April 9, 9 PM - Lowe-Volk Park - Join members of the Richland Astronomical Society and CPD volunteers as they share their knowledge and telescope skills with all who are interested in the celestial sights. Bring your own telescope or allow the volunteers to assist you with those provided. It is a spectacular universe!

Wildflower Walk - Sunday, April 10 3PM - Sears Woods - Early spring brings with it an explosive growth within our woodlands. Meet Warren Uxley at the Sears Woods parking lot.

Spring Wildflower Walk- Saturday, April 16, 2PM - Heckert- Come, enjoy the spring show of color put on by our local wildflowers. Bring the whole family for a hike at Heckert Nature Preserve on SR 19 and discover spring wildflowers with Wendy Peyton.

Nature Story and Craft - Saturday, April 30, 1PM - Lowe-Volk- Celebrate spring with Joy Etter-Link as you listen to a nature story and then have fun making a spring time craft. Geared for a younger crowd, but all youth are welcome.

Kitty Litter Cake

- 1 (18.25 ounce) package German chocolate cake mix
- 1 (18.25 ounce) package white cake mix
- 2 (3.5 ounce) packages instant vanilla pudding mix
- 1 (12 ounce) package vanilla sandwich cookies
- 3 drops green food coloring
- 1 (12 ounce) package tootsie rolls



1. Prepare cake mixes and bake according to package directions (any size pan).
2. Prepare pudding according to package directions and chill until ready to assemble.
3. Crumble sandwich cookies in small batches in a food processor, scraping often. Set aside all but 1/4 cup. To the 1/4 cup add a few drops of green food coloring and mix.
4. When cakes are cooled to room temperature, crumble them into a large bowl. Toss with 1/2 of the remaining cookie crumbs, and the chilled pudding. You probably won't need all of the pudding, you want the cake to be just moist, not soggy. Line kitty litter box with the kitty litter liner. Put cake mixture into box.
5. Put half of the unwrapped tootsie rolls in a microwave safe dish and heat until softened. Shape the ends so that they are no longer blunt, and curve the tootsie rolls slightly. Bury tootsie rolls randomly in the cake and sprinkle with half of the remaining cookie crumbs. Sprinkle a small amount of the green colored cookie crumbs lightly over the top.

Heat 3 or 4 of the tootsie rolls in the microwave until almost melted. Scrape them on top of the cake and sprinkle lightly with some of the green cookie crumbs. Heat the remaining tootsie rolls until pliable and shape as before. Spread all but one randomly over top of cake mixture. Sprinkle with any remaining cookie crumbs. Hang the remaining tootsie roll over side of litter box and sprinkle with a few green cookie crumbs. Serve with the pooper scooper.

<http://allrecipes.com/Recipe/Kitty-Litter-Cake/Detail.aspx>

EARTH DAY CRAFT- YUMMY SCULPTURE - April 22nd is Earth Day

Its a chance to celebrate Mother Nature and all of her gifts. Its also a chance to learn about how things grow & how we can take care of the earth ... on April 22nd and everyday.

What You Need:

-toothpicks
-potatoes, apples, carrots, lettuce, parsley, peanuts, raisins, cucumbers, cherry tomatoes, olives, oranges etc.

<http://www.kinderart.com/seasons/earth1.shtml>

What You Do:

-Using toothpicks, create sculpture (faces, animals insects etc.) by attaching bits of fruit and veggies to other bits of fruits and veggies.

-On a potato, 2 raisins can become eyes, lettuce can be hair and parsley can be a mustache

-Make insects by attaching cherry tomatoes together with black olives and add bits of green onion! Have fun and eat the "fruits" of your labor!

Need Something? Have Something? Call Us!

Needed: Computer

Twin bed, box spring & frame, and a crib

Big Wagon

Donating:

Don't Forget Facebook: We are trying to update our Kinship Connection Facebook page with up to date information. For more information about Facebook, please call!

Coming Soon: Job & Family Services is working on a website to list the available services for our agency. Kinship will also have a page with updated information. More about this in the future!

April Funny Days:

National Humor Month- 1-30

National Read a Road Map Week- 4-10

Name Yourself Day- 9

National Egg Salad Week- 12-18

National Pecan Day- 14

National Eggs Benedict Day- 16

National Cheeseball Day- 17

Garlic Day- 19

National Jelly Bean Day- 22

National Pigs-in-a-blanket Day- 24

National Zucchini Bread Day- 25

Here Are Some Area Training Options:

INTERVENTIONS WITH CHILDREN WHO HAVE SUFFERED TRAUMA

Dates: Wednesday & Thursday, April 13 & 14, 2011 **Time:** 6:30 P.M. - 9:30 P.M. (6 hrs.)

Trainer: David Zidar **Location:** Marion County CSB, 1680 Marion-Waldo Road, Marion

Description: Children in foster care experience a vastly higher rate of trauma than their non-foster peers. Some estimates are that 51% of the children in care suffer Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. The adults in these children's lives must have an understanding of the role trauma plays in the children's behavior and achievement of developmental milestones. Parents need to understand that the impact of trauma is idiosyncratic; each child will manifest it differently. Participants will learn ways to help improve functioning, as well as how to work with the mental health system.

FOSTERING SELF-RELIANCE IN CHILDREN AND YOUTH:ROOTS AND WINGS

Date: Saturday, April 16, 2011 **Time:** 9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. (6 hrs.)

Trainer: Ronna Johnson **Location:** Marion County CSB, 1680 Marion-Waldo Road, Marion

Description: Parents must equip their children to survive on their own by the time they reach adulthood. The process of enhancing a child's ability to be self-reliant begins around 18 months of age and continues into young adulthood. Parents begin this process with the simplest learning opportunities in daily living skills, and they will increase the complexity of the activities and skills as the child matures. Building self-reliant adults is an intentional process. This workshop gives parents and caregivers specific tools to foster self-reliance in children of all ages and developmental levels.

PACKING AND UNPACKING: HOW TO DEAL WITH THE BAGGAGE OF VISITATION

Date: Saturday, April 16, 2011 **Time:** 9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. (6 hrs.)

Trainer: Jim Still-Pepper **Location:** Richland County CSB, 731 Scholl Road, Mansfield

Description: This training will help participants explore the issues and dilemmas created by visitation. The training will NOT cover legal issues or ways of avoiding visitation, but we will devote time to developing strategies that maximize positive aspects and minimize negative issues surrounding visits with biological parents.

WHEN WORLDS COLLIDE: TEAMING WITH THE HOSTILE PARENT

Date: Wednesday, April 20, 2011 **Time:** 6:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M. (3 hrs.)

Trainer: Anthony President **Location:** Richland County CSB, 731 Scholl Road, Mansfield

Description: Hostile birth parents who view foster parents as the enemy may be experiencing intense anger. The angry birth parent may resort to aggression as a means to respond to the stress of the separation and placement of their children. This workshop deals with the concept of communicating the willingness and desire to work with birth parents for the benefit of the child, as well as goal-centric teamwork between birth parents and foster parents. Participants will learn the root cause of birth parent aggression and useful strategies to help birth parents transform their energy from aggression into energy for case plan completion.

Please call if you are interested in attending either of these training sessions in our county.

*Attending any of these training sessions is dependent on the availability of open seats.

Autism Support Group Information:

Mansfield Autism and Asperger's Syndrome Support Group

Contact: Deborah Melching **Phone:** 419-589-8762 **Email:** aawdeb@yahoo.com

Meets 1st Mon. of every month at the Early Childhood Center, 255 Hedges St.,
Mansfield, OH 44902

Autism Support Group - Contact: Angie Bushey **Phone:** 419-342-5084 **Email:** ALJW@aol.com