

Let's hear YOUR voice!

Child and Family Charities' would appreciate if ALL of you could take a moment to complete a short online survey about our agency. As we hope to continually improve our service and quality of care to all clients and individuals that we work with, it's important that we hear your feedback! The link can be accessed at:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DYM57LQ>

wait.....ANOTHER Survey???

Every year, we like to send a survey out specific to all of our licensed families and receive feedback about our specific program. We recognize that we are asking a lot from you this month but just know that your feedback helps us to learn how best to grow and improve. The annual FOSTER PARENT SURVEY will be mailed out soon. Thank you for taking the time to let us know how we are doing and for your input!

Dear Foster Parent—You will be OKAY!

For some of us, this “time of year” is almost like a fresh start. A new school year has started, the calendar is beginning to reflect fall-like activities and the holiday festivities are starting to be planned. Our hope is that our children will also feel this sense of renewal but sometimes this “time of year” can also make things seem worse.



How do you cope? How do you help the children cope? We all have some coping skills, but they may not always be good ones. Consider how you respond to stress and be intentional about self-care. Attend support group, network with other foster parents, etc. At Child and Family, we recognize this is important for our staff and we are starting some planned discussions and activities within our unit to ensure we remain trauma-informed and take care of ourselves too!

WE NEED
JUST A
LITTLE OF YOUR
TIME

**Capital Area Interagency Coalition
2016 Foster/Adopt PRIDE Training
Schedule**

October Meeting Location:
**Eaton County Department of Health
and Human Services** 1050
Independence Blvd.
Charlotte, MI 48813

**RSVP to your CFC licensing worker to
register for these training sessions**

Session	Date	Time
1	Tuesday October 4, 2016	6pm – 9pm
2	Thursday October 6, 2016	6pm – 9pm
3 & 4	Saturday October 8, 2016	9am – Noon, 1-4pm (Potluck Lunch)
5	Tuesday October 18, 2016	6pm – 9pm
6	Thursday October 20, 2016	6pm – 9pm
7	Saturday October 22, 2016	9am – Noon
9	Saturday October 22, 2016	Noon – 1pm (Potluck Lunch)
8	Saturday October 22, 2016	1pm – 4pm

It's "Back to School" Season!

The Delayed After Effect!!



School

- Child accumulates stress chemicals throughout the day at school.
- Child holds it together while at school.



Home

- Parents experience the meltdown once child gets home.
- Teacher doesn't see the problem.

What are you doing to prepare for the new school year? For most students, it involves setting up their locker, getting their supplies and clothes ready. For a foster parent, it may require a different kind of preparation. It may involve increased appointments with your child's psychiatrist for medication management, additional resources for dealing with behaviors and preparing to advocate for your child and their needs in parent/teacher conferences. For some foster parents, it is a fulfilling experience but for others, it can make your experience very stressful. In order to equip all of you in your journey as a foster parent, we have provided some resources and information below that you may find helpful to add to your back-to-school list this year!

Foster Parent & Child Resources as related to EDUCATION needs:

- ⇒ Have a child facing expulsion? Need some support helping kids stay in school or get back in school? Call the **STUDENT ADVOCACY CENTER of MICHIGAN** at 734-482-0489 or <http://www.studentadvocacycenter.org/>
- ⇒ Questions about an IEP, behavior plans or special education? The **Michigan Protection and Advocacy Services** agency is very helpful in providing info, resources and support!
- ⇒ Looking for **quality childcare or preschool** for your little ones? This website allows you to search and review ratings, openings, cost and eligibility in one spot! Go to <http://greatstarttoquality.org/>
- ⇒ The **McKinney Vento Act** makes provisions for foster children to have access to services, support, transportation (to their same school even upon removal) and other resources. For more info go to http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,1607,7-140-6530_30334_40067---,00.html

New Foster Parent Orientation:

Do you know someone who might be interested in learning more about becoming a foster parent? FREE orientations are held every other Monday from 6:00-8:00pm at CFC. Upcoming orientations are **Sept 26th and Oct 10th**. Contact Linda Rathbun at 517-882-4000 ext. 140

Reminder....

Child Welfare staff continue to appreciate your understanding around our need for protected time. **Every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8:30a to 10a** staff will not be receiving calls or scheduling appointments as they will be using this time to focus on completing required office tasks. Thank you!

Support Groups at CFC:

Foster Parent Support Group Meets the 1st Tuesday (new day!!) of each month from 6-8pm (free training credits!) RSVP to sue@childandfamily.org or at ext. 141

Adoptive Parent Support Group – Meets the 4th Monday each month 6:30-8:30p (free call ahead childcare) RSVP to koreywheeler@childandfamily.org ext. 133