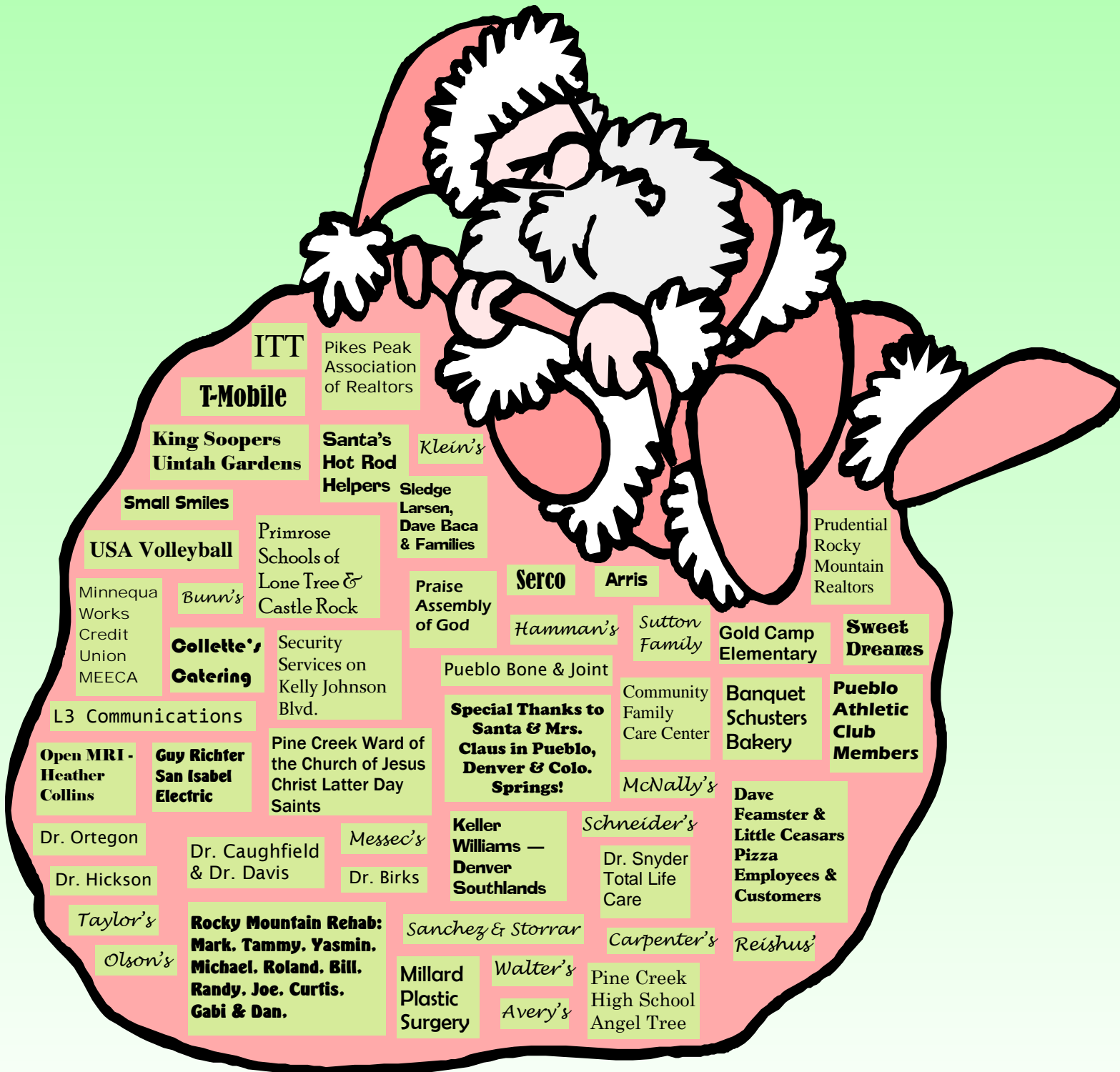


We are so grateful to everyone who donated gifts and food to foster children and families this holiday season.



Thank You & Happy New Year!!!



Kids Crossing
Families Helping Families

Newsletter • Dec. 28, 2010

www.kidscrossing.com

Main Office, Colorado Springs
1440 E. Fountain Blvd.
Colorado Springs, CO 80910
Phone: 719-632-4569
Fax: 719-632-6573

Denver 303-861-8915
Pueblo 719-545-3882



Support/Training Available in the Community:

FREE TRAINING 1-13-2011 TIME 12PM-2PM
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED DETAILS BELOW

JOURNEYS, Inc. Child Placement Services is hosting a FREE training for anyone interested in crisis intervention and suicide prevention for those who have children or work with children. The Pueblo Suicide Prevention Center staff will present information on:

- 1) How to identify early warning signs of a mental health emergency
- 2) How to help in a crisis
- 3) How to offer hope
- 4) How to get help and save a life

Q.P.R Training (Question, Persuade and Refer) will be held on:
JANUARY 13th, 2011 from 12pm - 2pm
LOCATION: Thatcher Building Boardroom
(Next to Anton's restaurant - Lower Level)
503 N. Main Street, Pueblo, CO 81003

RSVP REQUIRED - seating is limited. Please call 543-8965 or email admin@journeyscps.org
Two training credit hours are available

!!! Due to the subject matter - training is for Adults only. NO children under 18 will be allowed so please make prior arrangements for daycare !!!

Toolkit for Positive Parenting of Children/Youth in Out-of-Home-Care

This training will help foster parents and caseworkers to understand the children/youth in their care from a developmental perspective and will offer specific approaches to "corrective caregiving." Our premise is that maltreatment is a disturbance in the parent child relationship, which usually begins in the earliest days and months of the child's life and persists until addressed and resolved.

- Children/youth bring what they have learned about relationships with caregivers into foster care, and many of their behavioral issues are rooted in their lack of trust or in their inability to self-regulate.
- There will be emphasis in the training on the first three years of life and how early experience and failure to resolve these tasks results in longterm behavioral and relationship problems with subsequent care providers.
- Behavior will be discussed in the context of the child/youth's whole life experience, and offer information that will help "zero in" on identifying the origins and meaning of problem behaviors.
- Practical approaches to troublesome behaviors, which will help the child rework past developmental issues via "corrective caregiving experiences" as well as behavior management.

February 14-15, 2011 Denver Metro Area
March 14-15, 2011 Denver Metro Area
April 26-27, 2011 Pueblo
May 23-24, 2011 Grand Junction

Upon completion, you will receive a certificate for 10 hours of training credit. Breakfast will be provided both days. Lunch on your own.

To register, please go to www.cdhsacademy.com
If you have questions, please contact Leslie Navarro at leslie.navarro@state.co.us or 303-866-7170.



SUPPORT GROUP
For Parents of Children with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders or Other Cognitive Disabilities

Friday January 21, 2011
6-8 PM
Potluck

Child Care Provided
(Donation Appreciated)

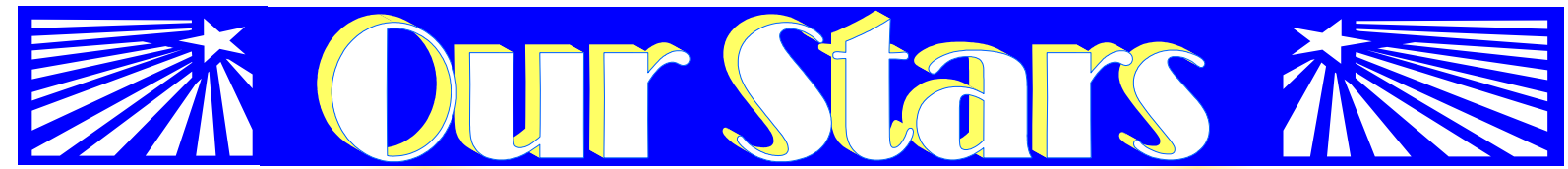
CASA of the Pikes Peak Region
701 SOUTH CASCADE AVENUE
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80903

Please RSVP for Child Care
Eileen Bisgard
303-654-3246
Eileen.bisgard@judicial.state.co.us

YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD IN COLO. SPRINGS

- Youth in foster care and foster parents are encouraged to attend YAB meetings — this is a great opportunity for youth to feel heard and participation is a great resume builder, too.
- The YAB meets at the Community Prep School gymnasium, 332 E. Willamette from 5 to 6 p.m.
- Next meeting date is Tuesday, January 11.
- Adult supervision is provided at these meetings.
- If you have questions or need help with transportation, please call Deanna at 667-7055 or Melissa at 667-7044.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES, ETC.



Colo. Springs

❖ OPEN HOUSE • 1 HOUR

Tuesday, Jan. 4 at 5:30 to 6:30pm at 1440 E. Fountain Blvd., Colo. Springs. The Open House introduces Kids Crossing to potential foster parents and anyone else interested in knowing more about Kids Crossing and foster care. It's also a great way for veteran foster parents to get an update. RSVP to Melissa Parkowski at 667-7044 or mparkowski@kidscrossing.com.

❖ CORE TRAINING • 12 HOURS

- ◆ Kids Crossing, Colo. Springs office.
- ◆ Wed. Jan. 26 • 6 to 10 pm
AND
- ◆ Sat. Jan. 29 • 9 am to 5 pm (with a break for lunch).
- ◆ A commitment to attend both days is required.
- ◆ RSVP to Jackie Porter at 667-7050 or jporter@kidscrossing.com.

❖ BEYOND CONSEQUENCES • 20 HOURS

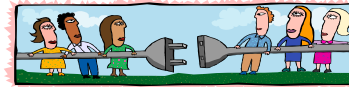
- ◆ Kids Crossing, Colo. Springs office.
- ◆ Ten weeks on Thursday mornings, beginning January 13, going through March 17.
- ◆ 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.
- ◆ RSVP to Melissa Parkowski at 667-7044 or mparkowski@kidscrossing.com.
- ◆ Child care will not be provided for this training.

Denver

❖ BEYOND CONSEQUENCES • 20 HOURS

- ◆ Kids Crossing, Aurora Office, 14901 E. Hampden Ave., Suite 205.
- ◆ Starting Monday nights on January 10 and meeting for ten weeks, **except for Jan. 17 and Feb. 21, which are holidays.**
- ◆ Meeting time from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
- ◆ Learn more about working with children with difficult behaviors and earn 2 training credits per night.
- ◆ FREE to Kids Crossing Foster Parents and Group Home Parents/Staff.
- ◆ Register with Amy Amy at 303-861-8915 or aharder@kidscrossing.com.
- ◆ Unfortunately, daycare cannot be provided.

COLO. Springs
Foster Parent
Support Groups



*** FOSTER PARENT SUPPORT GROUPS ***

BOTH GROUPS ARE CANCELLED IN JANUARY.

*** NEW FORMAT BEGINNING IN FEBRUARY ***

◆ 1st Group Meeting:

- 2nd Friday of each month — Feb. 11.
- 10 to 11 a.m.
- Will consist of a training.

◆ 2nd Group Meeting:

- 4th Friday of the month — Feb. 25
- 10 to 11 a.m.
- Foster Parent Support Group. Foster parents will be given the opportunity to discuss any frustrations they have run into and get advice from other foster parents, to share positive stories, and to meet other foster parents to build that support system.
- ◆ KC will provide beverages for both of these meetings. Please bring a snack to share.
- ◆ Child care will be provided with an RSVP.
- ◆ RSVP to Melissa at 667-7044 or mparkowski@kidscrossing.com.
- ◆ If there are any concerns about the changes in the support format, times being offered, or if you have ideas about topics for training or discussion, please feel free to contact Melissa.

*** MENTORING SUPPORT GROUP — COLO. SPRINGS ***

- ◆ Thurs. Jan. 6 • 10 to 11 a.m.
- ◆ This group is for foster parents who have been licensed at least 3 years and are interested in mentoring new foster parents.
- ◆ Child care will be provided with an RSVP to Melissa at 667-7044 or mparkowski@kidscrossing.com.

Pueblo

♥ LOVE & LOGIC TRAINING:

- ◆ Catholic Charities
- ◆ 429 West 10th St. Suite 102
- ◆ Phone: 544-4233 ext 120 or 112
- ◆ Fee: \$25 a person or \$30.00 a couple.

★ WELCOME NEW FOSTER PARENTS!

- ♥ Lori & David in Pueblo!
- ♥ Joe & Josephine in Pueblo!

★ **KUDOS!** Two Kids Crossing foster-adopt families were recognized by El Paso County DHS for the work they have done with adopted children. Our congratulations go out to Sonya & Dante and Sam & Mindy!

★ **Going ABOVE & BEYOND!** Foster mother, Ana was recognized last month for doing a great job working with the four children in her home. In addition to working with the sibling group of four, she has been working with other agencies in the community and a therapist as one of the children has been struggling quite a bit, and Ana has been a great support to her.

★ **SUPER Job!** Foster parents, Lindsey & Chris facilitated a relative visit for the child in their care. The child's aunt came to visit him in preparation for his move to aunt's home. They picked her up at the airport, took her to church with the child and spent the day with her and the child. This made the transition much easier for him.

★ **MAKING a DIFFERENCE!** Foster parents, Renee & Paul have demonstrated a strong commitment to work with the children in their home in spite of the extreme family issues in the children's family.

★ **THANK YOU!** Denise, Manuel Jordan for sticking it out with the boys, despite what they throw at you.

★ **WELL DONE!** Foster parents, Milly & Wayne met with the mother of the children in their home to discuss continuity of care for the children, including medical and dental care and therapies the girls are in. Milly has also discussed parenting with this mother, in order to assist her in providing the best care possible.

★ **DOING LOTS OF HARD WORK!** The director of the boys group home in Pueblo has continued to work diligently with two youth in his home, despite numerous problems, including problematic behaviors directed at other youth and staff. He has done a great job of working with the youth, their families and caseworkers involved. He has also transported youths to Colorado Springs for visits and meetings.

★ **Going the EXTRA Mile!** Foster parents, Paula & Brad have been caring for two siblings. They recently took the other two children in the family in order to keep the children together. Prior to the second placement, they traveled to another city, picked up the two children and brought them back home for weekend visits to assist with the transition.

★ **THANK YOU!** Foster parents, Colleen & Roger transported the children in their care to the Denver area, so they could spend Thanksgiving with their mother and maternal grandmother.

★ **WAY to GO!** Foster parents, Deborah & Edward worked with the school district to assist with a teen girl's transfer between high schools when she changed foster homes. They arranged for the girl's grades to be frozen so that she wouldn't lose credits due to the move.

"Keep doing What YOU do so Well!"