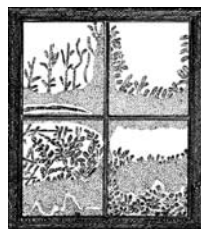




Kids Crossing  
Colo. Springs Office

## WINTER COATS & VESTS

We recently received a large donation of new and lightly-used winter coats, thanks to Project Meet Me Halfway, whose goal is to reach out to teens aging out of the foster care system. (For more information about Project Meet Me Halfway, go to [www.projectMMH.org](http://www.projectMMH.org)).



Sizes range from 18-months to adult extra-large, with a mixture for both boys and girls, from toddlers to teens.

Please feel free to come by the office to check and see if some of these jackets would work for the kiddos in your family.



"When one of your kids comes up to you and hugs you for no reason, it makes this roller coaster all worth it."

-Kids Crossing Foster Parent-

## Kids Santa Shop Monday • Dec. 20th • 2010 By Appointment from 1 to 6 pm

What is the "Kids Santa Shop"? It's simple! The Kids Santa Shop is a holiday "store" at Kids Crossing in Colorado Springs for children, ages 3 to 18. It's a place where kids from all Kids Crossing Foster Homes (Pueblo, Denver and Colorado Springs) will have an opportunity to "shop" and choose Christmas gifts. Kids pick out gifts, wrap what they've chosen, and take their packages home to put them under their trees for Christmas or to give to their moms and dads at Christmas visits. (Oh, this is exciting!)



How does the Kids Santa Shop work?

1. **Contact Leslie at 719-667-7068 or [lcampbell@kidscrossing.com](mailto:lcampbell@kidscrossing.com)** to make an appointment to bring your children in to Kids Crossing for the Kids Santa Shop on Dec. 20, between 1 and 6pm.
2. Prepare a list for each child, listing the names each child will be shopping for, which can be:
  - (1) Parents and/or
  - (2) Brothers & sisters (please include gender and age of each sibling).

**PLEASE NOTE:** Due to limited supply of gifts for parents, we need all the children from each home to get together and pick out one gift for each parent. Also, we won't be able to include siblings not living at home, grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc., on shopping lists this year—only parents and siblings living at home.

3. Bring your kids, with their lists, to Kids Crossing at your appointed time. Then, you get to relax in the lobby (we don't want to spoil the surprise!) while Kids Crossing staff assist your children through the Kids Santa Shop, helping them to choose and wrap gifts. (You will also be able to enjoy holiday music and refreshments while you wait for your shoppers.)



When should you contact Leslie for your Santa Shop appointment?  
**NOW!** The supply of gifts is limited.



**Kids Crossing**  
Families Helping Families

# Newsletter • Nov. 30, 2010

[www.kidscrossing.com](http://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**

## Denver Foster Parents Monthly Support Group Meetings

**NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:**  
MONDAY • JANUARY 3RD • 6:30 PM

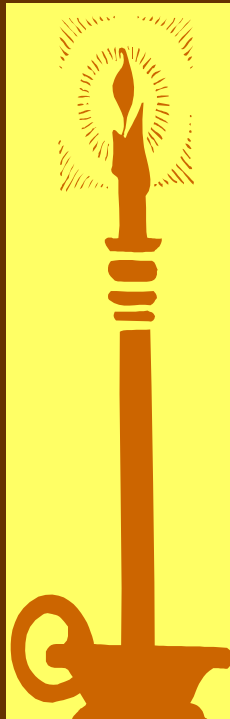
**RSVP IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND:** Contact Amy at 303-861-8915 or [aharder@kidscrossing.com](mailto:aharder@kidscrossing.com).

**CHILD CARE:** Child care will be available — please also let Amy know if you will need child care.

**REFRESHMENTS:** Snacks and beverages will be provided

**TRAINING CREDIT:** 1.5 hours.

**TOPIC:** To Be Announced.



**KC FOSTER FAMILIES  
CHRISTMAS PARTIES:**

**Pueblo —**  
Friday • Dec. 10th.  
Praise Assembly of God.  
Welcome 5:30 • Dinner 6:00  
RSVP by 12/2. Call 545-3882.

**Colo. Springs —**  
Monday • Dec. 13th.  
Sunnyside Christian Church.  
5:00 to 7:30 • Dinner 5:30 to 6:30  
RSVP by 12/9.  
Contact Home Supervisor.

**Denver —**  
Tuesday • Dec. 14th.  
Casa Bonita • 5pm  
RSVP required.  
Contact Home Supervisor.

## Handling Emergency Placements

**Question:** What do you do to make children/teens feel welcomed and less anxious when you take placements in the middle of the night?

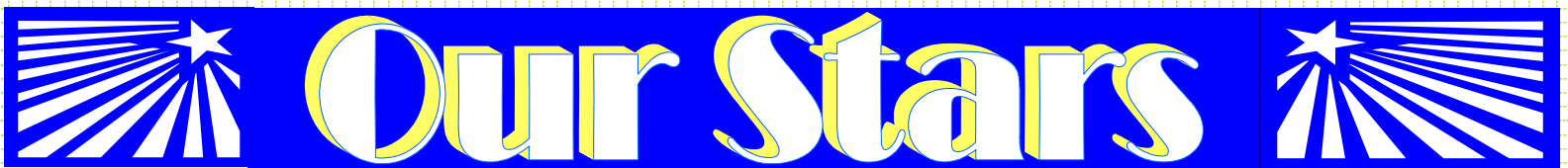
**Milly, a foster mom for toddlers and young children:** Keep a night light on — door open. I let them know that my door is open, and I am right next to them. May have to fix them something to eat. When all else fails, plan on a long night of holding or rocking, or you may need to put a cartoon on. It's not about our comfort or sleeping, it's about the needs of the children.

## MoneyWise Program for Kids!

Dec. 9 at 5:00 p.m.

- \$ Fully interactive 90-minute class about making wise financial choices.
- \$ For kids 12 years of age and older.
- \$ Baked treats will be provided.
- \$ At Kids Crossing, 14901 E. Hampden Ave., Suite 205, Aurora.
- \$ RSVP to Amy at 303-861-8915 or [aharder@kidscrossing.com](mailto:aharder@kidscrossing.com).

# TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES, ETC.



## Colo. Springs

❖ **OPEN HOUSE • 1 HOUR**  
 The next open house is scheduled Tuesday, **Dec. 7th, 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.

❖ **CPR/FIRST AID TRAINING:**

- ◆ Kids Crossing, Colo. Springs.
- ◆ Thu. Dec. 16 ■ First Aid - 5:30pm ■ CPR 7:30pm
- ◆ Sat. Dec. 18 ■ First Aid - 9:00am ■ CPR - 11:00am
- ◆ RSVP to Kathleen at 667-7062 or send an email to kmueller@kidscrossing.com.

❖ **CORE TRAINING • 12 HOURS**

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

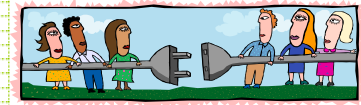
❖ **BEYOND CONSEQUENCES • 20 HOURS**

- ◆ 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.

## 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.
- ♥ **ASSOCIATES FOR PSYCHOTHERAPY & EDUCATION:**  
 924 Indiana Ave. Classes meet at 6pm.  
 Call 564-9039 to register. Fee: \$5.  
 Dec. 7: Writing a Personal Mission Statement for the New Year.  
 Dec. 14: Understand Self-Harm Behavior.

## Colo. Springs Foster Parent Support Groups



**\*\*\* FOSTER PARENT SUPPORT GROUP \*\*\***

**DATES & TIMES:**

- THU • DEC. 9 • 1:00 - 2:30
- WED • DEC. 15 • 6:00 - 7:30 PM

**TOPIC:** Tammy Pitzen from **SAFE PASSAGE** will be joining us to discuss what services they offer, what types of investigations they are involved in, and to discuss sexual play vs. sexual offending behaviors.

**RSVP if you plan to attend:** Call Melissa at 667-7044 or send an email to mparkowski@kidscrossing.com.

**CHILD CARE:** Please RSVP for child care, or we won't be able to provide it. Contact Melissa (see above.)

**REFRESHMENTS:** Please bring a snack to share; Kids Crossing will provide beverages.

**TRAINING CREDIT:** 1.5 hours.

**\*\*\* MENTORING SUPPORT GROUP — COLO. SPRINGS \*\*\***  
 This meeting, which is usually held from 10 to 11 a.m. on the first Thursday of the month, is **CANCELLED** in December. See you in January!

## 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.

### ★ CONGRATULATIONS & BEST WISHES ON NEW ADOPTIONS!!!

- ♥ Rose & Jamie — a son.
- ♥ Paula & Hans — a daughter.
- ♥ Phyllis & Felix — two sons.
- ♥ Perry & Krista — two sons.
- ♥ Edie & Christopher — a daughter.
- ♥ Rosie & David — a son.

### ★ WELCOME NEW FOSTER PARENTS!

- ♥ Rodney & Deanna in Pueblo!
- ♥ Newman Group Home in Denver.

★ **KUDOS!** Foster parents, Gloria & Al have been working with a family member of the youth in their home and maintaining excellent contact with her, even though she has been difficult to work with in the past.

★ **SUPER Team Effort!** Foster mother, Cindy did a great job of working with parents in transitioning their child back home. She provided excellent information to the parents to assist with caring for the child's health needs.

★ **KUDOS!** Foster parents, Paul & Renee took the young children in their care on a weekend vacation to Utah (with Caseworker and Court permission).

★ **THANK YOU!** Foster parents, Sam & Eleanor continue to do a wonderful job of providing unconditional support to the child while working on the child's behavior.

★ **Going ABOVE & BEYOND!** Foster mother, Suni continues to work with a teenage youth in her home to address behavioral issues, such as running, skipping school and missing appointments.

★ **SUPER Effort!** Foster mother, Sheena transports the children in her home to school every day, in order to enable them to stay in their home school — without reimbursement by the Department.

★ **MAKING a DIFFERENCE!** When the youth in their home was hospitalized, foster parents, Allison & Melanie participated in staffings, attended therapy with the youth, and worked with the team toward her return to their home.

★ **WAY to GO!** Foster mother, Ana has been doing a great job working with a sibling group of 4, which consists of 2 younger children and 2 teens. Each pair of children has very different needs from the other, and Ana does a great job meeting all of the children's needs.

★ **SUPER Job!** Foster parents, Sharon & Bill consistently demonstrate their dedication and commitment to the teen boys in their home.

★ **WELL DONE!** Foster mother, Cindy has been helping secure Christmas gift donations from the community, in addition to continuing to provide care and support to the girls in her home.

★ **DOING LOTS OF HARD WORK!** Foster parents, Paula & Brad continue to do a phenomenal job with the boys in their home and working with the team to transition the boy's sisters into their home as well.

★ **Going the EXTRA Mile!** Foster mother, Lindsey is maintaining contact with the extended family of the child in her home. With the consent of the caseworker, she is emailing, phoning and exchanging letters and photos with the family in an effort to keep them involved in the child's life.

**"Keep doing What YOU do so Well!"**