



Trainings

"Parenting"

6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

January 9, 2008

"Early Childhood
Development"

Child Care Provided!

HSC Pediatric Center
1731 Bunker Hill Road, NE
Washington, D.C.

"Professionals"

9:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.

CEUs approved!

January 4, 2008
"Recognizing and Preventing
Burnout"

February 1, 2008
"It Takes a Village: The
Importance of Engaging
Families"

March 7, 2008
"Child Sexual Abuse"

Trinity AME Zion Church
3505 16th Street, NW
Washington, D.C.

Tonya M. Logan, (202)608-1266, kaylasvillage@aol.com, www.kaylasvillage.org

Parent & Worker of the Quarter

Kayla's Village is a strengths-based organization, which provides appreciation for the great work done on behalf of children and families. In light of this fact, we have implemented a quarterly recognition of "parents" and "workers." If your nominee is selected to be highlighted during that quarter, that person will be recognized in a newsletter, will have a letter mailed to his/her agency acknowledging this honor, AND will be granted a FREE, one-hour, in-home massage (a \$70.00 value)! In order to make a nomination, it must be received no later than **February 1, 2008** and must include the following information:

1. Nominee's and Nominating Person's Name
2. Agency Affiliation(s) & Agency Address(es)
3. Length of time nominee has been either a foster or adoptive parent or guardian **OR** a social worker or social service professional (specify category).
4. Reasons why this person should receive this recognition in 500 words or less. (Your submission may be printed in its entirety or edited.)

Complete submissions should be sent to

kaylasvillage@aol.com

(Advisory Committee members ineligible)

In-Kind Services

For an organization that just began in July 2007, we are VERY appreciative to have had such a supportive response. The value of what we have received through December 2007 is as follows:

Trainers	\$3600.00
Administrative Help	\$ 680.00
Child Care	\$ 380.00
Mary Kay Products	<u>\$ 60.00</u>
TOTAL VALUE	<u>\$4720.00</u>

Advertising

Do you have a business you would like to advertise? We are in the process of revising – and increasing – our fees, but until that time, you may advertise your organization or business for merely \$25.00 per month! You are free to lock in for any number of months. Simply scan a business card and send to

kaylasvillage@aol.com

or mail a business card to

Kayla's Village
1501 Half Street, S.W., Suite 31
Washington, D.C. 20024

Checks made payable to

SWWR – Kayla's Village

Trainers/Child Care Needed

We need trainers to develop a two-hour, evening program for "parents" and/or a three-hour, daytime program for "workers." The "workers'" trainings are CEU-approved and trainers may receive CEUs as part of the "Presenter's Certificate" along with the donation letter of services.

Child care is provided for evening sessions. If you know someone 17 or under that needs community service hours, certificates are provided. Contact us for either option!

Humor

WHAT SOUND?

A group of young children were sitting in a circle with their teacher. She was, in turn, asking them all questions.

"Davey, what sound does a cow make?"
Davey replied, "It goes 'moo'."

"Alice, what sound does a cat make?"
Alice said, "It goes 'meow'."

"Jamie, what sound does a lamb make?"
Jamie said, "It goes 'baaa'."

"Jennifer, what sound does a mouse make?"
Jennifer paused, and said, "Uhh... it goes... 'click!'"



"Is it true," a young boy asked his mother, "that we are made of dust?"

"Yes," she said.

"And is it true that we go back to dust again when we die?," he continued.

"Yes, dear."

"Well, Mommy, when I looked under my bed I saw someone who was coming or going, but I don't know which."

January Themes

- Art Appreciation Month
- Be on Purpose Month
- Birth Defects Prevention Month
- Book Month
- Cervical Health Awareness Month
- Clean Out Your Closets Month
- Clean Up Your Computer Month
- Eye Care Month
- Get Organized Month
- Glaucoma Awareness Month
- Guns Aside Month
- Hobby Month
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Mentoring Month
- New Year's Resolutions
- Volunteer Blood Donor Month

Monthly Highlight: Volunteer Blood Donor Month

Every two seconds in the U.S., someone needs blood. More than 38,000 blood donations are needed in hospitals daily.

There are times when donations are particularly needed. The winter months usually bring a general shortage of donors. Many people travel for the holidays or may be affected by illness or inclement weather.

To be eligible to give blood, you must be a healthy individual over the age of 17, who has not donated in the past eight weeks (56 days) and weigh at least 110 pounds. That means, if you began giving blood at the age of 17 and donated every 56 days until the age of 76, you would have donated 48 gallons of blood and potentially helped save more than 1,000 lives! Donors who contribute regularly often say they do so because they want to help others. You could be one!

Did you know...?

Maneuver a Car out of a Skid

Although there is not much you can do when your car is pirouetting out of control, you can maneuver out of two basic types of skids before things get messy.

When the front tires slip, you are under-steering or plowing. This occurs when a motorist takes a turn too fast, at too sharp an angle, or uses the brake or throttle excessively. The tires lose grip and the car's momentum pushes it straight instead of through the curve. When you lose traction up front, steering has no effect; so slow down by gently reducing throttle. The tires will eventually grip and pull you in the direction you want to go.

Rear-wheel slippage is called over-steering or fishtailing. It happens during cornering when your rear wheels exceed the limit of their lateral traction before the front tires do, causing the rear of the vehicle to head toward the outside of the corner or front of the car. For rear-wheel slippage, you need to apply "CPR" — correction, pause, and recovery. Correct by steering into the direction of the skid. Pause to let the unsprung weight of the car settle and the tires grip. Recover by steering the car straight; make your movements slow but sure.

Your Ultimate DIY Guide
Popular Mechanics

eScrip
Group Id #
50017420



Advisory Committee

Yvonne Baskerville
Margie Chalofsky
Tamitha Christian
Shanda Johnson
Tonya Logan
Cynthia McFerson
Nicole Mellonas
Chandricka Mose
Janet Oro



Recommended books on foster care & adoption

[A Child Called "It: One
Child's Courage to Survive,](#)
by Dave Pelzer

[A Man Named Dave: A
Story of Triumph and
Forgiveness,](#) by Dave
Pelzer

[Another Place at the Table,](#)
by Kathy Harrison

[Guidebook for Raising
Foster Children,](#) by Susan
McNair Blatt

[The Great Gilly Hopkins,](#) by
Katherine Paterson

[The Jonathan Letters,](#) by
Lori Thomas

["The Lost Boy: A Foster
Child's Search for the Love
of a Family",](#) by Dave
Pelzer

[Trouble Don't Last Always,](#)
by Shane Salter

10 Things Parents Can Do for and with Their Children...to be continued

Choose the ones that fit your family. Each new idea or activity can help spark a new and improved relationship with your children.

1. set up rituals in your family and hold to them
2. ask them their opinion on things
3. create a family play or skit
4. get down to their level when possible – squat, kneel, or sit
5. ask many questions about their friends – get to know their world
6. take a walk with them
7. tell them you love them at least once a day
8. tell them what you expect of them in a clear and respectful manner
9. give them praise and be gentle with your corrections of them
10. let them know about you and your history

Frequently Asked Question

What is the difference between traditional and therapeutic foster care?

Foster care is carried out by families who take unrelated children into their homes and care for them on a temporary basis. It involves the foster parents, the child's birth parents, and the child. Moving to a foster home is a major disruption in a child's life, and can have serious consequences.

Foster parents generally decide to foster because of their enjoyment of children and a wish to be of service. They go through special training programs before they are certified as foster parents, and through the years that they foster children, they receive additional training. The support of the agency caseworker in resolving the issues that arise with parenting, as well as the complexities of fostering, is vital to foster parents.

The child's birth parents, though they do not have the daily care of the child, remain responsible for major decisions regarding the child, and responsible for carrying out recommended remedial programs so that the child can return to their care. Visits with the child while in care are vital because they maintain the child's attachment to his parents, and enable the parents, as appropriate, to provide information to the foster parents and to learn parenting skills from the foster parents.

Family foster care is temporary care though children can easily remain in a foster home for an extended period. In an attempt to remedy this, federal law now mandates that the child move to a permanent home within 15 months of the original placement. The child welfare caseworker provides the link between the foster home and the child's birth family, is responsible for the development and implementation of a plan so the child is established in a permanent home as quickly as possible, and is responsible for overseeing the child's well-being while in foster care. Prolonged foster care, particularly when there are many moves among foster homes, can produce devastating outcomes for children.

Through late adolescence and young adult years, youth need the support of family as they begin to establish themselves independently. Though many youth find these resources in their former foster families or in biological relatives, others do not. The difficulties of these youth have been increasingly recognized, and have given rise to a set of programs to prepare youth for independent living.

Therapeutic, or specialized, foster homes are homes that care for children with special difficulties. The children cared for in therapeutic foster homes are children who could not be maintained in a traditional setting and often have serious emotional disturbance, medical needs, or severe developmental delays, who might otherwise be institutionalized. Children in specialized foster care are disproportionately African American, reflecting the situation in all out of home care. Many are poor.

Foster parents receive special training and support services to enable them to care for these more challenging children. Their relationship to the child welfare system is usually different from that of the traditional foster parent, with more elements of partnership in planning for the child, and more responsibilities in carrying out the plans. The board rates paid are higher than those for traditional foster care.

Quotes

(from *Words of Wisdom* by Rev. Run)

"You cannot heal what you're unwilling to confront. Learn to develop an appreciation for truth. People tend to exaggerate their successes and minimize their failures and deficiencies. Face up to your truth. If you have money problems, weight problems, or marital problems, admit it and begin to work on it. Winston Churchill once said, 'Men occasionally stumble over the truth, but most pick themselves up and hurry off as if nothing happened.' Don't ignore your problems, develop a plan and work on them."

"You don't become rich until you understand service."

"I firmly believe that our purpose in life is to make a difference in the lives of those around us. Make a mental and emotional commitment to look out for the interests of others. Always remember to be kind to others. Serve with a smile. Remember, people with humility don't think less of themselves; they just think of themselves less!"

"What you walk away from determines what you walk into. Choose wisely."

"Men do not attract that which they want, but that which they are. A person's soul attracts that which he is secretly harboring. What are you thinking about? Your thoughts are your prayers. Your ambition, not your worded prayer, is your true creed. Remember that your inner conversation becomes your outward manifestation."

Hernando Green – Successful former foster child!

Hernando Green, now 35 years old, entered the foster care system at the age of two. He had a remarkable seven placements with eight sets of foster parents as the last agency placed foster parents in homes instead of children in foster parents' homes. Hernando, who was never adopted and never placed with his sibling, had his birth mother and grandmother visit him perhaps eight times. At his mother's funeral, he met many aunts, great aunts, cousins, and an uncle who did begin to maintain regular contact with him. Fortunately, these relationships continue.

When asked why he believes he was never adopted, Hernando directly stated that he does not think the system tried hard enough. He was an older child who could have benefited from a permanent family, even if that family were of a different ethnicity. Hernando warmly reflected that his foster parents did a wonderful job raising him and continued, "I think I take a piece of each of them because look at me now! I'm a strong and independent young man!" Not to leave out the workers, he also reported, "Some of the social workers really cared about me and my well being because, again, I turned out to be an outstanding young man." Obviously, the child welfare system can assist in helping children develop a great self-esteem!

Hernando had some insight into how things could have gone more smoothly for him. He said quite eloquently that the system should not take things for granted regarding foster children. An example given was, "Certainly many children lie, but why assume all foster children lie?" Hernando felt that foster parents and workers should, "Try your hardest to give the best to a foster child because they deserve the best in life – especially a family and someone to love them who will be there to look after their well being." His suggestion was that foster parents and workers be provided with more training "to help them help the people who need the most help – children and their families. I also think there needs to be funding to provide continued support."

After receiving his associate's degree from Landmark College in Putney, Vermont, in December 2004, Hernando now attends Beacon College in Leesburg, Florida, where he is majoring in human services with minors in business management and psychology. He anticipates graduating in December 2008 and will attend the May 2009 graduation ceremony. Hernando's desire is to own several businesses and he is working on his business plans! He would also like to marry, have several children who "will be very successful like me," travel the world, and purchase a home. With his drive, Hernando WILL achieve his goals!

Zesty Fruit Salad

Serves 2

- ½ cup fresh, diced mango
- ½ cup blueberries
- ½ cup diced pear
- 1 Tablespoon lemon juice
- 1 teaspoon grated ginger
- brown sugar

Make in advance and allow to sit overnight. Combine all fruits and toss with ginger and lemon juice. The lemon juice helps to preserve fruit and enhance flavors. Sprinkle top with brown sugar.

Adoption Attitudes Survey

The Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption developed the National Foster Care/Adoption Attitudes Survey, November 2007. You may download the report in its entirety by going to

<http://www.davethomasfoundationforadoption.org/adoptionattitudesurvey2007.asp>