



Foster Family Service Newsletter

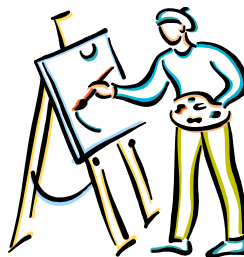
FFS & The Parent Project®

Beginning in March, Foster Family Service is excited to have the opportunity of offering “**The Parent Project**” Classes at our Cameron Park office.

In Late January FFS sent Nicole Musil and Sandy Hankins to a extensive training to become certified facilitators to teach the **Parent Project**. We now have a better opportunity to help our foster families as well as families in the community to deal with strong willed and tough children.

For those of you who are unfamiliar with the **Parent Project**

you will find the **Who, What, When, Were, and How's** for the program on **page 2** of the newsletter.



If you have any further questions or would like more information on the Parent Project please feel free to call Nicole Musil or Sandy Hankins at (530) 676-6226

Can't wait to see you in class!

Nicole & Sandy

March 2008

Wendy Knutson , Editor

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Foster Family Service
Lic#097003903*

*&
**Adoptions by
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Lic#347003522*

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FFS Cameron Park Parent Resources

Our Cameron Park office is proud to announce that we have set room aside in our office for parental resources. We have a quiet area with a couch for reading or watching tapes.

We are stocking our small, but growing library with books, tapes and other information resources. Books and VCR-DVD's are available for check out and

several copies of tip-sheets are ready to take home.

A special thanks to those who have donated books to help get us started. We appreciate your support.

*Stop in, Say Hello
and take a look around!*

www.FosterFamilyService.org



Parent Project® Fact Sheet

What is it?

- A 10 to 16-week *parent* training program designed specifically for parents of Strong-willed or out-of-control adolescent children.
- The curriculum teaches concrete identification, prevention, and intervention strategies for the *most* destructive of adolescent behaviors (poor school attendance and performance, alcohol and other drug use, gangs, runaways, and violent teens).

How does it work?

- Parents attend and learn in a classroom setting, to manage teen behavior problems at home.
- An activity based 216-page workbook, “*A Parent’s Guide to Changing Destructive Adolescent Behavior,*” is available *only* to program participants.
- Parents meet one time per week, two to three hours per session, for between 10 – 16 weeks.
- Parent support groups are formed using the UCLA, Self-Help Support Group model.
- Program orientation: behavior modification.

Who sponsors and teaches the program?

- The Parent Project® is presented by Schools, Police and Probation Departments, Mental Health Agencies, Churches and other Community Based Organizations.
- There are over 3,500 trained facilitators in 36 states across the U.S., who have successfully completed the 40-hour *Parent Project®* Facilitator Training.

Why the Parent Project®?

- Thirteen years in development, the *Parent Project®* is the only course of its kind.
- Over 150,000 families have attended *Parent Project®* classes, nationwide.
- The *Parent Project®* is the largest court-mandated, diversion program of its kind in the nation.
- A proven track record, the *Parent Project®* reduced juvenile crime by 1/3, while significantly increasing both school attendance and performance.
- The Parent Project® was recognized by the American Bar Association as the strongest parent -involvement program for adjudicated youth in the nation.

If you have any further questions or would like more information on the Parent Project please feel free to call Nicole Musil or Sandy Hankins at (530) 676-6226

REFERRAL POLICY! Our policy provides a **financial bonus** to our Foster Family Service Foster Parents who successfully recruit new homes.

\$35 for the CFH when they refer a potential family and we conduct an initial ‘meet & greet.’

\$100 for the CFH that refers a new family, and that family takes their first placement.

\$200 for the CFH, when the new family they referred has a placement for six months.

We Are Proud To Say... We Have Great Kids & Great Parents Too!

Congratulations to all our Girl Scouts on a great Cookie Season! We have great reports of successful sales.

Yeah Parents!

A teen boy in the Sacramento home of **Mike Hampton** whom he has fostered for several years experienced a major psychotic break in February, requiring he be hospitalized and moved to a group

home. Though this was a very difficult event, Mike has stood by this boy and provided consistent, nurturing care longer than anyone would have expected. We are sorry for Mike's loss, as this young man is very close to him, but it shows the **high level of commitment** Mike Hampton has for children in his care.

A 10-year-old boy in the Folsom home of **Dave and Tamara Corson** was ex-

pelled from his school due to aggressive behaviors. The Corson's stood by this boy as the school district moved him to a special day class, and this boy's behaviors have normalized significantly. Kudos to the Corson's for their patience and commitment to this young man!



Santa Rosa Adoption News!

By Erin Guzman, FFS Social Work Supervisor

The Jorissen-Anderson family finalized their adoption of **Dakota** (age 12) and **Zachery** (age 8) on February 13, 2008. The boys smiles were so big, and the judge commented that there had never been such a large group at the court before to celebrate—the boys' teachers, school principle, therapists, social workers, grandparents, and many friends and family cheered in the courtroom

and celebrated after in a fun party at the adoptive home.

The Abers family finalized the adoption of **James** (age 8) on February 27, 2008. The **Abers** also traveled across the country this week to be present at the birth of the baby they are adopting from a family member who is severely disabled and has asked them to raise the baby. They called to say he was born on Feb 13, 2008, is

healthy, 8 lb 12 oz. Although a private adoption, Maria M. updated the FFS Adoption home-study to allow this to happen without great expense for the family. **Yeah FFS families!**

Yeah FFS!

So much heavy news in the papers these days, but **this stuff makes me feel good about today and optimistic about tomorrow.**

The Welcome Mat Is Out For...

FFS Social Worker: Londa Paulson

The Carlson Family Home

The Tilly Family Home

The Puglia Family Home



We are always interested in certifying new homes. If you know of anyone who may be interested have them call their local office.

Potential Foster Parents can call one of our offices or find a Pre-Application at our website:

www.fosterfamilyservice.org

Foster Family Service Office Numbers:

Sacramento (916) 487-2111

Cameron Park (530) 676-6226

Lake Tahoe (530) 544-2111

Stockton (209) 474-1549

Santa Rosa (707) 528-2115

Oroville (530) 533-1576

Amador (209) coming soon!

Notes From Our Director

The most important news to report this month is the HUGE decision that the CA legislature and the Governor approved on February 15th, 2008. Given the State's projected \$14.5 billion deficit the legislators were considering two types of savings impacting foster family agencies:

A rate reduction of 5%, to take effect 7/1; & A 60-day delay in paying agencies for the foster care services they provide.

- i. A rate reduction of 5%, to take effect 7/1;
- ii. A 60-day delay in paying agencies for the foster care services they provide

Neither of these plans was approved in relation to foster family agencies, but the 60-day payment delay was approved for counties. However, the legislature noted that these payment delays to counties will not be an acceptable reason for counties to then delay payments to foster family agencies.

The only aspect of these decisions that may impact us by the summer of '08 is that the majority of CA counties have already shifted their payment dates to foster family agencies from the 1st to somewhere between the 3rd and 15th of the month. Of the main counties we currently work with, Sacramento and El Dorado are the only two that still pay on the 1st of the month following foster care services provided.

On a separate note from finances, later this month we will all be expecting visits from the Easter Bunny. I hope that all of our readers welcome the Bunny in to their homes for a fun-filled day!

Happy Easter. *John*

Training Corner

Everyone is Invited! If you are interested in any of the **SATURDAY** trainings, please RSVP: *Nicole Musil* at 530-676-6226

Cameron Park 2514 Cameo Dr.	Sat, March 1, 9:30am-2:30pm: Foster Care Orientation, Courts, Licensing, The Roll of CCL. Sat, March 22, 9:30am-2:30pm: "The Effects of Dysfunction on Early Childhood Development" & "Foster Child Grief and Loss"
Sacramento 2775 Cottage Way	Wed. 3/12 6-8:30pm Town Hall Meeting Sat, April 5, 9:30am-2:30pm: Foster Care Orientation, Courts, Licensing, The Roll of CCL. Sat, April 26, 9:30am-2:30pm: "The Effects of Dysfunction on Early Childhood Development" & "Foster Child Grief and Loss"
So. Lake Tahoe	Thursday, 3/27, 6-8pm Town Hall Meeting
Stockton	To be announced
Santa Rosa	3/13/08: Santa Rosa Junior College (location to be announced) "The Effects of Prenatal Drug Exposure On Infants, Children & Adolescents" , must <u>RSVP</u> to Erin (707-576-0522) 3/3/08. April: CPR is coming soon!
Oroville	March: Cheryl Berge MFT on Positive Parenting & Self Esteem April: Tammy Thompson ILP Coordinator, Emancipation