

---

---

# Parents As Partners

---

VOLUME 5 ISSUE 3

May - June 2008

---

---

*A Newsletter for the Resource Parents in the Southeast Region*

---

## WELCOME

This Newsletter is a publication for all Foster, Adoptive, and Kinship Parents in the Southeast Region. Newsletters will be mailed on or about the 15<sup>th</sup> of every other month. Resource parents, DCS staff and others are welcome to submit information for the Newsletter. We welcome your ideas, articles and/or announcements.

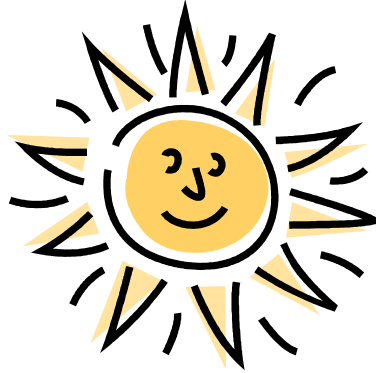
Send info for the Newsletter to:

**Donna Kirby, Team Leader**  
Marion County DCS  
4930 Main Street  
Jasper, TN 37347  
Phone: 423-942-3485 ext. 216  
e-mail: [Donna.Kirby@state.tn.us](mailto:Donna.Kirby@state.tn.us)

Resource Parent Support would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy Mother's and Father's Day!!!



Thanks for all the hard work that you and your family does for our children and DCS !!!



## **School's Out -Let Summer Begin!**

In a recent American Academy of Dermatology/Parents magazine/Safeguard Soap survey, nine out of ten parents were aware that sun exposure during childhood can increase their chances of getting skin cancer, but only 68% regularly put sunscreen on their children compared to their diligence (96%) about seat belts and child safety seats.

"Over 2,900 parents responded to this written survey," reported Catherine Winters, Senior Editor from Parents magazine at the AAD's Melanoma/Skin Cancer Detection and Prevention Month kick-off today.

"Many parents have heard the sun safety messages on TV, or have seen numerous articles in magazines and newspapers -- they're well informed. It may take a while before they integrate this information into their already busy daily routines," she said. Over a third of the parents polled reported that their child had a sunburn last

summer. This could be explained because during the summer months, only 68% noted that they regularly put sunscreen on their child at the beach, 46% use sunscreen whenever their child plays outdoors, and 33% use sunscreen when they are at the park.

Some parents (29%) felt that protecting their child from the sun was a difficult task citing that sunscreen stings their eyes (33%). Another 24% considered using sunscreens too expensive.

Of concern were parent observations that relatively few childcare facilities -- day care, school, summer camp, or recreational center -- made any active attempt to protect children from the sun. At best, it was reported by parents, only 25% of childcare facilities scheduled outdoor play time to reduce sun exposure.

"Since one blistering sunburn significantly increases your chance of developing skin cancer later in life, we certainly have our work cut out for us. Parents are listening, we just have to get them to take action," said Roger Ceilloy, MD, President of the AAD.

The American Academy of Dermatology recommends following the ABCs of Sun Protection:

- A = AWAY. Stay away from the sun in the middle of the day.

- B = BLOCK. Use SPF 15 or higher sunscreen.
- C = COVER UP. Wear a T-shirt and hat.
- S = SPEAK OUT. Talk to family and friends about sun protection.



## ASSOCIATION NEWS

**The Marion County Foster/Adoptive Association** – Meets the 1st Monday of every month at 6:00 pm CST at the Marion DCS Office in Jasper. Sequatchie County Resource Parents are also invited to attend.

**The Meigs County Foster Adoptive Association** – Meets the 1st Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm EST at the Community Room in Decatur.

**Tennessee Valley Foster Adoptive Association (Grundy**

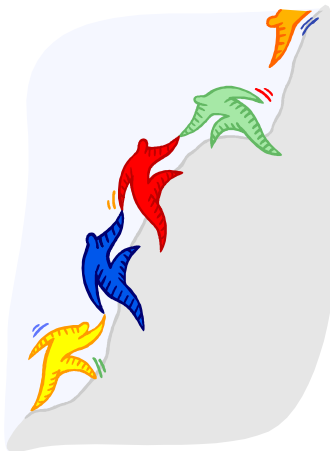
**County)** - Meets on the 2nd Monday of every month at 6:00 p.m. CST at Mary's Kitchen in Coalmont.

**The Bradley/Polk Foster Care Association** - Meets on the 1st Monday of every month at Bradley County DCS in Cleveland, TN at 7:00 pm. EST.

**The McMinn Foster Care Association** - Meets the 2nd Monday of every month at 6:30 pm. EST at the Athens DCS office.

**The Franklin County Foster/Adoptive Parent Association** - Meets the first Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m. CST at the Franklin County Library in Winchester, TN.  
*Congratulations to the new officers!!!*

**The Rhea/Bledsoe Foster Care Association** - Meets on the 4th Monday of each month at 7:00 pm EST at the Dayton DCS office in Dayton, TN.



## **Come Join and Get Involved ...**

If your Association has any changes/events, please contact your local Resource Parent Support worker.

For More Support as a Resource Parent – Join Your Local Association Today!

## OTHER NEWS

### *Recruitment/Retention Workgroup*

The quarterly Recruitment Retention workgroup will be held on July 29, 2008, at 10:00 est by telephone conference to discuss Resource Parent recruitment/retention. Resource Parents are encouraged to join us on this conference call. The number is 1-888-776-3766 – you will be prompt to enter room number \*1978250\* (please make sure to put \* before and at the end of the room number when entering).

For more information and/or to add to the agenda, please contact Donna Kirby at (423) 942-3485 ext. 216 or by email at [Donna.Kirby@state.tn.us](mailto:Donna.Kirby@state.tn.us)

### Recruitment & Retention

Any ideas for recruitment events in your local area such as fairs, festivals, etc. ... Please contact your area FSW/Resource Parent Support –

Please Join Us to Welcome our New Team Member!!!



### **Gwynn Owens Resource Parent Support**

Covering Franklin County  
Office: Franklin DCS  
2160 Cowan Highway  
Winchester, TN. 37398  
Phone: 931 962-1156

Email: [Gwynn.M.Owens@state.tn.us](mailto:Gwynn.M.Owens@state.tn.us)

**Donna Kirby, Team Leader**  
Marion County DCS  
4930 Main Street  
Jasper, TN 37347  
Phone: 423 942-3485 ext. 216  
E-mail: [Donna.Kirby@state.tn.us](mailto:Donna.Kirby@state.tn.us)

**Susan Morgan**  
**Resource Parent Support**  
Covering Rhea, Bledsoe, & Meigs  
Counties  
Office: Rhea DCS  
111 Fourth Avenue  
Dayton, TN. 37321-1310  
Phone: 423 775-2852 ext. 119  
Email: [Susan.Morgan@state.tn.us](mailto:Susan.Morgan@state.tn.us)

**Olivia Pullins**  
**Resource Parent Support**  
Covering McMinn & Polk Counties  
Office: McMinn DCS  
1008 Knight Road, Suite A  
Athens, TN. 37303-4640  
Phone: 423 744-2804 ext. 102  
E-mail: [Olivia.Pullins@state.tn.us](mailto:Olivia.Pullins@state.tn.us)

**Stephen Sapp**  
**Resource Parent Support**  
Covering Bradley County  
Office: Bradley DCS  
2703 Commerce Drive  
Cleveland, TN 37311  
Phone: 423-728-7902  
E-mail: [Stephen.Sapp@state.tn.us](mailto:Stephen.Sapp@state.tn.us)

**Chasity Vandergriff**  
**Resource Parent Support**  
Covering Marion, Sequatchie, and  
Grundy Counties -  
Office: Marion DCS  
4930 Main Street  
Jasper, TN 37347  
Phone: 423-942-3485 ext. 206  
E-mail: [Chasity.Vandergriff@state.tn.us](mailto:Chasity.Vandergriff@state.tn.us)

## **FOSTER PARENT PHONE IN DATES**

May 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>

June 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, and 20<sup>th</sup>

**1-800-470-7444**

## **INDEPENDENT LIVING PHONE IN DATES**

Youth Phone in:

May 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>

June 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>

**1-800-470-7444**

### **Other happenings with Independent Living:**

**Celebration of Excellence – The  
Southeast Region will be hosting  
a Celebration of Excellence for  
our youth who will graduate or  
get a GED by June 30, 2008.  
Please contact youth's FSW for  
additional information.**



### **Foster Parent Advocate**

Peggy Carroll is an advocate for  
Resource Parents for all ten  
counties in the Southeast region.  
Peggy's contact information is  
listed below:

Home phone: (423) 745-1392

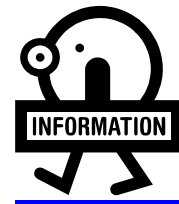
Cell Phone: (423) 744 - 4926

Email: [pegcar5@yahoo.com](mailto:pegcar5@yahoo.com)

Interested in being an advocate for  
Resource Parents in Marion,  
Grundy, Franklin, and Sequatchie  
Counties? Please contact Peggy  
Carroll.



DCS Southeast has a hotline  
available for children and youth in  
state custody. This hotline can be  
used to report any concerns the  
child or youth has, related to their  
stay in custody. The child or youth  
can report their concerns, leave a  
name and number for a returned  
call or choose to remain  
anonymous. Please share this with  
the children placed in your  
Resource Homes and allow them to  
call if they choose. We also hope  
to provide the children with a card  
showing this number in the near  
future. The number is 1-877-396-  
0083.



### **Resource Parent Info :**

Please remember that 15  
continuous training hours are  
needed prior to each **Re-  
assessment date/Annually** by all  
Resource Parents. If there are  
questions in regards to training  
hours, please contact your  
Resource Parent Support.

Medication Administration , Core  
Classm CPR and First Aid is a  
requirement for all Resource  
Parents.

Reminders –

*Please make sure to turn in any training certificates to your Resource Parent Support worker for all trainings...*



### Hot Topics ...

- There is a new core class required : **Fostering Positive Behavior (Not the same class as Positive Discipline)**
- **All Medications are to be in lock box (Prescribed & Non prescribed)**
- **Make sure all prescribed medications are logged on Resource Home Prescription Medication Record**
- **Routine travel is required by all Resource Parents that includes visits, doctor appts., etc.**
- **Travel can be reimbursed for over fifty miles one way – please see your RPS worker.**
- **Emergency Placements are for three days at emergency rate only then rate becomes**

**regular daily rate should child remain.**

- **There are NOT to be any kind of restraints used to discipline a child.**
- **All core classes must be pre-registered for with at least 6 people signed up for the Consortium to complete the training or training will be canceled.**

Please take a look at training opportunities ...



### **RED ALERT !!!**

Please contact Donna Kirby at (423) 942-3485 ext. 216 to sign up for the Core Classes:

All dates & times subject to change. Please attempt to confirm date, time & location of training with your RPS worker before you attend the class.

#### **Upcoming Training Classes...**

- 05/21/08 – Cultural Awareness – Sequatchie County
- 06/18/08 – Working with Birth Parents – Meigs County

06/12/08 – CPR/First Aid and Safety – McMinn  
Time 5:30 pm – 9:30 pm est

06/18/08 – CPR/First Aid and Safety – Bradley  
Time 5:30 pm – 9:30 pm est

06/23/08 – CPR/First Aid and Safety – Sequatchie  
Time 5:30 – 9:30 cst

06/24/08 – CPR/First Aid and Safety – Marion  
Time 5:30 – 9:30 cst

06/24/08 – Working with Birth Parents – Rhea County

#### *Other Trainings –*

Hamilton County also has core classes within Chattanooga area please contact Oneita Turner at (423) 236-2630 / [oturner@southern.edu](mailto:oturner@southern.edu) to sign up for classes...

Online Website/Up to five hrs. – [www.fosterparents.org](http://www.fosterparents.org)

**Please contact Donna Kirby at 423 942-3485 ext. 216 to sign up for classes. Classes are not at DCS office and space is limited so Call Now !!!**

***PLEASE BE ADVISED – THE CORE CLASSES MUST BE SIGNED UP FOR PRIOR TO DATE SCHEDULED BECAUSE CONSORTIUM WILL CANCEL THE TRAINING IF THERE ARE NOT AT LEAST SIX PEOPLE REGISTERED 48 HRS. AHEAD OF TIME ...CORE CLASSES ARE PART OF POLICY AND A REQUIREMENT...***

***DON'T DELAY CALL DONNA TODAY!!!***

**Donna Kirby, Team Leader**  
Marion County DCS  
4930 Main Street  
Jasper, TN 37347  
Phone: 423-942-3485 ext. 216

e-mail: [Donna.Kirby@state.tn.us](mailto:Donna.Kirby@state.tn.us)

**Other trainings:**

**Cycle of Healing 2008 – featuring Dr. Ronald Federici “Assessing and Treating the Hopeless Cases: Innovative Strategies for Recovery from Trauma”** – to register email [www.tnsap.org](http://www.tnsap.org) or 1-888-848-2727 to get additional information.



**Please Note**

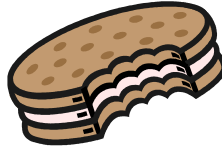
State offices will be closed for the following holiday:

**05/26/08  
Memorial Day**



**07/04/08  
Independence Day**

**This Newsletter’s Recipe:  
Ice Cream Cookie Sandwiches**



This recipe involves two steps -- mixing the cookie dough and filling the baked cookies with ice cream. The results are worth the effort: The finished product looks like store-bought ice cream sandwiches but tastes even better!

**RECIPE INGREDIENTS:**

- 1 stick margarine
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract
- 1/2 cup cocoa powder
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- Half-gallon carton vanilla ice cream

In a medium-sized bowl, cream the margarine and brown sugar (using margarine instead of butter and brown sugar instead of granulated sugar produces a chewy, soft cookie). Beat in the eggs, one at a time, then the vanilla extract.

In a separate bowl, stir the cocoa, flour, baking powder, and salt. Gradually add to the margarine mixture. Beat until well combined. Gather the dough into a ball and chill for at least 1 hour.

Heat the oven to 375 degrees. On a lightly floured surface, roll out the dough to 1/4-inch thick. Use a ruler and a sharp knife to cut out rectangular pieces. (We made large cookies, about 2 1/4 by 5 inches, but you can make them smaller.)

Transfer the cookie rectangles with a spatula to an ungreased baking pan. Ask your child to use the tines of a fork to make patterns on the cookies.

Bake the cookies for 8 to 10 minutes or until set. Cool on a cooling rack.

Meanwhile, cut rectangular blocks from the ice cream. To do this, peel back the half-gallon carton from the ice cream, and cut 1/2-inch-thick slabs that

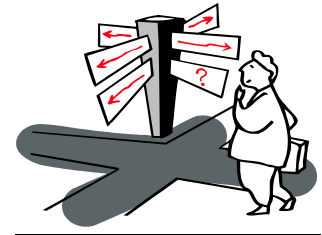
are roughly the dimensions of your baked cookies. Return the blocks to the freezer.

Once the cookies have thoroughly cooled, place one ice cream block between two cookies. Trim the sides with a knife, wrap the sandwich in foil, and freeze for several hours. Repeat until you have used all the cookies and ice cream. Makes enough dough for 6 large sandwiches.

From Familyfun.com



**PATH News**



Resource parents are our best voice to spread the word about our need for Resource Parents. Please let Donna Kirby (423 942-3485 ext. 216) know if you would like to post a flyer in your church or community organization to notify the public of our upcoming PATH classes.

**Upcoming PATH Classes:**

**May 6<sup>th</sup> – July 15<sup>th</sup> : PATH will be in Marion County.**

**May 29<sup>th</sup> – August 7<sup>th</sup>: PATH will be in Rhea County.**

**June 9<sup>th</sup> – August 11<sup>th</sup>:  
PATH will be in Franklin  
County.**

Please contact Donna Kirby, TL to sign up for classes at (423) 942-3485 ext. 216. Classes will be in the county designated not at DCS Office – Please telephone for location.

If you know someone that's interested in being a Resource Parent, please contact Donna Kirby at (423) 942-3485 ext.216 or [Donna.Kirby@state.tn.us](mailto:Donna.Kirby@state.tn.us).



**QUOTES**

Love and kindness are never wasted. They always make a difference. They bless the one who receives them, and they bless you, the giver.

- Barbara De Angelis

We need not think alike to love alike.

- Francis David

The little unremembered acts of kindness and love are the best parts of a person's life.

- William Wordsworth

Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future.

- John F. Kennedy

Our life is an apprenticeship to the truth that around every circle another can be drawn; that there is no end in nature, but every end is a beginning, and under every deep a lower deep opens.

- Ralph Waldo Emerson

It is a wholesome and necessary thing for us to turn again to the earth and in the contemplation of her beauties to know of wonder and humility.

- Rachel Carson

**From the desk of  
Sandra Holder  
Regional Administrator**



Regional Office has moved locations. Our new location is 5600 Brainerd Rd. Suite C-20 Chattanooga, TN. 37411 (Eastgate Center).

Mrs. Holder, Regional Administrator for the Southeast Region, is available the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. EST at the Regional Office in Chattanooga.

All resource parents are invited to come and share their thoughts with

Mrs. Holder. Mrs. Holder will meet individually with resource parents and at other times and places if needed. You can reach Mrs. Holder at 423-296-1234 (new number).



**DOB: April 12, 1991 (16  
Meet Jimmy...**

Jimmy loves to play and reportedly can't get enough of it. Jimmy likes to play pool, ride his bike, play basketball, play video games, skate, and do most anything out doors.

Jimmy a member of the wrestling team at his high school. He is extremely well disciplined in his training and appears to enjoy it thoroughly. Jimmy is also extremely involved in ROTC and has stated in the past that he wants to join the military when he graduates from high school.

Jimmy is currently in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade. While he is on grade level and able to do the work asked of him, Jimmy doesn't like to study and he doesn't seem to understand the need to try to learn in school. He needs parents who are willing to encourage him to work harder in school. He has the ability to learn but he doesn't have the motivation.

**What Others Say About  
Jimmy...**

Jimmy's Family Service Worker says Jimmy's self-esteem has improved a great deal since he entered foster care. Jimmy's current foster mother states that he is a good boy and she has only had minor problems with him since he

has been in her home. Jimmy's former foster mother reported that Jimmy was a good child.

### **What You Can Do For Jimmy...**

Jimmy is in need of a family that can provide him with patience, guidance, nurturing, and unconditional love. Jimmy has stated he would prefer a home with both a mother and father figure. He enjoyed doing chores and working around the house with his former foster father. He likes doing yard work and helping repair things. Jimmy has also stated that he would prefer there are other kids in the home.

For more information about Jimmy contact Nikki Harris at 423-296-1234.