



Florida State FAPA

National Adoption Awareness Month

Florida State Foster/Adoptive Parent Association, along with other state and national agencies and organizations, recognizes November as National Adoption Awareness Month.

If you've ever considered adopting from foster care but didn't know where to get information, take a look at the Explore Adoption website at www.adoptflorida.org. Explore Adoption is a statewide adoption initiative that promotes the benefits of public adoption and urges families to consider creating or expanding their families by adopting a child who is older, disabled or part of a sibling group.

There are 850 children available for adoption on any given day in Florida. With the help of the Florida Department of Children and Families, community-based care agencies and other partners, more than 12,000 children in foster care have found Forever Families over the past three



and a half years.

Worried you might not be "perfect" for adoption? Remember, there are no perfect families or children. The most important things to have are patience, a good sense of humor, a love of children and the commitment to be a good parent.

Be sure to participate in your county or city's National Adoption Day, which is November 20. Check out FSFAPA's website at www.fsfapa.org or www.nationaladoptionday.org for a listing of events.

Got Milk?

Milk provides nine essential nutrients for the body, including calcium and vitamin D for strong bones, which is important for growing children. So it's no wonder the Children's Movement of Florida is naming its statewide rallies and events after the drink. This citizen-led, nonpartisan movement, has five areas of focus: access to quality healthcare; screening and treatment for special needs; quality pre-kindergarten opportunities; high-quality mentoring programs; and support and information for parents. Visit www.childrensmovementflorida.org to find out how you can join the Milk Party in your city.

QUARTERLY MEETING:

The next FSFAPA Quarterly Meeting will be held Nov. 13, 2010 in Sanford. All foster/adoptive parents are invited to attend. The schedule is listed below:

Saturday, Nov. 13

10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.: President's Council -- Open to all local association presidents or representatives

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.: F.A.S.T. Training -- Open to everyone

12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.: Lunch on your own

1:45 p.m. – 4 p.m.: Quarterly Meeting (*Topic: Bilateral Service Agreement and Foster Parent Bill of Rights*)

4 p.m. – 6 p.m.: Dinner on your own

6 p.m. – 9 p.m.: FSFAPA Board Meeting

Meeting Location:

Springhill Marriott Suites
201 North Towne Road
Sanford, FL 32771

Please contact Trudy Petkovich at petkovij@me.com for more information.

MONTHLY CONFERENCE

CALL: FSFAPA conducts a conference call the first Monday of each month for all foster parents. Join our Yahoo group (FLFPA) at flfpa@yahoogroups.com to be notified each month of the call.

First Monday, 8:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Call-in Number: 888.808.6959

PIN: 9229094

FSFAPA
Kimberly Hernandez
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How to Contact the FSFAPA Board

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F.A.S.T.

FSFAPA has a Foster Allegation Support Team (F.A.S.T.) hotline. This toll-free hotline, 800.327.8119, is available 24 hours, seven days a week to foster parents impacted by abuse allegations.

Contact FSFAPA at 866.913.0977 or visit us online at www.fsfapa.org.