



Board changes come with new year

When the ball drops in Times Square on New Year's Eve, it will signal more than just a new year, it will also mark the dawning of a new era for the Association.

Come Jan. 1, Executive Vice President and President Elect Harriett Wynn will ascend to the presidency, where she will oversee an executive board that looks a little different – and will see some operational changes with the creation of the new Executive Director position.

As for the personnel changes, Central Region RVP Chris Johnson has accepted the



Wynn

face of the Association.)

appointment to Executive Vice President (effective Jan. 1) and outgoing President Trudy Petkovich will move into the Executive Director post. (The ED post is a part-time position that is charged with supporting the board and executing the board's day-to-day business while serving as the professional

“As we leave 2014, I want to thank the FSFAPA board of Directors, our CBC's, DCF, QPI, GAL, FSFAPA members and all the advocates around the state,” said Petkovich as her term comes to an end. “Together we made significant improvements in the lives of our children and the families that care for them.”



Petkovich

Adoption Conference Jan. 22-24

The Winter 2015 Statewide Adoption Conference will be Jan. 22-24 at the Hilton in Cocoa Beach. Saturday is specifically for adoptive parents and is a free training. On the registration in the space for payments, just write “Adoptive Parent” and the fee will be waived. (Info and registration form available on FloridaFAPA.org Events page)

Contact Bob Rooks at Florida's Adoption Information Center 1-800-96-ADOPT to reserve childcare.

Rally in Tally Feb. 3-4

Florida Coalition for Children in collaboration with the CBCs is sponsoring The first “Rally In Tally.” It will be a training, advocacy and help set the legislative needs for this coming year. There will be one family from each CBC invited to attend and meet with legislators. Contact your CBC (“lead agency”) if you are interested.

Mini Conference headed to Fernandina Beach

The Winter Mini Conference continues the tradition of touching new locations around the state when it opens in Fernandina Beach on Feb. 14. (Fernandina Beach is in Nassau County, north of Jacksonville.)

In addition to the mini-conference

training opportunity, the Association's quarterly business meeting will be held that day.

Details of the days training, and child car will be posted on the website immediately after the first of the year.

We do have an arrangement with the

Comfort Suites in Fernandina Beach (904) 261-0193; Overlooking Fort Clinch and the Beach) but there is limited space, so please make reservations early. (FSFAPA Rates: \$90-100/night depending on bed selection and view.)



NexGen Band a Hit!

NexGen Band recently performed at the Leesburg Library to raise awareness for the need of holiday gifts for our teens.

On Dec. 18 they played at the Marion County Courthouse. As Judge Robbins finalized 16 adoptions for the holidays!

In January they will be performing in San Diego at the National QPI Conference!

Check out FloridaFAPA.org or Google “NexGen Band” for YouTube videos and a great story in the *Orlando Sentinel!*

FSFAPA News and Notes

INTERIM NO MORE: In case you missed it, Gov. Scott elevated Mike Carroll to the permanent role of DCF Secretary on Dec. 8. Mike has a great history of collaboration with foster parent associations from his time in DCF's Suncoast Region, and we are thrilled to see Mike achieve “permanency” in his post!



Carroll

DUFFLES MOVES TO DAYTONA AREA: The 2015 Duffels for Kids Walk will be held at the Kenneth Parker Amphitheater in Port Orange on May 16. For more information on participating, volunteering or to sponsor this great event, log on to www.duffels4kids.org. There are also a bunch of

pictures of past events to check out!

ANNUAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE: Save the dates of June 19-21 for the FSFAPA Annual Education Conference. It will again be held at the Orlando Hilton, with more detail to be released shortly after the first of the year. Log on to FloridaFAPA.org for updates.

ADVOCACY DAY/ CHILDREN'S WEEK: We will once again be participating in Advocacy Day at the State Capitol (April 12-17) with more specific details and schedules being posted closer to the event. For general information, log on to childrensweek.org.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE: Did you know children in foster care or out-of-home care may be eligible for Step Up For Students scholarships. To learn about these two scholarship programs, please visit www.StepUpForStudents.org/DCF.

NEW LOCATION!

Duffels for Kids



Florida State Foster/Adoptive
Parent Association, Inc.

2015

DUFFELS FOR KIDS WALK

Every day, a child in care transitions into another home without proper luggage. Help the Florida State Foster/Adoptive Parent Association break the cycle! Support the 2015 Duffels for Kids Walk on May 16 in Port Orange, Florida. We're ensuring that EVERY foster youth has a duffel to call their own... because trash bags shouldn't be a substitute for luggage.

**May 16, 2015
9 a.m.**

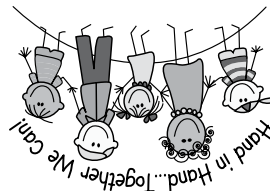
**Kenneth Parker Amphitheater, 2001 City Center Circle, Port Orange, FL
\$25 (regular walker); \$10 (foster parent); \$5 (child)**

www.duffels4kids.org

Featuring a special performance by the NEX GEN Band



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