

KRN Korner

Kids Resource Network of Colorado Springs

Director's Chair

I cannot believe summer is coming to an end. School days are right around the corner. Yes, that makes me smile too.....

Speaking of things that make me smile, our audit went VERY well. Thank you all so much for all of your efforts and attention to detail.

You are amazing!!! I appreciate the team work and dedication. You are all truly the *exception*.

This year's summer picnic was also a blast. We had delicious food, great company, and lots of laughs. Thank you to all of you who were able to participate, and to those who could not make it this year, we hope to see you there next year! ☺

It saddens me to have to wish our amazing caseworker and team mate, Nikki, farewell, but

the time has come for her to embark on a new adventure. She is off to join her husband, as he has joined the military. Nikki has been an asset to our team, our family, for the past 4 years. Nikki, we will miss you, and we are all very happy for you. Come back to visit soon!!!

With each closing door it is good to find an open window.... though we are terribly sad to see Nikki go, we are also excited to introduce and welcome Rashida to our team. Rashida joined us in May 2009 as a therapeutic intern. She has since accepted a position as caseworker. For those of you who have not met her yet please stop by and introduce yourself.

On a final note, Kids' Resource Network,

in conjunction with Front Range Foster Parent association, has recently opened a food pantry, through the supports of Care and Share and a few planned local food drives. If you are interested in information on how to utilize this resource, or help keep it going, please give me a call and I can connect you with one of the volunteers that are helping to make this happen.

As always, I want to thank you all for what you do. The children and families in our community are lucky to have such amazing families to work with!!

Shawntel Tucker, MS

Executive Director

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Executive Director, Shawntel

Using Correct Forms

Please keep in mind that some forms were updated about a year ago. It has come to our attention that some of you are using old forms. We have continued to accept the older versions in the past, but please keep in mind that from here on out, they will no longer be accepted. Please use the correct forms so you are not asked to do them over again. Please call or email Christina for the correct forms.

Storage Needs

As of right now the storage room is open for teen boys and girl sizes as well as girls 3T-.8. Please call Christina if you have any questions.

Thank you to everyone who has helped with the storage and donating!

Volunteers are always needed to help straighten storage Room! Call Christina

Responding to the Angry Child

Ease tension through humor. Kidding the child out of a temper tantrum or outburst offers the child an opportunity to "save face." However, it is important to distinguish between face-saving humor and sarcasm, teasing, or ridicule.

Appeal directly to the child. Tell him or her how you feel and ask for consideration. For example, a parent or a teacher may gain a child's cooperation by saying, "I know that noise you're making doesn't usually bother me, but today I've got a headache, so could you find something else you'd enjoy doing?"

Explain situations. Help the child understand the cause of a stressed situation. We often fail to realize how easily young children can begin to react properly once they understand the cause of their frustration

Removal from the scene. Occasionally a child may lose control so completely that he has to be removed from the scene to prevent him from hurting himself or others. This may also "save face" for the child. Removal from the scene should not be viewed by the child as punishment but as a means of saying, "You can't do that." In such situations, an adult cannot afford to lose his or her temper and unfriendly remarks by other children should not be tolerated.

Encourage children to see their strengths as well as their weaknesses Help them to see that they can reach their goals.

Use promises and rewards. Promises of future pleasure can be used both to start and to stop behavior. This approach should not be compared with bribery. We must know what the child likes-what brings him pleasure--and we must deliver on our promises.

Say "NO!" Limits should be clearly explained and enforced. Children should be free to function within those limits.

Tell the child that you accept his or her angry feelings, but offer other suggestions for expressing them. Teach children to put their angry feelings into words, rather than fists.

Built a positive self-image. Encourage children to see themselves as valued and valuable people.

Use punishment cautiously. There is a fine line between punishment that is hostile toward a child and punishment that is educational.

Model appropriate behavior. Parents and teachers should be aware of the powerful influence of their actions on a child's or group's behavior.

Teach children to express themselves verbally. Talking helps a child have control and thus reduces acting out behavior. Encourage the child to say, for example, "I don't like your taking my pencil. I don't feel like sharing just now." For more tips go to: <http://www.fosterparents.com/articles/index69angry.html>

Adoption Training... 2010

Adoption training classes through El Paso County consists of three classes. Each class is scheduled for a Tuesday/Thursday (2 hours each) session. You must attend both Tuesday and Thursday to receive credit for the class. Families should start with the first class and proceed through all 12 hours. You must be on time because the doors will be locked promptly at 5:30 and 6pm. Trainings will be held at El Paso county Department of Human Services: 105 N. Spruce, Colorado Springs, CO in the Community Conference Room on the 1st floor. Classes will be held from 5:30pm-7:30pm. All adoption classes are required for new adoptive families receiving an adoption subsidy from El Paso County. Others may attend as well.

Each class will be 4 credit hours for a total of 12 hrs. Families should start with the first class and proceed through All are 12 hrs. Sorry, but child care is **not provided!** And DHS will not reimburse for child care costs. The schedule is as follows:

To Be Announced

Support Group

CPR/FIRST AID

Please call Christina for more information!

August 27, 2010
From 9am-11am

December 17, 2010
Christmas party

September 28, 2010
From 9am-11am

Time & Place is To Be
Announced

October 28, 2010
From 9am-11am

**We look forward to seeing
you there!**

November 29, 2010
From 9am-11am

Are You a Fan of Scentsy?

For those of you that do not know what Scentsy is, they are flameless, wickless candles that melt by using a light bulb. You may have seen them in the office at some point. If you are interested, Rashida is now selling them! To order visit her website at scentsy.com/rashidagordon

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Mission Statement

To provide the best quality care, education, and programs for children and families and to serve the community in which we live and work!

About Us

Kids' Resource Network was founded in 1985, moving into El Paso County area in 1992. In 2001 Kids' Resource Network broke into two separate offices making Kids' Resource Network of Colorado Springs its own Child Placement Agency. Since the beginning it has been our goal to grow gradually and to focus on a solid and stable program. Our outstanding resources are proof of that. Kids' Resource Network of Colorado Springs is the exception! We work with many diverse children and families, who all have different and special needs. We work with children from ages 0-18 and sometimes help young adults up to the age of 21 should there be special circumstances. KRNCS works to reunify children in a safe and stable family environment. Should a child be unable to return to their biological family, KRNCS helps to locate and finalize a permanent placement. In addition to Foster/Adoptive success, we also have a list of services that we provide such as CPR and First Aid and Family-to-Family involvement where a staff sits on various committees to ensure our full participation and voice in the community.

www.kidsresourcenetworkcs.com

Monthly Spotlight...Meet the Roberts/Crade Family

Jess and Mary are very new providers with KRN. They became interested in providing care due to Jess' work at Cedar Springs and his involvement with children who were in need of more permanent, stable families. Jess is a special education teacher for school district 11 (Columbia Elementary) and Mary is a first grade teacher at Summit Elementary in Divide. They are very dedicated, loving and caring individuals who have raised four of their own children; Austin, Dylan, Sofia and Elena. All of their kids have shown an amazing level of empathy with the foster child they have taken in and have accepted him as a part of their family, without reservation. Jess and Mary are fun loving with the kids they have, yet structured and consistent. They have an

amazing ability to develop trust with children and approach challenging situations in a very non threatening way. They are very knowledgeable, patient and committed in every aspect of their lives. In their free time, Jess and Mary love the outdoors; hiking, fishing, camping. Jess and Mary love staying active with kids and finding new and exciting adventures to go on with them.

Jess and Mary have a great support system of family and close friends; but are looking forward to networking with other foster parents as well. Jess and Mary, you are truly the exception and very valued new members of our great team!

Keep up the great work!!!! Your hard work and dedication have not gone unnoticed.

