



TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE E-NOTES DECEMBER, 2008

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A NOTE FROM SHARRI

Dear Readers,

This issue of E-Notes finds us well into another holiday season. While our traditions and observances come in many forms, I am hoping that each you will have an opportunity for some well-deserved rest and renewal as well as for quality time with family members and others you hold dear.

Thinking of the wonderful family gatherings that will be occurring over the next few weeks is always a bit poignant for those of us in the child welfare field, as we can't help but be reminded of the children who are still waiting for the security of a permanent family. At the same time, we can look back with satisfaction at our successful efforts over the past year, and look to the New Year with a renewed passion for our work in recruiting and supporting foster and adoptive families. Here at NRCRRFAP we are grateful for the opportunity to share the joys and challenges of this work with you. We pledge our continued commitment to providing you technical assistance, useful information, and resources.

Happy Holidays to you and yours!

Sharri Black

RECRUITMENT WORKS/RETENTION MATTERS

Best Practices for One Church, One Child Model Programs is a publication compiling "best practices and organizational structures identified as universally effective by programs across the United States operating under of the One Church, One Child concept." It has been made available online by the National Network of Adoption Advocacy Programs and highlights best practices in four areas: Organizational Development; Board and Staff Development; Adoption Recruitment; and Service Delivery.

The document also describes the following core elements of the One Church One Child model:

- Collaborate with churches as they identify potential foster or adoptive parents
- Target a particular cultural group
- Provide training for leaders of faith institutions, parents, adoption and foster care workers, church coordinators and others
- Partner with child-placing agencies on state and local levels
- Provide support to foster and adoptive parents before and after placements

The publication was authored by Jane C. Talley, MSW and is available for [download here](#).

INTERJURISDICTIONAL PLACEMENT SERVICES

Interjurisdictional Information Network (IIN)

AdoptUsKids has established the IIN to support States in achieving timely interjurisdictional placements. One of the IIN services being developed is a **State Profile Map**, a web-based resource where each State's interjurisdictional requirements for ICPC foster care and adoption placements can be accessed at one location. Preliminary research and a prototype has been completed regarding the interjurisdictional requirements for all 50 States and territories.

At the October 22-23 National Association of State Adoption Programs (NASAP) Conference in Washington, D.C., six Adoption State Program Managers volunteered to examine their State's IJ Profile Map prototype to:

- Assure that the information is complete, easily accessible and user friendly;
- Involve all necessary State Program Managers, (Adoption, Foster Care, Licensing, ICPC) in the process review and to add missing information to their own State's map;
- Consult on the procedures needed to get feedback from all necessary parties in their State to finalize their State's map.

During the early part of December, following the NASAP volunteers' review, responses and suggestions, each State Adoption Program Manager will be contacted with the opportunity to review and make corrections or additions to their State's prototype prior to the State Profile Maps' debut on the AdoptUsKids website on January 30, 2009.

If you have questions regarding the IIN or State Map Profile Project please contact:

Sharon Tintle, Interjurisdictional Consultant
NRCRR at AdoptUsKids
(850) 567-1549
sharon@tintleconsulting.com

TIPS AND TOOLS

The Collaboration to AdoptUsKids is pleased to present *Taking a*



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CONTACT US

For more information about AdoptUsKids Training and Technical Assistance Services, contact Sharri Black at (303) 990-3750 or email sharri@adoptex.org.

PRINT THIS ISSUE

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For a printer-friendly text version, [click here!](#)

Break: Creating Foster, Adoptive and Kinship Respite in Your Community. This manual was produced as a collaborative effort of the North American Council on Adoptable Children (NACAC), the National Foster Parent Association (NFPA), and the Collaboration to AdoptUsKids. It is a comprehensive and practical guide, covering virtually everything needed to create and manage a respite program.

The first three sections outline step-by-step guidelines for designing and implementing respite services: Exploring the Benefits of Respite; Exploring Respite Options; and Developing Your Respite Program. The final section, Forms, contains a large array of sample documents which may be freely adapted to meet the needs of local programs. The forms available include Respite Billing, Emergency Service Authorization, Parent Checklist, Event Evaluation, Respite Provider Agreement, and many more.

The manual may be [accessed here.](#)

T/TA HIGHLIGHTS

AdoptUsKids T/TA participated in the kick-off meeting of the new Diligent Recruitment Grantee Cluster, held in Alexandria, Virginia in late November. The Adoption Exchange, Northwest Resource Associates, and the Adoption Exchange Association worked closely together to put together a presentation about AdoptUsKids for the jurisdictions that have been awarded Diligent Recruitment cooperative agreements by the Children's Bureau.

The purpose of the diligent recruitment cooperative agreements is to fund, by awarding cooperative agreements, multi-faceted diligent recruitment programs for a range of resource families for children in foster care, including kinship, foster, concurrent and adoptive families.

For the next three years, we will be the lead NRC providing technical assistance for the nine grantees as they implement their projects. The cluster includes:

- ▮ Oklahoma Department of Human Services, Oklahoma City, OK
- ▮ Cuyahoga County Department of Children and Family Services, Cleveland, OH
- ▮ County of Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA
- ▮ Maryland Department of Human Resources, Baltimore, MD
- ▮ City and County of Denver, Denver, CO
- ▮ New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OFCS), Rensselaer, NY
- ▮ Missouri Department of Social Services, Jefferson City, MO
- ▮ Department for Community Based Services, Frankfurt, KY
- ▮ Ramsey County, Minnesota, MN

We are looking forward to getting to know the grantee organizations and their work. Watch this space for updates as their projects unfold.

RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION NETWORK

The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources sent us news about their National Adoption Month celebration. The State has a collaborative that works on Recruitment and Retention of Foster and Adoptive parents. It's a group made up of agency employees, both in the field and at the state office level; members of the Foster Family based Treatment Association (FFTA); Mission WV; and foster and adoptive parents. Together they planned a successful public celebration which was held in the West Virginia State Capitol Building. The event included a Heart Gallery exhibit, photographs of thirty adoptive families, and a display of artwork created by foster and adoptive children describing what family means to them.

Thanks to the readers who sent on the Adoption Month news that we have been able to feature in the November and December issues of E-Notes!

Please send us your stories and ideas that have shown results in recruitment, retention and interjurisdictional placements. Email your offerings to sharri@adoptex.org.

FYI

The Grandfamilies State Law and Policy Resource Center has been launched by Casey Family Programs, the ABA Center on Children and the Law, and Generations United. Resources include a web site that offers a searchable data base of laws and legislation surrounding relative care giving both within and outside the child welfare system. [Click here](#) to for the website.