

# NEWS FROM YOUR PEER LIAISON

November 2015



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IFAPA Peer Liaison

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**I UNDERSTAND...  
I AM A FOSTER PARENT TOO**

IFAPA recognizes that foster parents often need the perspective of peers during the foster parenting and adoption experience.

I can provide support and assist you with questions regarding:

- Licensing requirements
- Training needs
- Respite care
- Behavior challenges
- Working with birth families
- Confidentiality issues
- And much more!



www.ifapa.org

***November is National Adoption Awareness Month!***

***National Adoption Day is a collective national effort to raise awareness of the more than 100,000 children in foster care waiting to find permanent, loving families. A coalition of national partners – Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption, Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute, The Alliance for Children’s Rights and Children’s Action Network – sponsor National Adoption Day.***

<http://www.nationaladoptionday.org/>

*This year National Adoption Day will be celebrated on November 21 (or an alternate date in some locations). On this day, a number of courts and communities in the United States will come together to finalize thousands of adoptions of children from foster care. More than 300 events are held each year in all 50 US states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico to finalize the adoptions of children in foster care. In total, more than 40,000 children have been adopted from foster care on National Adoption Day.*


**Events in Iowa**

*Join Iowa KidsNet, DHS, and IFAPA for a National Adoption Month proclamation signing on November 5 at 2:00 pm at the Iowa Capitol!*

*Governor Branstad will sign a formal proclamation declaring November as National Adoption Month in the state of Iowa.*

*The Des Moines Model Court will be celebrating its 16th Annual Adoption Saturday on November 7 at 8:30 a.m. at the Polk County Courthouse in downtown Des Moines. Judges and court personnel, DHS, Iowa KidsNet, and other community partners will be donating their time to make over two dozen foster kids part of a forever family.*

*See page two for adoption month events in this area.*



*An Adoption Poem*

*The Gift of Life*

I didn't give you  
the gift of life,  
But in my heart  
I know.  
The love I feel is  
deep and real,  
As if it had been so.  
For us to have  
each other  
Is like a dream  
come true!  
No, I didn't give you  
The gift of life,  
Life gave me  
the gift of you.  
- AUTHOR UNKNOWN -

# NEWS FROM YOUR IFAPA PEER LIAISON

## Support Group Happenings

### Mason City and Surrounding Areas

\*Sat. Nov. 7 (9 am-4:30 pm) What are You Trying to Tell Me (6 hrs)  
Mason City NIACC

\*Sat, Nov. 7 (9am-12:15 pm) Mand. Child Abuse Reporter Training  
(3hrs) Waterloo

\*Sat. Nov. 7(1:30-5:30 pm) CPR & First Aid (4 hrs) Waterloo

Register at [www.ifapa.org](http://www.ifapa.org) or call 800-277-8145

### Fort Dodge and Webster City Areas

\*Sat. Nov. 14 (9 am-12:15 pm) Is Mental Health Puzzling You?  
(3 hrs) Ft. Dodge

\*Sat. Nov. 14 (1:30-4:45 pm) Doctors Speak a Foreign Language?  
(3hrs) Ft. Dodge

Register at [www.ifapa.org](http://www.ifapa.org) or call 800-277-8145

### Renew Support Group, Cornerstone Church-Ames

\* Thurs. Nov. 19 (6-8pm) "The Impact Of Fear" (2 hrs credit)

\*Register: [https://cornerstonelife.ccbchurch.com/form\\_response.php?id=907](https://cornerstonelife.ccbchurch.com/form_response.php?id=907)

### Allison Area Foster Parent Support Group

\*Waverly Vineyard Church, 319 W. Bremer

\*Tues. Nov. 3 (6-7pm) "Healthy Relationships in Families"  
Presenter: Monarch Therapy Staff (1 hr credit)

\*Support to follow (7-8 pm) RSVP by Nov. 1 if child care needed.

\*Contact Nancy Magnall for more information at 319-352-3600

### Marshall County Support Group

Bi-monthly lunch support meeting

11:30-1:00 at Applebee's in Marshalltown

For dates and details:

\* Contact Mindy Speake at 515-291-1292.

## FALL TIDBITS

Adoption Day Celebrations

\*November 20, 2015, 8-12 am  
Mason City Courthouse

\*November 14, 2015, begins 8 am  
Webster City Courthouse

\*November 13, 2015, 1-4:30 pm  
Waterloo Courthouse

*No December Trainings*

*Just a reminder to plan ahead for your training hours. IFAPA will not be holding trainings for the month of December. Watch for information about upcoming January trainings.*

## Fall Craft



*All you need is paint and a paint brush!*

