

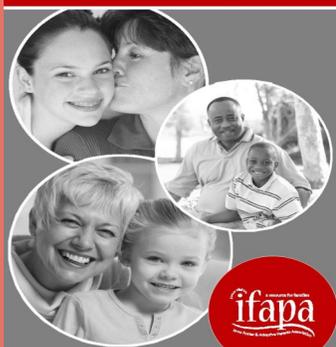
SEPTEMBER 19, 2017

ARE YOU RAISING A RELATIVE'S CHILD?

IFAPA has developed a free booklet "Raising Relative's Children" to assist kinship caretakers—including grandparents, aunts and uncles, and others who "take-in" children they care about—to work effectively with Iowa DHS and juvenile court. This booklet includes information on the different types of care a kinship caretaker can provide, financial assistance programs, community resources, and questions to ask DHS when considering a kinship placement. This booklet also includes information on children's issues, family concerns, respite, educational issues, raising children of color, talking with children about their parents and much more.

Families can find this book on the [IFAPA WEBSITE](http://www.ifapa.org) or can request a free copy of this book by contacting Phyllis Pierce at 515-289-4225 or email ppierce@ifapa.org

RAISING Relatives' Children



IFAPA Offers Free Classes for Foster Parent Credit

Sat., Sept. 23 9am-12:15pm	<u>Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Foster Care</u>	3 hours	Ankeny IFAPA Training Center
Sat., Sept. 23 1:15pm-4:30pm	<u>The Good Enough Parent: Promoting Mental Health in Young Children</u>	3 hours	Ankeny IFAPA Training Center
Sat., Sept. 23 9am-12:15pm	<u>Parenting the Willful Child</u>	3 hours	Cedar Falls Hawkeye Comm College
Sat., Sept. 23 1:15pm-4:30pm	<u>The Magic of Healing the Brain and Fostering a Secure Attachment</u>	3 hours	Cedar Falls Hawkeye Comm College
Sat., Sept. 30 9am-12:15pm	<u>Worrywarts...Understanding Anxiety Disorders in Children</u>	3 hours	Council Bluffs Holiday Inn Express
Sat., Sept. 30 1:15pm-4:30pm	<u>I Won't Do It and You Can't Make Me</u>	3 hours	Council Bluffs Holiday Inn Express
Sat., Oct 7 9am-12:15pm	<u>Parenting the Willful Child</u>	3 hours	Ankeny IFAPA Training Center
Sat., Oct 7 1:15pm-4:30pm	<u>The Magic of Healing the Brain and Fostering a Secure Attachment</u>	3 hours	Ankeny IFAPA Training Center
Sat., Oct 14 9am-12:15pm	<u>Quirky Kids</u>	3 hours	Cedar Rapids Clarion Hotel
Sat., Oct 14 1:15pm-4:30pm	<u>The Good Enough Parent: Promoting Mental Health in Young Children</u>	3 hours	Cedar Rapids Clarion Hotel
Sat., Oct 21 9am-4:30pm	<u>Dangerous Playgrounds</u>	6 hours	Ames Gateway Hotel
Sat., Nov 4 9am-12:15pm	<u>Arggg..What Can I Do With My Kids? The Power of Receptive Parenting vs. Reactive Parenting</u>	3 hours	Ankeny IFAPA Training Center
Sat., Nov 4 1:15pm-4:30pm	<u>Trauma in Chidren and Teens: What it Really is and What Really Works</u>	3 hours	Ankeny IFAPA Training Center
Sat., Nov 4 9am-4:30pm	<u>Dangerous Playgrounds</u>	6 hours	Cedar Falls IFAPA Training Center
Sat., Dec 2 9am-12:15pm	<u>Arggg..What Can I Do With My Kids? The Power of Receptive Parenting vs. Reactive Parenting</u>	3 Hours	Cedar Rapids Clarion Hotel
Sat., Dec 2 1:15m-4:30 pm	<u>Trauma in Chidren and Teens: What it Really is and What Really Works</u>	3 hours	Cedar Rapids Clarion Hotel
Sat., Dec 2 9am-12:15pm	<u>How to Talk So Kids Will Listen</u>	3 hours	Ankeny IFAPA Training Center
Sat., Dec 2 1:15-4:30 pm	<u>Building Relationships Through Play</u>	3 hours	Ankeny IFAPA Training Center



What is the adoption tax credit?

Since 1997, the adoption tax credit has helped alleviate the costly expenses that come with adoption for families who adopt children from foster care, intercountry adoption, or private domestic adoption. In 2016, families could claim up to \$13,460 in the adoption tax credit per child. For many Americans, this credit can make a huge difference on their journey to building their families, creating better outcomes for children, and saving the government significant costs.

By the numbers:

- 112,000 children in U.S. foster care eligible for adoption with many more around the world
- 73,951 families used the adoption tax credit to bring a child into a loving, permanent home
- \$127,000 in savings for the federal government per child adopted¹

Why does it matter right now?

Members of Congress are currently working on major reforms to the U.S. tax code, and are aiming to pass a bill this fall. Many Members want to strip away the majority of tax credits, including the adoption tax credit.

Why do we need your voice?

It is crucial that Members of Congress hear from their constituents about why the adoption tax credit must be preserved. We need people who have first-hand experience with the benefits of the adoption tax credit. If we don't rally and make our voices heard now, then this invaluable credit which helps thousands of adoptive families and children could disappear.

What are ways to get involved?

There are several ways you can tell your Member of Congress why the adoption tax credit must be saved:

- **Send a video.** Go online to <https://adoptiontaxcredit.org> and click the "Take Action!" button. From there, you can send a video message, privately and securely, directly to your Member of Congress. Video is the new and exciting tool in communicating with Congress – though it may feel strange to talk to a computer or phone camera, this is the best way to personalize your story.
- **Send an email.** Go online to <https://adoptiontaxcredit.org> and click the "Take Action!" button to learn how to email your Member of Congress.
- **Request a meeting** with your Member of Congress to discuss the importance of the adoption tax credit. For help or more information on how best to do this, reach out to Ted Prettyman at tprettyman@simsstrategies.com.
- **Write your Member of Congress' staff**, including their tax policy analyst. For help or more information on how best to do this, reach out to Ted Prettyman at tprettyman@simsstrategies.com.
- **Reach out to us.** Do you have close relationships with any Members of Congress? Let us know, so we can help connect the dots across the adoption network and help our advocacy efforts.
- **Tell other people within your local adoption network** to get involved and share their story about how the adoption tax credit has benefitted them.

Contact Information: Ted Prettyman at tprettyman@simsstrategies.com.