

Greetings from Alaska Center for Resource Families

ACRF provides support and training for foster, adoptive, guardian and relative caretakers in Alaska

OCS Placement Search and Support Unit

OCS is working toward establishing a special statewide unit called Placement Search and Support Unit (PSSU) that will help foster parents greatly. This unit will focus on finding placement for children (one central calling point for families) and can also help with getting families timely information and help them get non-case specific information and support. Linda Clapp-Damerow is spearheading the creation of this unit which should be available soon. When asked about the project she replied: "OCS remains excited about establishing it's PSSU. We are diligently working with partner agencies to get the needed positions established and recruited for; staffing shortages across all state departments have created delays. The mission of this unit is to develop a high-functioning unit whose goals are to: find preferential placements; increase placement stability by finding placements that are a good fit for children and resource families; and provide robust support and timely responses to caregivers."

NEW Special Needs Hotline Brochure and Request Form

OCS has made some updates to the Special Needs Hotline Brochure and has created a new Special Needs Hotline Request Form. The request form was created to help the Special Needs Hotline expedite requests for commodities by asking for specific information to be provided up front. This specific information (rather than a vague request) will make the process go more efficiently and hopefully eliminate some of the need for callbacks and messages. The request form is NOT required but can help make the process smoother. OCS will also process requests that come to them without the form. Locate these forms on the OCS Website or find the links here:

<https://dfcs.alaska.gov/ocs/Documents/form/SpecialNeedsHotlineRequestForm.pdf>

<https://dfcs.alaska.gov/ocs/Documents/SpecialNeedsHotlineBrochure.pdf>

WIC Benefits Are Available to Licensed Foster Parents!

WIC is a Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children. If you are a father, mother, grandparent, foster parent or other legal guardian of a child under 5 years of age, you can apply for your child. You are eligible if you have a foster child in your home who is under 5 years of age. Foster children are eligible based on the child's income, not based on the foster parent's income. You will be asked to prove that you are the court appointed foster parent, such as bringing the Consent Form for Emergency or Routine Medical Care for the child.

If you or your children are income eligible for Food Stamps, Medicaid, Denali Kid Care, School Lunch or Head Start and Alaska Temporary Assistance Program (ATAP) then your income meets WIC guidelines. Find a clinic, get more answers, or apply for WIC at <https://health.alaska.gov/dpa/Pages/nutri/wic/eligibility.aspx>.

Hello from the Resource Family Advisory Board!



The Resource Family Advisory Board met three times during this quarter to work on its three initiatives as well as learn more about the proceedings of the Governor Task Force on Foster care. The RFAB met for one of two "face-to-face" meetings in Anchorage on November 4 and 5. Committees presented the work they have done on their respective initiative. The Board was honored to have participation by Director Kim Guay and Program Office Travis Erickson, as well as a visit by Commissioner Kim Kovol. The next Face to Face Meeting is planned for Juneau on March 23 and 24.

Current RFAB Board Members include:

Resource Family Representatives:

Anchorage: Tiffany Brookwell, Danielle Holt, and Dora Wilson; **Fairbanks:** Jo Ann Borges; **Ketchikan:** Candice Arrington and David Garcia; **Nome:** Heather Payenna and L.Fawn White, **North Pole:** Associate Member-Kristen Haddox; and **Wasilla:** Brian Headdings (Co-Chair)

State and Agency Representatives:

Yurii Miller (OCS Licensing Representative and Co-Chair); Mariah Johnson (OCS Child Protection Representative); and Aileen McInnis (ACRF Representative).

RFAB Three Initiatives:

1. Seek Strategies to Make Recommendations To Promote Retention and Recognition of Current Foster Homes.
2. Promote and Increase Effective Communication Between Resource Families and OCS.
3. Address Issues Regarding Supporting Resource Families Who Are Parenting Youth With Higher Needs. ■

1.0 CREDIT SELF-STUDY

Licensed foster parents can read the following article and earn foster parent training credit by filling out the quiz and returning it to the Alaska Center for Resource Families, 815 Second AVE STE 202, Fairbanks AK, 99701 or FAX to 1-907-479-9666.

“THE NEW INDIVIDUALIZED TRAINING PLAN”

Here at the Alaska Center for Resource Families, we are asked frequently, “How many hours of training do I need this year?” The answer to that question for all newly licensed or renewed license homes is new this year. This year, the answer will be “*what does it say on your ITP?*”

ITP stands for **Individualized Training Plan**. That means that every year, foster homes think about what they want or need to learn about in order to best meet the needs of the children and youth in their home. You discuss these topics with your licensing worker and you make a plan to do that training in the upcoming year. Easy right? This is different than the previous training requirement of 10 to 15 hours per household every year, but is not really not that big of a change. Each foster parent still needs to do training and you’ll do about the same amount each year, but you plan out what training you will do ahead of time. And you make it relevant to what you need.

Note: If you are licensed after July 1, 2022, you will start out with an ITP. If you were licensed before July 1, 2022, you will be held to the 10 to 15 hours training requirement for your current license and will switch to the ITP format when your license comes up for renewal. By July 1, 2024, all licensed foster families will develop an ITP to meet the foster care licensing training requirement. For more information about what the regulations say about foster parent training, please refer to **7 AAC 67.130 Orientation and Training**

Let’s break down the ITP into its three parts:

- **Individualized** Geared toward the children and foster parent in that home -
- This is new and different than just a set number of hours of training. This means your training needs to be will be relevant to caring for the children in your home.
- **Training** Has an educational or learning components– this has always been the same.
- **Plan** Is a considered and mindful look at what is needed in the year ahead (written down) This is different- we are looking ahead and you will develop a plan for training that you will be accountable for meeting.

QUESTION:

How much training I need to do every year?

ANSWER:

What does it say on your ITP?

The ITP is developed with your Licensing Specialist who will discuss with you **what training is needed to meet the needs of the child or children in the home**. These needs will be determined through a conversation with the family, the caseworker and the licensing worker.

For the first year of licensure, foster parents will be asked to complete Core Training for Resource Families or for relatives, Core Training for Relative Caregivers. This will be specified and written into the foster family’s ITP. Each following year of licensure a new ITP will be developed with the family’s training needs in mind and will be based on the foster parent’s previous experience and training.

The Individual Training Plan is a specific form that is used to plan, document, and track completion of training. There are sections for first year licensing, second year, and beyond and a list of potential topics. Choose a two or three that relate to the children in your home or the area you want to learn more in. Then, you--the foster parent-- signs, the licensing specialist signs, the supervisor signs and then it goes to ACRF to put your plan in your training record. ACRF can help you get those trainings completed or you can use another community training or agency or self-study to meet the training requirement.

If you do your training through the Alaska Center for Resource Families, the completion will be tracked automatically when you submit your questionnaires or attend the training. If you do your training through another agency or method, all training must be documented and submitted to ACRF who keeps the database of completed training for licensed foster parents in Alaska. Your submission should include the date, subject material, duration, and the name of the presenter/facilitator. ACRF puts it in your training record for documentation. Licensing workers will check with ACRF to determine that the ITP has been completed when the renewal for licensure comes around each year.

We know you have questions. Here are some common one with some answers:

“How do I know what kind of training I need?” Talk with your Licensing Worker and your Caseworker, but think about the children you currently have in your home or think about the areas you would like more information about or what skills would help you be a stronger foster parent.

What if I change my mind? If you decide that there is other training you can take that will better meet the needs of the children in your home, talk with your worker to amend your ITP.

What if I am brand new or I don’t have kids in my home at this time? If you are newly licensed, you will be asked to take Core Training for Resource Families to learn the basic skills of being a foster parent. If you don’t currently have kids in your home, then think about the ages of children in your home or look for trauma informed parenting classes or development or general parenting classes that will improve your skills in general.

What if I have been a foster parent for a hundred years? We know you are out there! In addition to training you want to do, talk to your worker about doing some of your training by sharing your expertise and knowledge with other families through writing articles, mentoring or presenting on panels. This must be preapproved by your worker but is a great option for experienced and seasoned foster families.

What if I am a relative licensed home? All licensed foster homes need to complete an ITP, including relatives, so take the Core Training for Relative Caregivers or look at the specific needs *of the relative children in your home to decide what training will be most relevant.*

What if I am interested in adopting? All licensed foster homes need to complete an ITP, so we suggest the Adoption Learning Path which includes Core Training, Adopting through OCS, and Building Families through Adoption. ■

SUMMARY OF ITP PROCESS FOR FAMILIES

1. At licensing renewal or home visit, talk with Licensing Worker about needs of youth and children in your home and develop Individual Training Plan (ITP) with worker. Use the ITP form making sure both of you sign the ITP.
2. Licensing worker will secure ITP approved by Supervisor. ITP gets sent to ACRF where it is filed and staff will follow up if necessary.
3. ACRF contacts family to get the training done, OR If training is done through another agency, foster parent will send certification or documentation of completion to ACRF.
4. OCS Licensing Unit checks with ACRF to make sure ITP is completed by the end of the licensing year.
5. If training is not completed, licensing follows up with Plan of Correction for the family.

“The New Individualized Training Plan”

If you read the above entitled article and want foster parent training credit applied to your training requirement, fill out the following questionnaire and FAX it to 1-907-479-9666, mail to ACRF, 815 Second AVE STE 202, Fairbanks, AK 99701 or email to acrff@nwresource.org.

Name: _____

Provider#: _____ Email: _____

Mailing Address: _____

1. After reading this material, please list two (2) main nuggets of information you learned from the course.

1) _____

2) _____

2. After reading this material, think about how this information can be useful to your foster parenting experiences. Please list two (2) specific ways you may use this knowledge in your home.

1) _____

2) _____

NEW & UPDATED COURSES AVAILABLE IN THE ACRF LIBRARY

Call 1-800-478-7307 or email acrf@nwresource.org to order any of these self-studies. Please note that if you have already received credit for these courses in the past three years, you are welcome to retake them and we will credit your training report since the material has been updated.

Adolescence:

- Runaways in Foster Care (New Course)

Adoption:

- Adoption: Searching for Birth Relatives (Updated Info Packet)
- Adopting as a Single Parent (Updated Info Packet)
- Court Hearings for the Permanent Placement of Children (Updated Info Packet)
- Finding & Using Post-Adoption Services (Updated Info Packet)
- First Steps to Finalization: A Guide to Building Families through Foster/Adoption in Alaska (Updated ACRF Publication)
- Foster Parent Adoption (Updated Info Packet)
- Military Families in Adoption (Updated Info Packet)
- Obtaining Background Information on Your Prospective Adopted Child (Updated Info Packet)
- Openness in Adoption: Building Relationships Between Adoptive and Birth Families (Updated Info Packet)
- Paths to Adoption in Alaska (Updated Info Packet)
- Seven Core Issues in Adoption and Permanency (New Book)
- Tax Credits & Adoption (Updated Info Packet)
- Understanding the Home Study Process (Updated Info Packet)
- What is Foster Parenting & Adoption? (Updated Info Packet)

Culture & Heritage:

- Alaska Native Cultural Values & Languages (Updated Info Packet)

Communication:

- Lighthouse Conversations: Being a Beacon for Teens (New Book)

Difficult Behaviors:

- Caring for the Aggressive Child in Foster Care Part 1: Strategies for Reducing Aggression (New Course)
- Caring for the Aggressive Child in Foster Care Part 2: Responding to Out-of-Control Behavior (New Course)

Discipline/Parenting:

- Finding, Choosing and Evaluating Child Care (New Info Packet)

Education:

- Education Guide for Alaska Resource Families (Updated ACRF Publication)

Foster Care:

- Birth and Foster Parent Partnership: A Relationship Building Guide (New Info Packet)
- Rights, Responsibilities, & Resources: A Guidebook for Foster Youth in Alaska (New Info Packet)
- Sibling Issues in Foster Care & Adoption (Updated Info Packet)
- Understanding the Regulations Unit 1: Positive Parenting & Managing Behavior (Updated Course)
- Understanding the Regulations Unit 2: Daily Life, Program and Activities (New Course)
- Understanding the Regulations Unit 3: Child Health Care & Medications (Updated Course)
- Understanding the Regulations Unit 4: Nutrition & Eating in the Foster Home (Updated Course)
- Understanding the Regulations Unit 5: Safety in the Foster Home (Updated Course)
- Understanding the Regulations Unit 6: Foster Parent Training (Updated Course)
- Understanding the Regulations Unit 7: Recordkeeping (Updated Course)
- Understanding the Regulations Unit 8: Supervision, Alternate Caregivers and the Reasonable & Prudent Parent Standard (New Course)
- Understanding the Regulations Unit 9: Confidentiality (Updated Course)
- Understanding the Regulations Unit 10: Fire Safety, First Aid & Emergency Preparedness in the Foster Home (Updated Course)

Health & Safety:

- Child of Mine: Feeding with Love and Good Sense (New Book)

Independent Living:

- Helping youth Transition to Adulthood: Guidance for Foster Parents (Updated Info Packet)

Mental Health & Illness:

- Bipolar Disorders in Children & Teens (Updated Info Packet)
- Depression in Children & Teens (Updated Info Packet)
- Suicide, Stress & Adolescents (Updated Info Packet)

ACRF Resource Family Book Club!

READING BETWEEN THE LINES:

Three Little Words by Ashley Rhodes-Courter



Club meets on Mondays by Zoom:

February 13

March 13

April 10

Held by Zoom from 6-7pm.

Come and join us for a fun relaxing book club! Each month we will read a portion of the book and have a meaningful discussion of what we read. A limited amount of books are available to borrow.

Missed the first session? Late joiners welcome!

To register call 907-279-1799

or sign up by email at acrfsc@nwresource.org

SAVE THE DATE Upcoming Webi-Conferences

**March 30—Family Contact
(in partnership with Beacon Hill)**

**May 18-19—Transitions
(in partnership with Tlingit & Haida)**

2023 RESILIENCY CONFERENCE

*In collaboration with the Fairbanks
Wellness Coalition and CHIP ACEs*



Free education event featuring dynamic presentations about resilience and connection both individual and community. Topics include self-care, vicarious trauma, isolation, recovery, and igniting the fire within.

SAVE THE DATE

PANELS & EDUCATION

DAY 1: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM // WESTMARK GOLD ROOM

Care for the Caregiver - A series of presentations for self-care, healing, health, and resources for substance use disorders.

DAY 2: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

5:30 - 7:30 PM // WESTMARK GOLD ROOM

Holistic Health - Interactive sessions for Trauma-Informed Yoga and Solutions for Isolation.

DAY 3: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM // STONE SOUP CAFE

Food Security - Easy wholesome meals with your budget in mind. Dinner included with a chance to win an Instant Pot.

For more information, or to make an accommodation request at least five days in advance of this event, please contact info@fairbankswellness.org or (907)888-3430 for assistance.

SCAN TO REGISTER



*Please note parties will have to register for each day separately

OR VISIT

<http://bit.ly/3W7vmEQ>



MONTHLY RESOURCE FAMILY TRAINING SCHEDULE:

Trauma Responsive Strategies and Skills for Resource Families, this series expands upon our Trauma Informed Caregiving Series.

You can find the recordings to this series on our website:

<https://www.acrf.org/self-study/teleconference-audio-trainings/trauma-informed-care-giving>

Wednesday, Feb. 8th, Noon-1pm **Act Local: Being Trauma Responsive to the Youth in Your Home**

Wednesday, Mar. 8th, 7-8pm **Being Safe on the Outside, Feeling Safe on the Inside**

Wednesday, Apr. 12th, Noon-1pm **Blowing Up, Blowing Out: Helping Youth with Self-Regulation**

Wednesday, May. 10th, 7-8pm **Weaving the Web: Connections and Healing**

Wednesday, Jun. 14th, Noon-1pm **Advocating for Your Child, Advocating for Yourself**

Please call in 5 minutes early to give us your contact information so we can record your attendance, or stay on the line and speak to the facilitator after the teleconference ends. Call 1-800-944-8766, Participant Code 26867#



Statewide Foster and Adoptive Support Group

3rd Thursday of each month at 6:00pm via Zoom

Next : February 16th: Sibling Rivalry 6:00-7:00pm

Join us for a chance to talk with other foster and adoptive parents, discuss issues or concerns, get advice and tips, or to share in supporting this group of amazing people and the hard work that they do!

Please call or email for Zoom meeting link or phone number. acrf@nwresource.org 1-800-478-7307 or 907-479-7307.

FASD Caregiver Support Group—Sponsored by Stone Soup Group

Last Wednesday of each month from 5-6:30pm via Zoom

Parents and caregivers of those affected by Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) are welcome to join us!

Please register for this caregiver support group:

<https://www.stonesoupgroup.org/event/fasd-support-and-discussion-group-upcoming/>



STATEWIDE ZOOM: Let's Talk ICWA

First Thursday of the Month: March 2, April 6, May 4 and June 1 from 4-5pm

Designed specifically for foster and pre-adoptive parents across Alaska to learn about ICWA (Indian Child Welfare Act) and to have a chance to get your questions answered. Come learn and get your questions answered!

Co-Sponsored by the Office of Children's Services and ACRF.

Contact us for Zoom meeting link at acrsc@nwresource.org 1-800-478-7307 or 907-479-7307.



Upcoming Post Adoption Skills & Support Group Workshops

Dad to Dad led by Alan Corrick

Mondays from 5:30 to 7:00 pm via Zoom

February 27, March 6, 20, & 27, and April 3, 2023

This time-limited group is for adoptive and foster fathers who want to connect with other dads about their unique and challenging roles when fostering or adopting children and youth. Participants will have an opportunity to hear from other fathers and get feedback and guidance on their own situation. Come and meet with other dads going through the same things you are!

Families Raising Youth with FASD led by Eileen Devine

Mondays from 5:30 to 7:00pm on Zoom

April 17, 24, May 1, 8, and 15, 2023

Eileen Devine will be facilitating a PASS group that has a brain-first approach to support parents of children with FASD; while also helping parents learn to co-regulate with their children; this P.A.S.S Group works to help understand how a child's brain works so then we can understand the meaning behind the child's behavior.

We at ACRF are excited to have you join in this group.

Please contact ACRF for registration.

Khughes@nwresource.org or call (907) 279-1799.

Northern Region Foster Parent Forum Please Join Us As We Continue The Discussion

Tuesday, February 14, 2023

12:00PM-1:30PM

On ZOOM

To receive Zoom Link, please register with ACRF at
1-800-478-7307 or 907-479-7307
or email acr@nwresource.org

The Foster Parent Forum is moving to a regional meeting. You will now have the opportunity to speak directly with the OCS management team in your region about topics important to you!



FOSTER AND ADOPTIVE PARENT TRAINING:

Building Families Through Adoption via Zoom (Two upcoming classes)

6 - 8pm, : 5 Sessions (Tuesdays/Thursdays): February 23, 28, March 2, 7 and 9
and again

10am - Noon, 5 Sessions (Tuesdays/Thursdays): May 2, 4, 9, 11 and 16

Building Families through Adoption aims to prepare potential adoptive parents for the realities and joys of adoption. All potential adoptive parents are welcome but it is particularly valuable for persons wanting to adopt from Alaska's foster care system.

Adopting Through OCS via Zoom (Two upcoming classes)

6:30 - 8:30pm, Tuesdays
February 21 *and again* May 23

This zoom class will include information about adopting through the foster care system and reviews the "nuts and bolts" of what families need to know.

Core Training for Resource Families via Zoom

6:30 - 8pm, 5 Sessions (Tuesdays/Thursdays): April 6, 11, 13, 18, 20, 25 and 27

Core Training for Resource Families helps you gain a better understanding of the child protection process, the special needs of your children in foster care and your role as a foster parent. It is also a great way to meet other foster parents and hear their ideas about fostering and adopting!

Core Training for Relative Caregivers via Zoom

6:30 - 8pm, 5 Sessions: April 3, 10, 20, 25, and 27

Core Training for Relative Caregivers will help you understand the child protective system, know what your role is as a foster parent to your relatives, and help connect you with resources to support your care for the children in your home.

Please call or email to pre-register and get the Zoom access information: acrfsc@nwresource.org
1-800-478-7307 or 907-479-7307

CONNECTION CAFÉ'

Support Group for Mat-Su Foster & Adoptive Parents

FIRST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH—5:30-7PM

Location changes monthly

Kids welcome! Door prizes!

Call 907-376-4678 for information.



ANCHORAGE, AK

Stone Soup Group

MARCH 23-24

2023 Parent Conference

WHAT'S IN YOUR CONTROL?

Featured Speakers:
Pete Wright, Esq., from Wrightslaw
Annie Thomas-Landrum
Alison Lovelace

A Special Education Focused Event

CONFERENCE FEE INCLUDES:
WRIGHTSLAW HIGHLIGHTER PEN
WRIGHTSLAW: ALL ABOUT IEPs
WRIGHTSLAW: SPECIAL EDUCATION LAW, 2ND ED.,
WRIGHTSLAW: FROM EMOTIONS TO ADVOCACY, 2ND ED.,
AND SO MUCH MORE!

Scholarships Available!

Register Today!

{907} 561-3701/stonesoupgroup.org

Do you know someone interested in becoming a foster parent? Tell them they can get more information at an Orientation

via Zoom: Wednesdays 6-7:30pm:

March 1
April 5
May 3
June 7

Telephonic: Thursdays:

February 16, 7-8pm
March 16, Noon-1pm
April 20, 7-8pm
May 18, Noon-1pm

Need Application Assistance: An optional additional hour is provided after each of the above sessions.

For Zoom Link: Call 1-800-478-7307 or email core@nwresource.org.

For the Telephonic Orientation call: 1-800-944-8766 then you will be asked to enter a code; please enter: **26867#**

Note: Don't forget to press the # button! If you call in before the group leader, you will hear music, stay on the line.

Every quarter we discover so many **special people, organizations and businesses** to thank! We can't tell you enough how much **we appreciate you**. We want you know how much **you impact our agency**—Without you it certainly **would not be possible for us to give** to our foster homes, our caregivers caring for their relatives and our adoptive families across the state of Alaska. **We hope you recognize how truly important you are!**

Adoption Month: We want to thank our community partners for helping to make our November Adoption Appreciation events happen! **Donations include** the ice rink, banquet room and skate rentals from **Big Lake Rotory**. A monetary gift from **Target and Three Bears**. A food donation from **Safeway, Affordable Catering and Mat-Su Career and Technical High School**. A coffee and hot chocolate donation from **Kaladi Brothers** and a donation of books from **Fireside Book Store**. A special Thank You to the **Law Office of Diane Olsen** for the generous donation for **Adoption Month**. A big thanks to **The Alaska Club** for donating **125 week long family passes** and **University of Alaska Museum of the North** for donating **10 passes** to our adoptive families. Thank you **Mat-Su Valley Quilter's Guild** and **Far North Quilting** for donating adoption gift quilts.

Anchorage Holiday Party for Resource Families: Thank you to **True North Church, Beacon Hill, Borealis Massage Therapy, Beacon Occupational Health & Safety Services, PetSmart, The Board Room, Mary Holmes, Kaladi Brothers, volunteers from the Church of Jesus Christ of Later Day Saints, and community partners** for making this event a success.

Donations: We appreciate our community organizations and service groups that support the work of ACRF. We would like to thank and spotlight these organizations for the support they have given ACRF programs. **Max Burger** for their **Annual Fundraiser**. **Anchorage Diaper Banks** and **Newborn in Need** for supplies for infants. Thanks to **Radio Station KZND** for **Pump Up the Kids Gift Drive** and their generous donors including **Mike Houston, Douglas Grey, Zoe Eisberg, Kristen Brown** and **Domino Pizza**. Thanks to **Mary Flint, Alaska Child Welfare Academy** and **Beacon Hill** for donations of **handcrafted cards** to our **Foster Parent Appreciation Card Project**. Huge thanks to **Kristen Haddox and her family** for all the hours they put into the **Snack Station Depot** and **Gardening Kit Project**. Thanks to **Harborside Coffee and Goods** for donating coffee cards to **Kodiak families**. Thank you to all who donated miscellaneous items for the **ACRF Fairbanks Donation Closet**. **Pizza Athena** for donating pizza for the **Mat-Su October parent event**. **Turkey Red** for their donation of food and space for the **Mat-Su October parent event**, **Fireside Books** for donating gift cards and sponsoring the **ACRF Resource Family Book Club**. Thank you to everyone who linked ACRF to your **Fred Meyer Community Rewards Program**.

NRO Foster Parent Appreciation: ACRF Fairbanks, NRO Licensing, TCC Foster Care and Rotary Club of Fairbanks want to say **THANK YOU to all the resource families working tirelessly for our children**. We have some fun events on the horizon, so keep an ear and eye out for detailed announcements:

- ♦ **March 14, 10am-Noon: Fairbanks Resource Family Appreciation Spring Break Event!**
- ♦ **Late March (TBA): Foster Family Snack Event**
- ♦ **Spring: Foster Family Gardening Kit Event**
- ♦ **May: Resource Family Appreciation Picnic**
- ♦ **June: Foster Family Snack Station Event**

Training:

Thank you to **Roberta Hovermale, Karen Lomack and Sarah Lewis** of **Stone Soup Group** for giving a wonderful presentation at the **November Connections Café** event.



Northwest Resource Associates
Alaska Center for Resource Families
815 Second Avenue Suite 202
Fairbanks, AK 99701

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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ACRF STAFF DIRECTORY

Northern Regional Office 8:30am-4:30pm

Rachel Hanft, Family Support Specialist
Kendall Musser, Rural Outreach Coordinator
Karissa Hughes, Adoption Resource Specialist
Melody Jamieson, Adoption Support
Areli Miller-Mackey, Project Assistant
Dee Dee Keyser, Resource Coordinator

Anchorage Regional Office 8:30am-4:30pm

Aileen McInnis, Director
Maria VanOrd, Family Support Specialist
Brenda Ussel, Adoption Support
Debbie Laflamme, Resource Family Associate
Lissa Rylander, Database Coordinator

Mat-Su Regional Office 9:30am-3:30pm

Jodi von Brandt, Family Support Specialist
Erin Monarch, Adoption Support

www.acrf.org



Consider Supporting ACRF By Doing What You Do Every Day!

There are many ways to support Alaska Center for Resource Families just by shopping as you normally do, or by choosing to shop at these locations and selecting us as your Non-Profit of choice.

Link your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to Alaska Center for Resource Families and you still earn reward points and ACRF receives a donation! Shop at smile.amazon.com and when you choose Northwest Resource Associates as your charity, ACRF will earn while you shop, at no additional cost to you!



ACRF Northern Region

815 Second AVE, STE 202
Fairbanks, AK 99701

479-7907/FAX: 479-9666
Toll-Free: 1-800-478-7307

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Email: acrfsc@nwresource.org

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