

Social Security & Adoption

Hello from the Central Office Adoption Assistance unit! We are here with a series of helpful information for new and long time adoptive families.

Question: Why do I need a new social security card and what are the steps to obtaining one for my adopted child?

All adoptive parents need to apply for a new Social Security card for their adopted children. If you adopted previously and never did this, you still can.

Your child will need a social security card all throughout their life that accurately reflects their new legal adoptive name, in order to apply for things such as a driver's license, applying for a job, private or government medical coverage, college and other Federal benefits.

After your adoption is final, you need to take the **new original** birth certificate (which can take up to 8 weeks to receive after the adoption is final), an **original Order of Adoption** and a **photo of the child** to your local Social Security office. You can find more information through the Social Security website at <http://www.ssa.gov/ssnumber>. While you are there, Social Security will also be able to explain the process for applying for benefits if your child is eligible.

Once you receive the new Social Security card, check for accuracy in spelling and make sure the numbers match correctly. Then, send a copy to the Adoption Assistance unit. This information is required in order to provide your Federal Adoption Assistance benefits. Also, let your Coordinator know if you are receiving Social Security benefits. If you have any questions, you may contact any of us in the Central Office Adoption Assistance. Our contact information is below. Thank you, and have a fun, safe, happy summer!

Mail information to: HSB, 500 Sumer Street, E-71
Salem, OR 97301

Or fax information to: 503-945-6633

Caseload Distribution by Last Name of the Adoptive or Guardian Family			
Adoption Assistance	Guardianship Assistance	Coordinator	Telephone
A-C	A-G	Rebecca Luckman	503-945-6729
D-G	H-P	Scott Wickline	503-947-5311
H-L	Q-Z	Lorri Harris	503-945-6632
M-R		Gayle Bien	503-947-5370
S-Z		Cathy Reeves	503-945-5685

Support the ORPARC Library!

Fred Meyer Community



Rewards Program

Fred Meyer customers can now link their Rewards Card to ORPARC by visiting:

www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards

Whenever a customer uses their Rewards Card at Fred Meyer, they will be helping ORPARC's lending library for free! Visit the above website, click on "Link your Rewards Card Now," and search for:

Oregon Post Adoption Resource Center



Voices from Foster Care

A Brief Documentary

For her senior project, Westside Christian High School student Laura Leong approached ORPARC in her efforts to create a documentary. In her interviews, Laura captures the voices of both foster and adoptive families, and of a young adult who aged out of the system. We invite you to view her final video at www.orparc.org/about/award/ and hear firsthand the heartfelt words and stories that Laura has so beautifully captured and arranged. Thank you Laura for bringing awareness and inspiration to this important topic!

Intentional Parenting: A Whole New Game, by Stacy Manning

Stacy Manning is a registered nurse, post-adoption family coach, and educator. She and her husband are raising six teenagers, three adopted and three biological. In 2011, Stacy created Hope Connections, which provides family coaching sessions to current and prospective adoptive parents across the U.S., and offers workshops, sensory tools, and a hands-on learning system. In 2013, she wrote *Adoptive Parent, Intentional Parent: A Formula for Building & Maintaining Your Child's Safety Net* (a new addition to the ORPARC Lending Library). Learn more at <http://www.tohavehope.com>, or search for "HopeConnections" via Facebook, or email stacy@tohavehope.com. Note: The following excerpt reprinted with permissions from the author.

As a biological parent of three boys, I felt confident as a mom. I often said that when I died they could write on my headstone: "She was a good mom." When my boys were 2, 3, and 5, we adopted three girls from Russia—also 2, 3, and 5. My life changed drastically; many days I no longer felt like that good mom. It became clear to me that to be a good adoptive mother I had to do things very differently. I wasn't going to be able to rely on what worked before or parent the way I was raised.

Adopted children or those who have been in foster care have one thing in common—the loss of their original primary attachment. This huge loss creates many hurdles for children. It alters how they relate to the world and form relationships. Trauma, combined with the loss of a primary attachment figure, saddle some children with challenges. Many of these challenges can be invisible. Others are easier to see, including problematic behaviors, difficulties making friends and building relationships, and low self-esteem. These challenges are too often unexpected and misunderstood.

It is difficult to parent a child who has already lost a parent. The child's fear of experiencing another loss and his beliefs about whether he deserves love, combined with the effects of trauma, makes being an adoptive or foster parent a whole new ball game.

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16th Annual Shoulder to Shoulder Conference 'Strengthening Children & Families'

October 27, 2014
Pre-Conference Event

October 28, 2014
Shoulder to Shoulder Conference

Like us on Facebook | Follow us on Twitter | Connect with us on LinkedIn



REGISTRATION INFORMATION
On the Shoulder to Shoulder Webpage
<http://www.stsconference.com>

Scholarship application open in August 2014

Adoptive Parent Support Groups Summer Picnics & Events

Portland

DHS Adoption Support Group

Summer Parks & Potluck

Monday, July 21st, 5:30-7:30 → Laurelhurst Park

Monday, August 18th, 5:30-7:30 → Peninsula Park

Call Rene Hendricks at 971-673-1866 for information

Grupo de Apoyo para Padres de Crianza y Padres Adoptivos del DHS

Actividad de verano en Julio y Agosto

Comuníquese con Irene Phipps al número

971-673-1838 para más información

LGBTQ Adoptive Parent Support Group

Summer Social & Picnic

Saturday, July 12th, 4:30- 6:30

Call Astrid Dabbeni at 971-533-0102 for information

Newberg

Parent Caregiver Support Group

Family Friends Picnic → Dundee Billick Park

Saturday, July 19th, 11:00-2:00

Call Deana VandenHoek at 503-537-1471 for information



Newsletter via email?

If you would like to receive our newsletter and mailings via email, please call us or email orparc@nwresource.org with your name, address and email. Receiving the newsletter helps us curb our printing and mailing costs so that we can better serve families in other ways.

Download our complete newsletter at www.orparc.org



Northwest Adoptive Families Association

NAFA is offering a one-year complimentary membership to State Adoptive Families. Visit www.nafaonline.org for more information or contact ORPARC for a Membership Form.

ORPARC Trainings

Visit www.orparc.org for updates

Trainings are held in accessible locations. Auxiliary aids and alternative forms of written materials are available to persons with disabilities. Spanish language interpretation available upon request. Please request these services two weeks in advance.

Training in English

Navigating Family Connections

Monday, September 15, 2014

6:00 to 8:00 p.m. ♦ Portland

DHS Adoption Support Group

Location to be determined. Contact ORPARC at 503-241-0799 or call the support group facilitators, Rene Hendricks (971-673-1866) or Donna Thomas (971-673-2087), for more information. This training will be presented by an ORPARC staff member.

This training will review helpful strategies for navigating family connections, offering ways to balance safety with a child's need to connect with their "first" family. The training will summarize common challenges and roadblocks, along with the potential impact of social media on family connections. Participants will gain tools and ideas to strengthen adoptive and guardianship families, while connecting to their child's history in a positive way.

Entrenamiento en español

Promoviendo la Salud Sexual en las Comunidades Latinas

Miércoles, 30 de Julio de 2014

6:00 a 8:00 de la noche ♦ Hillsboro

Grupo de Apoyo del DHS para Padres de Crianza y Padres Adoptivos

Departamento de Servicios Humanos, 5350 NE Elam Young Parkway, Hillsboro, OR 97124. Comuníquese con Lupe Huerta o Sharon Espinal al número 503-681-6924. El entrenamiento será presentado por Vikki Moore, Educadora del Programa del Departamento de Salud y Servicios Humanos del Condado de Washington en nombre de ORPARC.

Aprendan acerca de las maneras de responder las preguntas difíciles que los jóvenes pueden hacer y cómo enfrentar los obstáculos que se presentan que hacen difícil hablar con los niños y los jóvenes acerca del sexo y la sexualidad.

- ♦ Aprendan la diferencia entre el sexo y la sexualidad
- ♦ Aprendan más acerca de las enfermedades comunes que se transmiten sexualmente
- ♦ Siéntanse cómodos en un lugar donde puede realizar sus preguntas
- ♦ Aprendan lo que los jóvenes y adolescentes quieren escuchar de sus padres

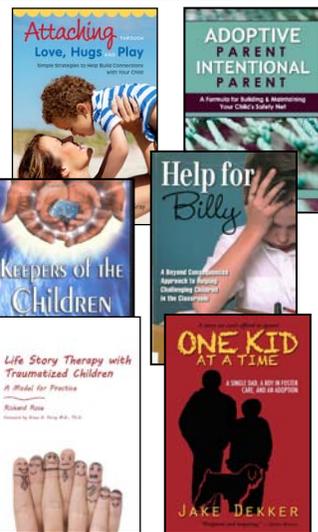
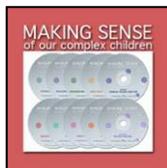
What's new in the ORPARC Library

Books for Parents and Professionals

- 📖 *Adoptive Parent Intentional Parent: A Formula for Building & Maintaining Your Child's Safety Net*
- 📖 *Attaching Through Love, Hugs and Play: Simple Strategies to Help Build Connections with Your Child*
- 📖 *Brainstorm: The Power and Purpose of the Teenage Brain*
- 📖 *The Grief Recovery Handbook*
- 📖 *Help for Billy: A Beyond Consequences Approach to Helping Challenging Children in the Classroom*
- 📖 *Inside Kinship Care: Understanding Family Dynamics and Providing Effective Support*
- 📖 *Inside Transracial Adoption: Strength-Based, Culture-Sensitizing Parenting Strategies for Intercountry or Domestic Adoptive Families That Don't Match*
- 📖 *Kaplan Scholarships 2014*
- 📖 *Keepers of the Children: Native American Wisdom and Parenting*
- 📖 *Life Cycles: Activities for Helping Children Live with Daily Changes and Loss*
- 📖 *Life Story Therapy with Traumatized Children: A Model for Practice*
- 📖 *One Kid at a Time*

DVDs

- 📺 *Making Sense of Our Complex Children*, 10-DVD series by Heather Forbes
 - 📺 Volume 1: *Introductory Overview*
 - 📺 Volume 2: *Developmental Disabilities*
 - 📺 Volume 3: *Childhood Mental Health Disorders*
 - 📺 Volume 4: *Mood Disorders and Trauma*
 - 📺 Volume 5: *Complex Trauma and PTSD*
 - 📺 Volume 6: *Education and Trauma*
 - 📺 Volume 7: *Teenagers*
 - 📺 Volume 8: *Medication Madness*
 - 📺 Volume 9: *The Family*
 - 📺 Volume 10: *Moving Forward*



Books for Children and Teens

- 📖 *Murphy's Three Homes: A Story for Children in Foster Care*
- 📖 *My Body, My Self for Boys: Revised Edition*
- 📖 *What's Happening to my Body? Book for Boys: Revised Edition*
- 📖 *What's Happening to my Body? Book for Girls: Revised Edition*
- 📖 *What If Someone I Know Is Gay?: Answers to Questions About What It Means to Be Gay and Lesbian (revision)*

Libros en español para padres

- 📖 *Entendiendo los comportamientos sexuales en la niñez: Lo que es natural y saludable*
- 📖 *Niños y adolescentes difíciles*
- 📖 *Sopa de Lágrimas: Una receta para sanar después de una pérdida*

Intentional Parenting: A Whole New Game

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New Rules for an Old Game

As adoptive and foster parents, we are most likely to succeed if we become intentional parents. Intentional parents:

- ◆ Meet children where they are, physically and psychologically. Intentional parents must seek to know their child's history and understand how abandonment and trauma shape children. They then make parenting choices based on that knowledge. The key to success is truly seeing the whole picture of the child.
- ◆ Parent differently than you thought you would. To give children a sense of safety, we need to start from emotional age 0, no matter how old they are. We need to protect their emotional safety, which can mean responding differently than we do with other children of the same age.
- ◆ Commit to parenting for as long as it takes. Children may have missed developmental steps, be behind in learning, or be less able to develop social skills and maintain relationships. Their emotional age often does not match their real age. They need and deserve as much time as it takes to catch up.
- ◆ Build a safety net for children. In a healthy biological family, an infant enters the world with a safety net based on her primary attachment. Children in foster care and

adoption come with a net that is no longer intact. It is our job to create a safety system they can rely on. An effective net offers an unwavering assurance of the basic survival needs.

Intentional parents build and maintain the net by responding in a sensitive, caring, and consistent way to the child's physical and psychological needs. This shows the child that we recognize and can meet his specific needs. By responding consistently and with care, we create and maintain an environment in which a child internalizes the belief that she is worthy of love, is capable of positively affecting the world, and has the potential to accomplish anything.

Create a Game Plan

With biological children, we can sometimes rely on similar thinking patterns or shared past history. In adoption or foster care, parents typically have to be more intentional to help children heal. So to create a strong safety net, we must have a game plan. And the plan must be created and facilitated by the adoptive or foster parents; they are their children's best chance at healing.

For more on the game plan and a formula for healing, read the full article at www.orparc.org.