

# MID-CENTRAL KARE NEWS



A Program of Arizona's Children Association  
in Partnership with Marley Foundation

November 09

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## COMMUNITY NEWS

### ***Together We Care***

Arizona Conference on Caregiving  
Thursday, Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
8-4:30 pm  
North Phoenix Baptist Church  
5757 N Central Ave.

Caregivers \$7 per person or \$10 per couple. Professionals \$30. Register at [azcaregiver.org](http://azcaregiver.org) or call Kim for more information 480-986-9209. Scholarships available.

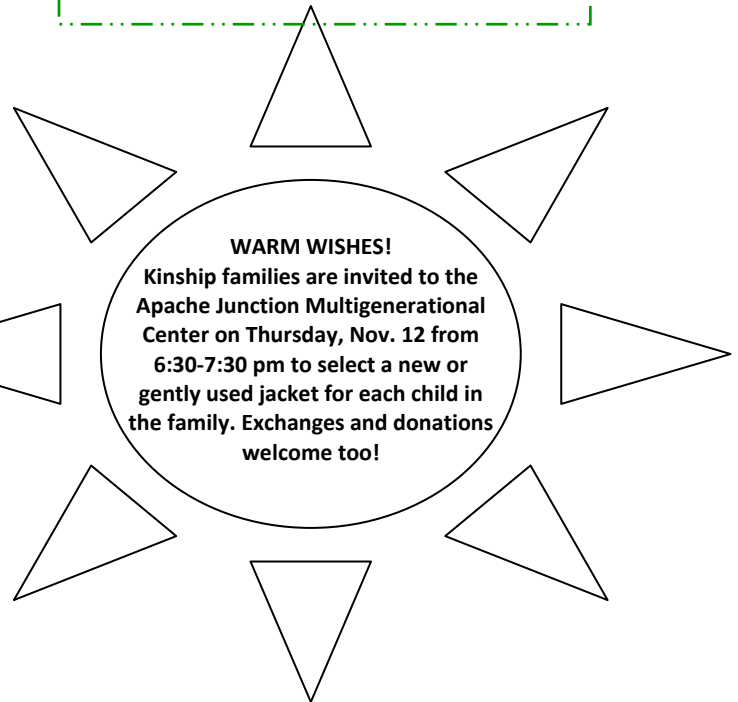
### New Resource for Kinship Families!

[www.fosteringconnections.org](http://www.fosteringconnections.org)

The Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act (Fostering Connections) became Public Law 110-351 on October 7, 2008. The Fostering Connections Resource Center was established October 7, 2009 to aid states and Tribes in implementation of this bill. It is a gathering place of information, training and tools that help explain and implement the new law.

The new law helps kinship families by:

- **Ensuring that CPS provides Notice to Relatives When Children Enter Care.** Increases opportunities for relatives to step in when children are removed from their parents and placed in foster care by ensuring they get notice of this removal.
- **Helping States Establish Kinship Navigator Programs.** Guarantees funds for Kinship Navigator programs to help connect children living with relatives, both in and out of foster care, with the supports and assistance they need.
- **Helps States Provide Subsidized Guardianship Payments for Relatives.** The act provides federal support to states to assist with subsidized guardianship payments to families for children to live permanently with grandparents and other relative guardians when they cannot be returned home or adopted. In certain circumstances, children may continue to receive guardianship assistance to age 21. Clarifies that children who leave foster care after age 16 for kinship guardianship are eligible for independent living services and makes them eligible for education and training vouchers.
- **Waive Licensing Standards for Relatives.** Clarifies that states may waive non-safety related licensing standards for relatives on a case-by-case basis and requires the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to report to Congress on the use of licensing waivers and recommendations for increasing the percentage of relative foster family homes that are licensed.



## SUPPORT GROUPS

*Please call facilitator to confirm dates and times before your first visit.*

### Kinship Education and Encouragement Groups

KARE is sponsoring 2 new groups where kinship caregivers can gather in a safe environment to learn about issues relevant to kinship providers, and to build new friendships and networks. Scheduled topics include:

- **What have I gotten myself into: Exploring mixed feelings.**
- **Assistance programs**
- **Parenting Strategies**
- **Advocating for yourself and your child**
- **De-stress! Taking care of you.**

**Apache Junction:** Meeting November 12<sup>th</sup> for **WARM WISHES** event. 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month, 6:30-7:30 pm. AJ Multigenerational Center (1035 N. Idaho Rd. Rm. 119). Please call Kim for info. 480-986-9209.

**Queen Creek:** Potluck holiday celebration TBD. Please call if you are interested in Planning/Participating. Kim 480-986-9209

**Kinship Families / Relatives as Parents**

**Apache Junction** (MiKid: meets at Horizon Bay, 2080 S. Ironwood Dr.) 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month, 10:00am-Noon. Call Erica Hatcher 602-253-1240 or 602-826-2413.

**Casa Grande** (Seeds of Hope: Westside Community Center: 525 W Melrose) 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month, 6:15-7:30pm. Dinner and childcare provided. Call 520-836-6335.

**Mesa** (Family Resource Center: 817 N Country Club Dr.) *RAP: Relatives as Parents Support Group:* 1<sup>st</sup>. Tuesday of the month, 6-7:30 pm. Childcare provided with advance registration. Call 480-834-9424

**WORKSHOPS/TRAININGS**

**Apache Junction/Gold Canyon:**

CAAFAs will be providing a presentation on Teen Dating Violence for the upcoming Wellness Expo in Apache Junction. The Expo is this Saturday from 9 - 3. Trainings and presentations are running Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday during the Expo. The Teen Dating Violence presentation will be held on Tuesday, November 3 at 11am - Multigenerational Center, room 117.

**Casa Grande:**

**Let's Talk:** is for persons receiving behavioral health services through Cenpatico's *child and adult* systems, their family members and community advocates/members. We're bringing members of the state's behavioral health executive team with us so we can all talk about recovery successes and challenges in your area, exchange ideas to continue to improve Arizona's child and adult behavioral health systems and to share the state's vision and goals.

**Friday, November 6, 2009**

at

**Horizon Human Services**

**120 W. Main Street**

**Casa Grande**

**2:30 – 4:00 p.m**

**Letting Go : November 7, 2009 10am-1pm**

Helping kinship caregivers and foster parents deal with attachment. How to go through separation, grief, anger and acceptance if the children return to their birth families.

**Horizon: 5497 W. McCartney Road, Casa Grande, AZ**

Trainer – Alicia Alvarez

\*\*Childcare will be provided for children 10 years old and under. This service will be provided for AzCA enrolled families ONLY!\*\* To sign up for these trainings and also to sign up for childcare email Janeen Neal at [jneal@arizonaschildren.org](mailto:jneal@arizonaschildren.org) or call 520-423-8434.

**Globe:**

**Participation in the Special Education Process:**

This training discusses how children with disabilities and their parents are guaranteed certain educational rights, known as procedural safeguards, from birth through 21 years of age.

This training will help parents make informed educational decisions for their child. **November 9th 6:00-8:00 p.m**  
**Globe Library, 339 S. Broad Street, Globe, 85501.**  
Call 480-759-1029 or email: [Amy.dill@azed.gov](mailto:Amy.dill@azed.gov) with the number of persons attending. **Presented by:** Amy Dill ADE/ESS/PIN Specialist for Pinal/Gila Counties and Cenpatico.

**Payson:**

**Free Community Dinner:**

Every Monday night--Serving from 5:00-6:30 pm--At Mountain Bible Church 302 E Rancho Road Building C (East Building) Payson --All are welcome and invited!!!

**Family Support Partner Training** Is being held in Payson on four (4) consecutive Mondays starting: **Monday, November 16, 2009 through December 7, 2009**

Qualifications

- Have lived with a family member in the Behavioral Health or Mental Health System
- A desire to help and educate other family members
- You are over 21
- Have a High School Diploma or GED
- Have reliable transportation
- Can pass a fingerprint test

Location: **Rim Guidance Conference Room**

**404 West Aero, Payson, AZ.**

For more information and to register contact:

Diane Taylor, Family Support Program Coordinator

1-866-495-6736 X26154 or [dtaylor@centene.com](mailto:dtaylor@centene.com)

**FEATURED RESOURCES**

**Employment Assistance:** An amazing new FREE resource for job seekers couldn't have come at a better time! Please visit [Tinashouse.org](http://Tinashouse.org) or call Tina Conner at 520-464-2449 for current statewide job postings for youth and adults, resume and interview prep assistance, job coaching and more!

**Food Boxes:** While the economy continues to decline, grocery costs continue to rise. Don't let your family go hungry! You can log into <http://www.azfoodbanks.org/?action=directory> and enter your zip code to find the food boxes and meals closest to you.

**Rental and Utility Assistance:**

CAHRA will be receiving over \$1M of new funding to provide utility and rental assistance after October 1, 2009. In some situations, families can receive monthly help for up to 18 months. Funds will be disbursed according to a monthly budget, so Call CAHRA at 520-466-1112 or 877-472-2472.

**Health-E-App: [www.healtharizona.org](http://www.healtharizona.org)**

Don't stand in line for hours! Health-e-Arizona is an on-line application for Arizona residents. You can apply for AHCCCS, Food Stamps, and Cash Assistance.

