Leading from the Middle

Annual Statewide Foster Care Coordinators Conference

Thursday & Friday, September 18 & 19, 2014

FCARC Pre-Conference Summit | Wednesday, September 17, 2014

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites | Wausau-Rothschild at 1000 Imperial Ave | Rothschild, WI 54474
Caring for the Caregiver
Foster parents are your greatest resource. Knowing what they need will guide you in providing support so they can keep up this important work. Join us to discuss factors in engaging foster parents, including relative caregivers, regarding changing family roles, permanency planning and co-parenting with birth parents. We’ll also address the benefits and challenges of kinship care—for children, caregivers, birth parents and service providers. The afternoon will include time for sharing and case consultation with your colleagues.

Maureen Heffernan
Maureen Heffernan is a child welfare consultant and trainer. Her work is primarily focused on strengthening the public child welfare system by providing consultation and technical assistance on behalf of organizations that promote capacity building and reform for child welfare jurisdictions. Her areas of expertise include permanency planning and the identification, development and support of kinship, foster and adoptive families. She has extensive work experience in public and private child welfare settings, in direct service, supervisory and management positions. She is also an instructor for social work graduate students.

Webinar Option:
In response to the many Foster Care Coordinators who are not able to travel to the conference, FCARC will be offering a webinar option for the Pre-Conference Summit day only. You MUST register for either coming in person or viewing the day via webinar.

Registration for the FCARC Pre-conference Summit
Register online at: http://fcarcsummit2014.eventbrite.com
Fee: $30 per person (for in person or webinar attendance)

Registration Deadline: September 1, 2014
For questions, please contact Mary Grossnickle at (414) 916-1031 or mgrossnickle@coalitionforcyf.org
Annual Statewide Foster Care Coordinators Conference

Thursday, September 18, 2014

SCHEDULE:

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<tr>
<td>8:00-9:00am</td>
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| 9:00am-12:00pm| General Session  | *Supporting Foster Parents in Times of Crisis*  
|             | Dr. John DeGarmo                           |
| 12:00-12:45pm| Lunch                                     |
| 1:00-4:00pm| General Session  | *Trauma and Stress: The Emotional Challenges that Foster Children, Birth Parents and Foster Parents Face*  
|             | Dr. John DeGarmo                           |
| 4:15pm-6:00pm| Networking and Social Time                |

Supporting Foster Parents in Times of Crisis

Foster Care Coordinators often see the effects of stress on foster parents. Dr. DeGarmo will focus on the emotional challenges, difficulties and trials that foster parents all face, which often lead to stress and burnout. He’ll address how to see the early signs of anxiety, exhaustion and stress so that these can be addressed before burnout occurs. Knowing how and where the agency can better support foster parents can lead to better retention and successful placements. Dr. DeGarmo will offer practical strategies to help support foster families as they deal with the challenges of foster parenting and the stresses of everyday life.

Trauma and Stress: The Emotional Challenges that Foster Children, Birth Parents and Foster Parents Face

Dr. DeGarmo will focus on the emotional challenges, difficulties, and trials that foster children, biological family members, and foster parents all face. He’ll address the realities of stress, trauma, loss and grief for all involved when dealing with displacement and reunification, as well as offer strategies designed to best address the stress that comes with this time of loss.

Networking and Social Time

Connect with colleagues and make dinner plans while enjoying hors d’oeuvres and cash bar at the Green Mill in the Holiday Inn.

Dr. John DeGarmo

Dr. John DeGarmo is a nationally known foster care speaker, author and trainer. He writes regularly for many magazines and is a contributor to publications in the United States and Europe. He has written several books, including The Foster Parenting Manual: A Practical Guide to Creating a Loving, Safe and Stable Home. His newest book is Foster Care and Online Technology. He is the host of the weekly radio show Foster Talk with Dr. John.

Dr. DeGarmo and his wife have six children, both biological and adopted, and they have been foster parents for dozens of children for over a decade. For more information on Dr. DeGarmo, see his website at http://drjohndegarmofostercare.weebly.com/. His books will be available for purchase the day of the conference.
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Friday, September 19, 2014

SCHEDULE:

State Updates & Breakfast  8:00-9:00am

General Session  9:00am-12:00pm

Leading from the Middle
Dr. Lucy Arendt

Closing Remarks  12:00-12:30pm

Leading from the Middle
Foster Care Coordinators sometimes feel “stuck in the middle.” The challenge they face is meeting the needs of foster parents while, at the same time, maintaining agency expectations. Dr. Lucy Arendt will address how to navigate this middle ground and how to support both the foster parents and social workers/agency staff. She will focus on practical solutions and real-life situations that Foster Care Coordinators face on a daily basis.

Dr. Lucy A. Arendt

Dr. Lucy A. Arendt is the Associate Dean of the College of Professional Studies and the Director of the Austin E. Cofrin School of Business at UW-Green Bay and associate professor of management for the Austin E. Cofrin School of Business.

Dr. Arendt teaches courses in the undergraduate BBA program, including Organizational Behavior and the Seminar in Leadership. She conducts research on the antecedents and consequences of decision making and influence, as exercised by formal and informal leaders, within and across organizations. She has authored numerous articles in professional journals, and has co-authored two books. She has won awards for excellence in teaching at UW-Green Bay.

Dr. Arendt has worked with the University and outside organizations on numerous projects, and has given presentations on her research and teaching interests to groups at the local, regional, state, and national level.
Leading from the Middle

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Thursday & Friday, September 18 & 19, 2014

Registration for the Statewide Foster Care Coordinators Conference
Register online at: http://wacfcc2014.eventbrite.com
Fee: $95.00

If you are attending the FCARC Pre-conference Summit and the Statewide Foster Care Coordinators Conference then you must complete both online registrations.
Please see Summit registration information on page 2.

Lodging
Lodging is available at the state rate for both the FCARC Pre-conference Summit and the Foster Care Coordinators Conference at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Wausau-Rothschild at 1000 Imperial Ave, Rothschild, WI 54474. You may make reservations by calling the Holiday Inn at (715) 355-1111 on or before Monday, September 1, 2014. Ask for the Wisconsin Foster Care Conference block of rooms.

If paying for the Conference by check, make payable to Marathon County and mail to:
Sara Klebenow
Marathon Dept. of Social Services
400 East Thomas Street
Wausau, WI 54403-6498

For questions, please contact
Sara Klebenow at (715) 261-7553 or sara.klebenow@co.marathon.wi.us

Registration Deadline: September 1, 2014