

# Caregivers of Kern County

## Foster Parent Support Group



ckckids.org

Dec 2013 Edition

## Winter Fun in the Sun with Santa!



### Dear Caregivers,

CKC met our fundraising goal and went to Disneyland November 16<sup>th</sup> on our chartered bus Classic Charters. We had a great time with Mickey and his gang! No one got lost or hurt and we got sleep on the way back.

Thank you to Kern County Department of Human Services for helping us with our fundraisers especially the cookbook. Reprographics did an outstanding job printing for us. Bettie Nieto our Chaplain was top saleswoman!

Thanks to her efforts and others we were able to take 40 foster children and 13 Chaperones on this trip. One family had to cancel at the last minute due to a family emergency. Please keep them in your prayers.

Bettie working with the RDS (recruitment, development, support) group and our event committee are planning the annual winter celebration. This year it is to be held December 14<sup>th</sup> in the East Hills Mall from 10am to 12:30pm. The theme is Winter Fun in the Sun with Santa. A continental style breakfast with candy, small gifts or bags and pictures will be available. CKC with other community partners is supporting this event and the committee wants to invite kids from the Jameson Center too. We hope this all works out.

### President's msg. cont...

Our new officers for the upcoming year are: Bettie Nieto-Chaplain, Lori Murphy-Secretary, Gayla Gibson-Treasurer and our event committee members are Dahlia Langendoerfer, Kimberly Stallion, and Alice Meyer. They will be planning CKC events for the 2014 year. Please join me and welcome these wonderful parents for stepping up to help support other caregivers. Jean Miller and I will remain as your Vice-President and President for the next year.

As your new board begins planning for this next year; if you have any training needs, trips or events please let us know. Also, I will be appointing the 2014 Parliamentarian, Auditor and membership committee in January if you would like to get involved just give me a call. Thank you everyone for a wonderful year!

*Opal* (661) 345-2626

### The Goals of CKC

- Support all caregivers
- Safeguard children in our homes
- Network with Child Welfare Agencies
- Socialize events for families
- Education and information on current policies and regulations.
- Share ideas in a friendly atmosphere.

### Dues

Please pay your membership dues in January. Dues are very reasonable \$40 per family per year. Please see Gayla Gibson, our treasurer, she will be glad to assist. They can be paid at the meetings or mailed to our mailing address.

### Meeting Spot – 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each Month 6pm

The Community Partnership Building  
Department of Human Services  
100 E. California Avenue, Bakersfield, CA

**Recipe from the Heart of Our Homes - CKC Cookbook**  
Top seller Bettie Nieto received an appreciation certificate and gift coupon to Black Angus. Bettie was unable to attend Disneyland because of the severity of her disabled child. Membership felt she deserved a night out for all her hard work. Thank you Bettie!

## Events

**December 14** – Winter Fun in the Sun/East Hills Mall 10am

## Mission Statement

Our mission is to assist all caregivers of foster/adopt/kinship children by offering our experience, support, training, understanding and love. Our goal is to work closely with agencies, each other, and community partners to meet the needs of caregivers and to assist in better outcomes for these children and families.

## Bakersfield College Thursday Evening Trainings

*Date: 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month immediately following the CKC meeting.* You must pre- register by 6:15 p.m. You will then receive 1.5 hours of training.

12/05/13 6:30-8:30pm Foster Parent Community Resources  
1/02/14 6:30-8:30pm Infant/Toddler Development, Development and Safety.  
2/06/14 6:30-8:30pm Fetal Alcohol Syndrome  
3/06/14 6:30-8:30pm Asthma and Allergies  
4/03/14 6:30-8:30pm Parenting Traumatized Children/Loss and Grief  
5/01/14 6:30pm-8:30pm Nutrition & Obesity – Cultural  
6/5/14 6:30-8:30pm 1st Aide/CPR re-certification

*These trainings are free and child care is offered. Please come and be a part of our team. Our dues are \$40 per year per family. Thank you for considering us as your support group.*

## State Required Training

December 3, 2013 Transgender training/check with licensing worker for more information

**Resources for Special Needs kids-IEP's, 504's and AB490** Dian Schneider of H.E.A.R.T.S. Connection presented valuable resources to CKC members. Dian's style is a little different because she herself suffers from severe ADHD. It is most helpful for us to hear from an adult who understands where our kids are coming from.

Sometimes our kids cannot voice the things that go on in their heads; either because they do not know or can't articulate what they are experiencing. Our children have unique strengths and needs. Prevention Resource and Referral Services (PRRS) is a statewide, no cost service to parents and caregivers with children (*birth to 3 years of age*) who may be at risk for developmental delays.

We as parents know that most times needs are not recognized until later and can affect school attendance. AB 490 ensures educational rights and stability for foster youth. A CA Foster Youth Education Task Force booklet is on file for Frequently asked Questions & Answers for your use. We were also given pamphlets that list local resources and the services provided. Thank you H.E.A.R.T.S. Connection and Dian for helping us with our special needs and children with disabilities.

## Our CKC 2013 Board Officials

### Board Members

President	Opal Morland
Vice President	Jean Miller
Secretary	Dahlia Langendorfer
Treasurer	Gayla Gibson
Chaplain	Betty Nieto
Parliamentarian	Mary Ann Sanchez

### Committee Chairs

Auditor – Ruth Mora  
Membership Chair - Jean Miller

*NOTICE: Nominations for open officer positions for the upcoming 2014 year were filled as follows: Chaplain Bettie Nieto, Secretary Lori Murphy, Treasurer Gayla Gibson Parliamentarian and committees will be announced in January newsletter.*

## KC CAREGIVER BOARD



Opal Morland/President



Jean Miller/V.P.



Bettie Nieto/Chaplain



Gayla Gibson/Treas.



Dahlia Langendorfer/Sec.



Mary Ann Sanchez/Parliamentarian



Ruth Mora/Auditor

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