



Newsletter

May 2013

A Publication of the Alabama Foster & Adoptive Parent Association

Alabama Foster & Adoptive Parent Annual Conference May 9th, 10th, and 11th, 2013



**SHOCCO SPRINGS
BAPTIST CONFERENCE CENTER
SHOCCO SPRINGS, ALABAMA**



Three days of fun, relaxation, and good workshops

**For Foster parents, Adoptive parents,
Social Workers, and others interested in
foster care and adoption.**

Welcome to the Annual Alabama Foster and Adoptive Parent Conference

We welcome Foster and Adoptive Parents, Grandparents, Kinship Care Parents, Social Workers, and other Child Welfare workers. Each year we bring you workshops that will help you as you care for the children in your home or in your case load. We want this year's conference to be enjoyable and educational to you. If you have any concerns please contact the registration table, or the Shocco information desk in the Bagley Center.

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A message from the President

I am looking forward to seeing all of you again this year at our Annual Conference. Please read all the information and register as soon as you can. There is a \$35 registration fee for each participant which includes foster and adoptive parents, kinship care providers, and all DHR county staff. Please contact Shocco by April 25th to receive a refund on room and registration fee. Refunds are not available after April 25th.

The \$35 registration fee is all you have to pay if you are sharing a room with another paid guest. If you want to have a room to yourself you must pay an additional \$20 per night. You may choose to spend Wednesday night and Thursday night or Thursday night and Friday night. You can pay for additional nights if they are available.

Want to know who are speakers will be. This is a list speakers for workshops this year.

Barbara Ford from Maine

Kari Fletcher from Minnesota

Courtney Lamar from Georgia

Freida Baker from SDHR

Tracie Fasion from SDHR

Tammy Fuller from SDHR

APAC will be doing 6 workshops

Telley Lanier

William Hooper

Barbara Lawrence

Emma Jane Baker

Cheryl Anthony

Judge Paul Sherling

2013 AFAPA SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Brandi C. Batton- Wilsonville, AL
Attends Chelsea High School, Chelsea, AL
Plans to attend Auburn University and major in Child Psychology

Meagan Leighann Bennett- Muscadine, AL
Attended Cleburne County High School
Plans to attend West Georgia Technical College and become a medical assistant.

Renee Lynn Brittle- Mentone, AL
Attends Fort Payne High School
Plans to attend North East Community College and major in History, Counseling or Social Work

Benjamin Kaleb Caselberry- Wellington, AL
Attends Weaver High School
Plans to attend Jacksonville State University and major in Finance and Music

Kasey Elizabeth Douglas- Wilmer, AL
Attended Mary G. Montgomery High School
Plans to attend Auburn University in Montgomery and become a pediatric nurse

Ariel Irene Douglas- Wilmer, AL
Attended Mary G. Montgomery High School
Plans to attend Troy University and major in History

Tiffany Ann Faulkner- Florence, AL
Attended Greenville High School
Presently attending University of North Alabama

Samuel Deangelo Ford- Dadeville, AL
Attends Dadeville High School
Plans to attend Southern Union Community College and major in Sociology- Law Enforcement

Maggie Amelia Hearn- Geraldine, AL
Attends Geraldine High School
Plans to attend Jacksonville State University and become a registered nurse.

Brittany Louise Kilpatrick- Talladega, AL
Attends Hope Academy
Plans to attend Wallace State Community College and pursue a career in the medical field.

Jocelyn Denise Knighting- Fairfield, AL
Attended Ramsey High School
Presently attending University of North Alabama

Phalon Jade Cheyenne Lackey- Talladega, AL
Attends Talladega High School
Plans to attend University of Alabama at Birmingham and major in Biology

Linda Grayce Lewis- Florence, AL
Attended Mars Hill Bible School
Presently attending University of North Alabama and majoring in Social Work

Aaron Thomas McDaniel- Birmingham, AL
Attends Evangel Christian School
Plans to attend Auburn University

Darvin Leon McDaniel- Alexander City, AL
Attends Benjamin Russell High School
Plans to attend Central Alabama Community College and transfer to Auburn University and major in Veterinary Medicine

Benjamin McWhorter- Boaz, AL
Attends Sardis High School
Plans to attend Snead State Community College and major in Math

Savannah Grace Morgan- Opelika, AL
Attends Opelika High School
Plans to attend University of Alabama and become a doctor

Robert Jeral Patterson- Boaz, AL
Attends Sardis High School
Plans to attend Gadsden State Community College and major in auto collision repair

Lajanae D'Lynn Pendleton- Gadsden, AL
Attends Gaston School
Plans to attend Gadsden State Community College

Katelyn Elaine Raye- Haleyville, AL
Attended Haleyville High School

Michaela Michelle Sanderson- Gardendale, AL
Attends Gardendale High School
Plans to attend University of Alabama and major in Social Work with a minor in Communication

Amber Lynn Tyer- Opelika, AL
Attends Opelika High School
Plans to attend University of South Alabama and major in Chemistry

Jennifer Lee West- Gadsden, AL
Attends Gadsden City High School
Plans to attend Jacksonville State University and major in Counseling

Matthew Deantre Zinnerman- Beatrice, AL
Attends J.F. Shields High School
Plans to attend Concordia College and major in Business Education

CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

**ALABAMA FOSTER & ADOPTIVE PARENT ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL CONFERENCE
SHOCCO SPRINGS CONFERENCE CENTER
CALL 1-800-280-1105 TO REGISTER
MAY 9TH, 10TH, 11TH, 2013**

THURSDAY MAY 9TH

Conference opens 8:00 AM
Workshops at 8:45am to 4:30 PM
Foster Parent Trivia and other entertainment beginning Thursday night 6:15 PM

FRIDAY MAY 10TH

AFAPA Business meeting 8:45 AM
Opening Ceremony 9:15 AM with
Guest Speakers Deputy Director Paul Butler and Commissioner Nancy Buckner
Workshops at 1:00 PM to 4:30 PM
Scholarship Awards Program with Guest Speaker Alabama First Lady Diane Bentley
beginning at 6:30 PM

SATURDAY MAY 11TH

Closing Session 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM

LIST OF WORKSHOPS

- Help for the Helpers
- New Trends in Drug Use
- Stress Management
- Siblings in Adoption
- Child Development and Effects of Maltreatment
- Working with and valuing biological parents
- Foster Parents and the Court System
- Grief and Loss in Foster and Adoptive Parents
- Effects of Transitions and Trauma on Child Development
- Parent Survival Skills
- Bullying
- Parent Project
- Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder
- Permanency for Older Youth
- Help with Special Education
- It's All About Me
- Transracial Placements
- The Importance of Healthy Attachment
- Permanency Roundtables in Alabama: Successes and Challenges



FOSTER PARENT RESPITE IN NORTH ALABAMA

The Summit in Fort Payne, AL is excited to offer a respite and renewal opportunity to foster parents. The Woodland Cottage, one of The Summit's many retreat opportunities, is now being offered at **NO COST** to foster parents. This three bedroom, two bath cottage is perfect for a get-a-way and is completely furnished including wireless internet. Enjoy the many things Northeast Alabama has to offer or just stay in and relax.

For booking Information Please call: 678-999-2181 ext. 380 or visit or website at www.summitfortpayne.org.

PERMANENCY FOR CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE

Ask your Legislator to vote for HB115

For text of entire bill visit <http://www.legislature.state.al.us/>

Under existing law, the Department of Human Resources is required to file a petition to terminate the parental rights of a parent or parents of a child who has been in foster care for 15 of the most recent 22 months. This bill would require the petition to be filed if the child has been in foster care for 12 of the most recent 22 months and could require completion of the trial on a petition for termination of parental rights within 90 days after service of process has been perfected and require the trial court judge to enter a final order within 30 days of the completion of the trial. This bill would require service by publication if service of process has not been completed within 45 days of filing the petition for termination of parental rights. This bill would require the court to order service by publication if the child who is the subject of the proceedings was abandoned in the state or evidence is presented indicating the absent parent or parents are avoiding service of process or their whereabouts cannot be reasonably ascertained.







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AFAPA NEWSLETTER INFO:

Articles can be submitted to Buddy Hooper, Editor. E-mail submissions should be addressed to afapa@afapa.org. Otherwise, mail to AFAPA 1091 County Road 1659 Cullman, AL 35058. Deadline dates fall the first of the month in February, May, August, & November.



Thanks to all those who have donated to the Scholarship program this year. Thank you County Chapter members who donated \$150 each to be members and also donating 10 per cent of your donations to the scholarship fund. Thanks to all of those who donated to the Silent Auction last year. The biggest boost to the Scholarship fund came from a Facebook contest by our bank People's Bank of Alabama. AFAPA received the most votes in the contest so we were awarded this check for \$11,666.00. *Thanks to all of you.*