



ZOOM MEETINGS  
& TRAININGS.....1

SUPPORTING  
LGBTQ+ YOUTH ....2

ONLINE HARMS  
FACED BY YOUTH &  
YOUNG ADULTS.....2



STFC – SUPPORTING FOSTER FAMILIES

**KERI ISHAM**

(Power Up Education)

**Sexual Health Education  
For Children/Youth with  
Support Needs K – 7**

**REPLAY SESSIONS**

**Tuesday, April 11 6:30pm – 8:30pm (PST)**

**OR**

**Thursday April 13 10am – 12noon (PST)**

**Meeting ID: 857 9223 9627**

If you missed Keri Isham's presentation, please join us for one of our replay sessions. Keri was full of information, including answering the following questions:

1. What is sexuality?
2. Why teach sexual health education early?
3. Why teach sexual health education to children with special needs?
4. Why children with special needs are at greater risk of sexual abuse.
5. Other risk factors.
6. What children need to know and when.

**For more info, please contact Marna Forsyth**

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# WEEKLY *Communiqué*

**The Support To Family Care Network Program**

**ANNUAL REPORT** will be available mid-April

With the addition of the Out of Care / Kinship homes to our contracts, coupled with the complex support needs of our Foster Parents our support hours increased significantly. The STFC Network program is celebrating 20 years of educating, training, and supporting caregivers throughout the Interior of B.C. Over the 20 years we have always opened our training to all caregivers including Indigenous Child and Family Service Agencies (ICFSA) caregivers, Out of Care / Kinship caregivers, Bio families (where appropriate) and community professionals. *"A caregiver is a caregiver"*

Check it out on our website home page: <https://www.icsfp.info/>

**Free Webinar**

**by Crisis & Trauma Resource Institute**

**LANGUAGE MATTERS: Rethinking How**

**We Talk About People and Problems**

Language and meaning are interconnected. The words we choose communicate deeply and influence how we understand and work with people and their problems. This webinar explores how developing awareness about language and choosing the right words are essential for an effective counselling relationship.

To watch the webinar visit: <https://ctrinstitute.com/free-webinar/#video>

**LET'S CONNECT...**

**IN PERSON**

**KAMLOOPS**

**Foster Parent Drop-In**

**Wed: 9:00am – 11:00am (PST)**

The Loft - 290 Maple Street  
(2nd Floor of the grey building)

**IN PERSON**

**EAST KOOTENAY**

**Foster Parent Drop-In**

**April 12 & 19 10:00am (MST)**

at 1824 Hunter Rd. Cranbrook

EK Drop-ins: 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of the month.

**VIRTUAL**

**WEST KOOTENAY**

**Foster Parent**

**Drop-In**

**Fridays 11:00am - 12noon (PST)**

**Zoom ID :250 608 7674**

# SUPPORTING LGBTQ+ YOUTH: A Guide for Foster Parents

"Youth who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, or other diverse identity (LGBTQ+) are overrepresented in foster care (Human Rights Campaign, 2015), with at least three studies estimating about 30 percent of youth in foster care identify as LGBTQ+ (Baams et al., 2019; Matarese et al., 2021; Sandfort, 2020)". **This factsheet was written to help families understand how to provide a safe, supportive, and affirming home for an LGBTQ+ youth in foster care.** It discusses the unique risks they face and the important role that foster parents can play in reducing those risks. Whether you identify as LGBTQ+ or otherwise, you may benefit from reading about the complex experiences of these youth, which extend beyond their identity and include, among other concerns, the trauma related to being in care. You will learn about specific actions that you can take to promote a youth's health and well-being at home and in the LGBTQ+ community. You will also find links to several resources for more information and support."

To download the guide, visit:

<https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubPDFs/LGBTQyouth.pdf>

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

## SUPPORT TO FAMILY CARE NETWORK PROGRAM

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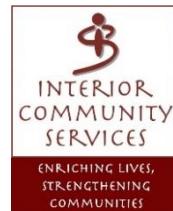
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### WELCOME TO FED CONNECTS!

Fed Connects is a virtual space where the Fed Family can come together, share their experiences, stay well and learn new things!

WORKSHOPS • LIVE EVENTS • DISCUSSIONS • INFO SHARING  
AND LOTS MORE!

BY COMING TOGETHER, WE'RE NOT ALONE

Have a youth in care? Be sure to check out our website or Facebook page!

Need resources or information?  
Check out our website!

Are you wanting more information about upcoming training in your area, helpful resources or information about our program? Find all this and much more at our website:

[www.icsfp.info](http://www.icsfp.info)



Find us on Facebook!

Connect with us on our

'ICS Support To Family Care Network' Facebook page and our agency's 'Interior Community Services' Facebook page.