



WEEKLY Communiqué

STFC Supporting Caregivers throughout BC's Interior

IN PERSON KAMLOOPS FOSTER PARENT DROP-IN

Wednesdays
9:00am - 11:00am
At the Loft
(2nd Floor of grey building)

WEST KOOTENAY FOSTER PARENT DROP-IN

Fridays
11:00am - 12noon
Zoom ID: 250 608 7674

VIRTUAL FOSTER PARENT DROP-IN

Mondays
9:00am - 11:00am (PST)
Zoom ID: 878 8822 2406

AUDIO BOOK CLUB

WEDNESDAYS
10:00-12NOON OR
6:30-8:30 PM (PST)

STARTING
SEPTEMBER 17

TEMPLE GRANDIN'S
AUTISM, SENSORY AND
BEHAVIOR: EVERYTHING
YOU NEED TO KNOW

UPCOMING FALL TRAINING CAREGIVER LEARNING NETWORK

CIRCLE OF SECURITY PARENTING™ FOR FOSTER PARENTS

Mondays
Sept 15 - Nov 3
12Noon - 1:30pm (PST)

BUSINESS SIDE OF FOSTERING

Thursdays
Sept 18 & Sept 25
9:30 - 11:30am (PST)

PARENTING IN A FISHBOWL

Sept 23 & 25
Choose from:
9:30am - 11:30 am OR
6:30pm - 8:30 pm (PST)

GRIEF AND LOSS FOR CAREGIVERS WITH SARAH DAY

Mondays
Sept 22 & Sept 29
6:30pm - 8:30pm (PST)

CAREGIVERS AND THE COURT PROCESS

Wednesday
October 22
6:30pm - 8:30pm (PST)

CAREGIVER SPOTLIGHT

Once a month, we will **spotlight** a **caregiver** in hopes to show our appreciation for all of our dedicated caregivers and the amazing work that you all do! To kick off our first one, we are highlighting Darlene Lewis and her late-husband, Bruce.



Darlene has been fostering in Merritt for 39 years and Bruce was her supportive and hands on teammate for 34 of those years. Together, they have had over 100 kiddos in their care.

Question: What advice would you give a new caregiver just starting out? **Answer:** Dar welcomes every child with love – regardless of anything else, that is her base point: acceptance and love. These kiddos become a part of the family. They give her so much purpose in her life. They are the reason she gets up in the morning and now has the biggest family. She has grown children who are having children and is now blessed with so many grandchildren. One of her previous youth came back for a visit in his big beautiful truck, and it was rewarding for her to see how well he was doing now.

Darlene wanted to encourage people to become foster parents, "We need them so badly. There are so many kids who just need a loving home and good caregivers to be there for them. Every youth is a blessing and they are the greatest teachers. They teach you about the world – the good and the bad. If you can make a difference in even one child's life - it is all worth it."

september

INSTITUTE OF CHILD PSYCHOLOGY WEBINAR

UNFILTERED: THE LIFE-CHANGING MAGIC OF OPEN COMMUNICATION

Thursday, Sep 18
9:00 am (PST)

Join us for an informative webinar where ICP Co-Founder, Tania Johnson will speak with Katie Kuperman, a captivating author, illustrator, public speaker and entrepreneur.

This webinar will discuss honest and uninhibited communication across all facets of our lives. Taking it one step further, Katie will reveal why it's so important to communicate openly, and how it can enrich our lives at home and at work, and elevate the relationships we have with our children, spouses, family, friends and colleagues.

Discover how authentic dialogue can strengthen relationships at home, work, and beyond—while gaining practical tools to express yourself effectively and create environments built on trust and connection."

KIDS BOOK CORNER WHAT'S YOUR SUPERPOWER? GROWING AND GLOWING WITH FASD

by Hannah Denberg (2024)

CANFASD is sharing "a bold goal we've made to enhance FASD awareness across Canada. We want to sell 1000 copies of **What is Your Superpower?**"

"Join the inspiring journey of children with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) as they showcase their unique strengths. This story celebrates the power of love, support, and personal growth, showing that every challenge can present an opportunity to shine. It highlights how everyone - family, friends, service providers, and the community - plays a vital role in supporting those with FASD. Perfect for families, educators, and young readers, this heartwarming book will inspire greater awareness and encourage readers to embrace and celebrate differences.

Written and released in celebration of FASD awareness month - which is observed every September - this book aims to spark conversations, inspire action, and foster a supportive environment for individuals with FASD; beyond the month of September.

100% of proceeds are being donated to the Canada FASD Research Network to help advance research, resources, and supports for individuals with FASD, their families, and the service providers working alongside them."

Connect with us... SUPPORT TO FAMILY CARE NETWORK PROGRAM

Program Coordinator: Kari Bepple

kbepple@interiorcommunityservices.bc.ca

Cell: (250) 819-1919

Office: (236) 421-0031 Toll Free: 1-877-376-3660

Network Facilitators:

Renata Bonthoux (250) 319-6557

rbonthoux@interiorcommunityservices.bc.ca

Jessica Galbraith (250) 819-5819

jgalbraith@interiorcommunityservices.bc.ca

Marna Forsyth (250) 609-2017

mforsyth@interiorcommunityservices.bc.ca

Jane Wesko (250) 608-7674

jwesko@arcprograms.com

Tabitha Fournier (250) 320-4603

tfournier@interiorcommunityservices.bc.ca

James Weir (250) 426-6013

jweir@interiorcommunityservices.bc.ca



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/outofcareproviders

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.