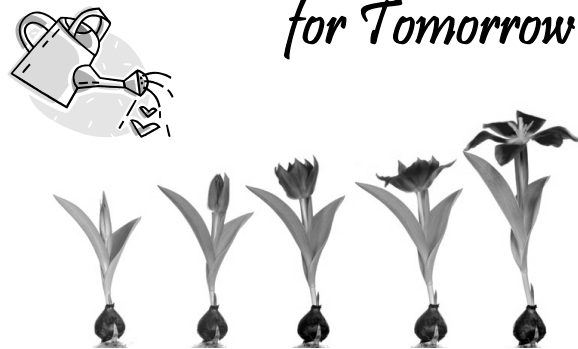


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A Kinship Conference for Grandparents
and Relatives Raising Children and
Those Who Support Them

Parenting Revisited: Caring Today for Tomorrow



Wednesday, September 7, 2011

Doubletree Hotel, Williston Road
So. Burlington, VT

Featuring:

Keynote Speaker: Jaia Lent,
Deputy Director, Generations United
and
A Special Panel of Kinship Caregivers
and Other Family Members



Conference Schedule

- 8:00 - 8:55 **Registration and continental breakfast**
- 9:00 - 9:30 **Welcome, introductions, special announcements**
Evelyn Sawyer, President, Vermont Kin as Parents Board of Directors
Governor Peter Schumlin: Kinship Caregiver Week Proclamation
David Yacovone, Commissioner, VT Department for Children and Families
- 9:30 - 10:30 **Keynote:** Jaia Lent, Deputy Executive Director, Generations United
With an increased number of kinship families nationally, Jaia will speak about what is changing, or needs to change, to support the children and families and will talk about how families can strengthen their voices to advocate for their needs.
- 10:30 - 10:45 **Break** Visit booths and silent auction with a cup of coffee or tea
- 10:45 - 11:30 **Kinship panel: The dynamics of family relationships in kinship care.**
Introductions: Cindy Walcott, Deputy Commissioner, Family Services, VT DCF
Moderator: Sally Borden, Executive Director, Kidsafe Collaborative
Panelists:
William and Lucinda Blondin, kinship caregiver; Brattleboro
Erika Hamlin, daughter of grandparent caregivers and children's aunt; Essex
Brittany Mailhotte, daughter of grandparent caregivers and child's aunt; Georgia
Deirdre Razzaque, adult who was raised by her grandparents, Brattleboro
Cassandra Ryan, granddaughter being raised by grandparents, Warren
- 11:30 - 12:45 **Lunch on own; visit booths; bid on silent auction items (bids close at 1:00)**
- 1:00 - 2:00 **Workshops - Session 1**
 - A - Parenting in the Tech Age
 - B - The Routes to Kinship Care
 - C - Taking Care of Yourself to Nurture Others
 - D - "Ask Us Who We Are" documentary (Begins at **12:45**)
- 2:00 - 2:15 **Break; winners of silent auction announced**
- 2:15 - 3:15 **Workshops - Session 2**
 - A - Planning for the Unexpected: Wills, Health Care, and Financial Directives
 - B - Strategies for Caring for Traumatized Children
 - C - The Impact of Substance Abuse on Families
 - D - Discussion with the Stars of "Ask Us Who We Are"
- 3:15 - 3:30 **Evaluation**



Silent Auction

Proceeds from the Silent Auction help us continue these informative conferences and to expand our work with kinship families.



CEUs Pending

Vermont Kin As Parents is committed to support relatives who are raising children and to educate the public and community partners about the joys and difficulties these families experience..

Vermont Kin As Parents
P.O. Box 3824
Winooski, Vermont 05404



Session 1 Workshops

A. PARENTING IN THE TECH AGE

Alyssa Berthiaume

Prevent Child Abuse Vermont

Children today use technology frequently, making the world we live in much different than a generation or two ago. Learn strategies as a parent/kinship caregiver to be more in tune with the technological advances so easily used by the children, and how to guide this generation in their use of these advances.

B. THE ROUTES TO KINSHIP CARE

Lynn Granger, Executive Director

Vermont Kin As Parents

Children come into kinship care through several legal routes. The short and long-term benefits and supports are often dependent on the legal avenue. This workshop will briefly discuss the different paths and then focus on what is available on each route to help a kinship family in its journey.

C. TAKING CARE OF YOURSELF TO NURTURE OTHERS

Karen Macaulay, LICSW Clinical supervisor

Rutland Mental Health Services

Raising children, especially when one is older, can be challenging, draining all energy. In order to take care of others, it is critical to first take care of self. Learn and discuss ways that are simple and doable to help you nurture yourself so you can nurture your family.

D. "ASK US WHO WE ARE"

DOCUMENTARY WITH BESS O'BRIEN

Bess O'Brien, Producer and Director

Kingdom County Productions

Young people who have been in foster care, kinship caregivers, foster parents, and others who live in Vermont tell the real life stories of children who have been unable to live with their parents. This widely acclaimed documentary is about the search for family and a sense of belonging and is must-see if you have missed it.

NOTE: THIS WORKSHOP BEGINS AT 12:45.

Session 2 Workshops

A. PLANNING FOR THE UNEXPECTED: WILLS, HEALTH CARE AND FINANCIAL DIRECTIVES

Dianne Pallmerine, Attorney

Learn what you should think about when you have children in your care. Plan for them and for yourself by learning about wills, health care directives, and financial directives.

B. STRATEGIES FOR CARING FOR TRAUMATIZED CHILDREN

Nancy Birge, LICSW

Casey Family Services

Children in kinship care most often have experienced trauma which impacts all aspects of their lives. Learn strategies to help the children and yourself as the kinship caregiver or social worker deal with their thoughts, feelings, and behaviors.

C. THE IMPACT OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE ON FAMILIES

TBA

Drug and alcohol abuse by the parents is one of the main reasons why children live in kinship care. However, the impact goes beyond the immediate family. Learn about the disease and how to work with family members to understand it and respond in the best way possible.

D. DISCUSSION WITH THE STARS OF "ASK US WHO WE ARE"

Bess O'Brien, Producer and Director

Kingdom County Productions

Young adults, kinship caregivers, and others who were interviewed for the film will be available for a discussion, led by Bess O'Brien. Whether you watched it in the first session or have seen it previously, join us to talk about the impact of the documentary and what steps might help improve the lives of Vermont children and families.

2 EASY WAYS TO REGISTER:

1. Register Online

www.uvm.edu/extension/parentingrevisited

2. By Mail

Send registration form and a check to:

UVM Extension

1 Scale Av. Suite 55

Rutland, VT 05701

Make checks payable to:

VERMONT KIN AS PARENTS

Hotel Reservations: Special rates at Doubletree Hotel if reservations made by August 6:

2 Doublebeds or 1 King bed non-smoking: \$102 + tax

Tel: 802-658-0250 or <http://doubletree.hilton.com>

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Register Today!

Early Registration Fee BY AUGUST 19:

Kinship Caregivers: \$25 (Note: VKAP has applied for funding to cover the cost and will notify you if it's approved)

Presenter: \$0

Professional/Other: \$50 (Note: If 3 or more from 1 agency register together the cost will be reduced to \$40 each)

REGISTRATION AFTER AUGUST 19 WILL

BE: Kinship caregivers: \$35

Professionals/Other: \$60 (\$50 if three+)

Refund Information: If you cannot attend, you may send a substitute without a penalty. Refunds less \$10 cancellation fee will be made only if written notice is received by **August 26, 2011.**

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Daytime Phone: () _____

Title: (Please check all that apply)

Kinship Caregiver Presenter

Professional (Organization _____)

Other (please specify) _____

Check #: _____ Total Amount: \$ _____

Make checks payable to: **Vermont Kin as Parents*

Registration includes a continental breakfast,

Workshop Selections (please indicate letter)

Session 1: _____ Session 2: _____

If CEUs are available will you want them? Yes___ No___

To request a disability-related accommodation to participate in this program, please contact Lynn Granger at 802-338-4725 by August 19, 2011 so we may assist you..

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