

# Post Adoption Resource Center Newsletter Oakland County

September 2012

## Medical Subsidy: How It Can Help You and Your Family

On June 26, 2012 the Post Adoption Resource Center hosted a training on Medical Subsidy which was led by Medical Subsidy Supervisor, Pedro Alvarez. We had a great turnout and learned a lot of helpful information. Did you know:

-Your child may qualify for Medical Subsidy to pay up to \$3,500.00 towards the cost of orthodontia. That is a full set of braces and all of the necessary care in most cases!

-Your child may qualify for Medical Subsidy to pay for summer tutoring for a child that has a current IEP. We know that summer is almost over, but affordable tutoring is something that many adoptive parents struggle

with finding and we are glad to know how accessible it is!

-For a child that has a mental health diagnoses and behaviors that parents struggle to manage, Medical Subsidy may assist with the cost of a behavioral aide, which is an in-home person designed to assist the child and parents in managing acting out behaviors.

-Additionally, Medical Subsidy may be able to assist families in securing Temporary Out of Home Placement (which many families commonly refer to as "respite"), which can be very helpful for families that may feel "burnt out."

-Medical Subsidy may also be able to assist families in sending their children to specialized camps that address the children's respective physical/emotional health diagnoses.

We are really excited about the many ways that Medical Subsidy is able to help families. We believe that with supportive services in place families will continue to experience success! **If you are interested in learning more about the services available please contact the Post Adoption Resource Center at 248-410-0727.**

## What's Been Happening with PARC?

With the fiscal year coming to close we are happy to share that the PARC Program is moving forward full steam ahead. The Oakland County PARC program is fully staffed and we are regularly receiving referrals from the subsidy office, DHS, various adoption agencies, and families themselves. We have been able

to make connections with other community partners and our adoption agency counterparts are giving us positive feedback related to the services that we are providing. Last month, during a community meeting with adoption workers across Southeast Michigan an adoption worker who has referred a family to the pro-

gram, stated "I am very happy with the services my family is receiving and feel safe referring families."

**To obtain more information please contact Jennifer Harmon at 248-410-0727 or visit our website at [www.parcoakland-orchards.org](http://www.parcoakland-orchards.org)**

September 30, 2012

Volume 1, Issue 2

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## Upcoming Events....

As a part of working with adoptive families the Post Adoption Resource Center is trying to implement new and exciting ideas and activities that families can participate in. Some of our upcoming events are listed below:

- 8/15/12 from 9:30—10:30 AM our Wayne County Task Force Meeting will be held at Wayne County Community College.
- 8/28/12 from 5:30-7:30 PM we will have our monthly support group. Dinner and childcare will be provided.



- 9/13/12 from 5:00—8:00 PM PARC will be teaming up with Families on the Move to offer a training on Michigan Welfare Rights and Back to School Issues. Dinner and childcare will be provided.
- 9/22/12 from 11:00 AM—3:00 PM

PARC will be at the Michigan Adoption Festival handing out information related to available services.

- 9/26/12 from 5:30 –7:30 PM we will have our monthly support group. Dinner and childcare will be provided.

**To inquire about any of the above activities or future activities, contact Jennifer Harmon at 248-410-0727. Also, please visit our website at [www.parcokland-orchards.org](http://www.parcokland-orchards.org) for further listings of local community activities.**

## Parenting Tip...

### THE DAILY GROOVE~

by Scott Noelle

[www.enjoyparenting.com/dailygroove](http://www.enjoyparenting.com/dailygroove)

:: Small Body, Big Spirit::

Mother Nature doesn't aim for mediocre. She imbues every child with HUGE creative potential.

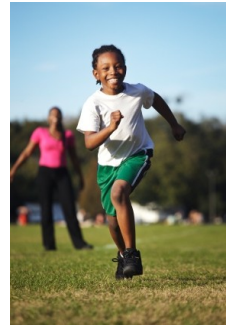
Children are born knowing they are supposed to be BIG— innately powerful,

free, and continuously expanding to new horizons.

Today, no matter how physically small your child may be, notice and appreciate his or her BIGness in spirit. That spirit is easy to see when you child is expressing pure love and joy. But, it's no less present when s/he's misbehaving. In those trying times remember...

Our children are always doing the best they can to stay connected to their BIGness in a world that expects them to be small.

**For more tips like this visit: [www.enjoyparenting.com/path/info](http://www.enjoyparenting.com/path/info)**

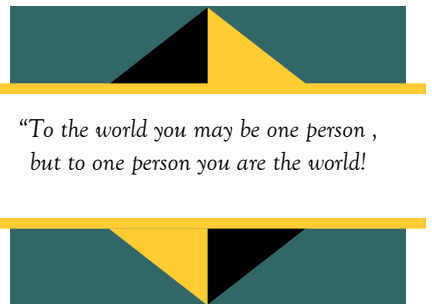


## Fun Family Activity...



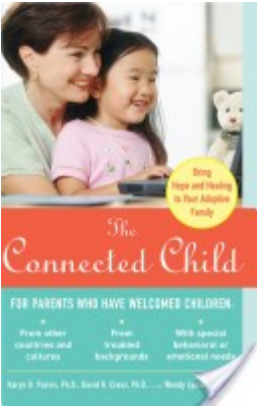
With summer coming to an end why not try to hold on to it for a little while longer, all the while, enjoying a fun family activity with you children. All you will need is a small flower pot, some paint, potting soil, and a pack of flower seedlings. Paint the flower pots and allow them to thoroughly dry, get festive, or decorate in bright summertime colors to look at on those brisk fall mornings. Once paint has dried fill three-quarters of the way with potting and plant with the seedlings of your choice. Keep the flower pots in a nice sunny place inside your home and enjoy watching your flowers bloom before your eyes. This is an activity for kids

of all ages! Life gets busy and sometimes taking that short time out to be with family and spend quality time together can make all the difference, no matter how simple something is, if you are doing it as a family it means the world to your child!



*"To the world you may be one person ,  
but to one person you are the world!"*

## Featured Reading...



Karyn B. Purvis,  
David R. Cross,  
Wendy Lyons  
Sunshine  
McGraw-Hill  
Professional, Feb  
22, 2007

The adoption of a child is always a joyous moment in the life of a family. Some adoptions, though, present unique challenges. Welcoming these children into your family--and addressing their special needs--requires care, consideration, and compassion. Written by two research psychologists specializing in adoption and

attachment, *The Connected Child* will help you build bonds of affection and trust with your adopted child, as well as, help you to effectively deal with any learning or behavioral disorders and learn to discipline your child with love without making him or her feel threatened.

"*The Connected Child* is the literary equivalent of an airline oxygen mask and instructions: place the mask over your own face first, then over the nose of your child. This book first assists the parent, saying, in effect, 'Calm down, you're not the first mom or dad in the world to face this hurdle, breathe deeply, then follow these simple steps.' The sense of not facing these

issues alone--the relief that your child's behavior is not off the charts--is hugely comforting. Other children have behaved this way; other parents have responded thusly; welcome to the community of therapeutic and joyful adoptive families."

--Melissa Fay Greene, author of *There is No Me Without You: One Woman's Odyssey to Rescue Africa's Children*

If you would like to "checkout" this book from our lending library or would like to inquire about other books available please contact **Jennifer Harmon at 248-410-0727** or visit our website at [www.parcokland-orchards.org](http://www.parcokland-orchards.org) for a complete list of available resources.

## Recipe For School Success

With back to school right around the corner many parents, and children alike, are left wondering where did summer go and how can I get this school year off to a great start? To that end remember that preparation relieves anxiety and allows for smoother sailing. Whether in a new school or not, each new year brings changes. Prepare your child by doing a practice run of the first day, talk through how the first day of school will go, talk to your child about any anxieties they may have about the first day of school, and begin to ad-

just your child's summer sleep schedule to be more in tune with school year hours. When the morning bell rings on the first day of school, remember that it is not only your child's responsibility to do well in school, but also the parent's responsibility to be a support and role model for the child in their education. Parents must be actively involved in their child's education, support children's curiosity, intelligence, and hard work, and help your child to get organized- this is a skill that must be taught! Remember that to learn, children must believe that they

can learn. As a parent you are the most important adult in your child's life. The feedback you give your child will have a lasting impact on your child's self-confidence. Be encouraging and praise your child for the amount of effort that he/she puts into a project. Let your child know that you expect them to do their best and that is what counts. **If you feel you could benefit from some assistance with the transition into the new school year please feel free to contact the Post Adoption Resource Center at 248-410-0727.**





**What people are  
saying about us....**

Since its inception at the end of April 2012, the Oakland-County PARC Program has serviced a number of families and we are happy to share with you some of the positive feedback that we have gotten from the families that we have serviced.

“They make time for you and will help you get things done.”

“They have always expressed their knowledge to me without giving me time to worry.”

“They helped me understand what financial resources are available through Medical Subsidy and helped me navigate through the red tape and paperwork.”

If you or someone you know could benefit from our services please have them contact Jennifer Harmon at the numbers listed below:

**Phone: 248-41-0727**

**Toll Free: 866-410-0727**

**Or visit us on the web at:**

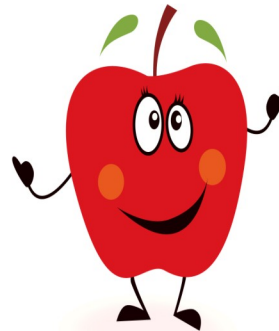
**[www.parcokland-orchards.org](http://www.parcokland-orchards.org)**



**18100 Meyers Rd.**

# Orchards

CHILDREN'S SERVICES



*Cartoon feeling charts are a good way for young children to share with you how they are feeling. The above “emotion chart” is a fun and creative way to help you and your child talk about feelings.*