



# Post Adoption Resource Center Newsletter Oakland & Macomb County

## Simple Fun Outside This Summer!



### Squirt Gun Painting

- Fill squirt guns or spray bottles with liquid water colors (or make your own with food coloring or paint and water).
- Tack some paper to a tree or clip to an easel.
- Get creative on your paper & talk about your art!
- Let your paper dry outside (placing a rock on your paper will prevent it from blowing away).

### Glow-in-the-Dark Ring Toss

- Gather 10 or so glow stick necklaces to use as tossing rings.
- You'll need a glowing pole. Use a 2-liter bottle with an activated glow stick inside or tape a glow stick to a stick and push into the ground.
- Start tossing!



### Family Sidewalk Chalk

- Get out the sidewalk chalk as a family!
- Draw a hopscotch board, a tic-tac-toe board, play Pictionary, or come up with some other ideas!

## Orchards Parent of the Year Award Goes to...



Congratulations to Mr. Potts and Mrs. Knox-Potts on winning Orchards Children's Services Parent of the Year Award!

Mr. Potts and Mrs. Knox-Potts are the proud parents to 3 biological children and 3 adopted children. Mr. Potts and Mrs. Knox-Potts began adopting in 2008 through Orchards Children's Services. The family is dedicated to advocating for adopted children and they thrive in their desire to help other adoptive families.

The family attends PARC trainings, participates in PARC events and even lead the Macomb County support group prior to the pandemic.

Mrs. Knox-Potts has also facilitated a few trainings for our families on the importance of black hair care. Most recently, Mr. Potts and Mrs. Knox-Potts were co-facilitators for a 2-day hybrid training for on race relations in America for families that have adopted transracially.

Mr. Potts and Mrs. Knox-Potts do so much to advocate for our children and we are lucky to have them as part of our PARC community! Thank you for all that you do!



**Orchards  
Children's  
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### Inside this issue:

**Medical Subsidy, 2**  
**What Is It?!**

**Suggested Read 2**

**PARC in the 3**  
**Community & JBF**

**Upcoming in PARC 4**

*For more information  
on the Post Adoption  
Resource Center  
please contact us at  
**313-530-9746***

*Or visit our website at  
**PARC-orchards.org***



## Medical Subsidy, What Is It?!

Adoption medical subsidy is a reimbursement program that helps with medical or treatment costs for children adopted from Michigan's child welfare system who have an identified physical, mental, or emotional condition which existed, or the cause of which existed, prior to the adoption petition being filed and are listed on the medical subsidy agreement. Medical Subsidy assistance may cover a wide variety of services including but not limited to:

**Orthodontics** - up to \$5000, maximum lifetime benefit per child.

**Durable medical equipment** - Examples include but are not limited to wheelchairs, ramps, and walkers, and sensory equipment such as swings, trampolines, and weighted blankets/vests.

**Tutoring** - Child must be 7 or older, have a failing grade (D or below) in a general education class and a related medical condition certified by the AGAO OR child is receiving educational services as part of their special education Individual Education Plan (IEP) or 504 plan and needs specific help beyond parental assistance. The benefit cannot exceed \$150 per week.

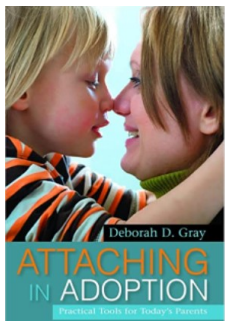
**Respite** - The adoption medical subsidy program may reimburse up to \$50 per day for respite care, not to exceed four days per month or 24 days per 12-month period.

The Adoption Medical Subsidy Program guidelines and limitations are as follows:

- Most services must have prior approval from the Adoption and Guardianship Assistance Office (AGAO). Each request has different prior approval requirements which can be found in the Medical Subsidy Handbook.
- The service is necessary to treat a condition that was certified by AGAO prior to the child's 18th birthday.
- All other resources, including Medicaid, Children's Special Health Care Services (CSHCS), Community Mental Health (CMH) and private insurance, must be used first, and documentation must be provided with the request for funding. State law prohibits MDHHS from making a medical subsidy payment unless all other available public money and third-party insurance has been exhausted. The medical subsidy program is the payer of last resort.
  - Denials for specific services are valid for one year from the date of the denial.
  - For children who do not qualify for coverage through CSHCS, a denial of coverage from CSHCS will be used as proof of denial of eligibility for future requests for the same service for the child. The parent/guardian can contact CSHCS through their local CSHCS office, at 800-359-3722, or by email (cshcsfc@michigan.gov).
- Reimbursement may not cover 100% of the costs associated with the requested services and may be reimbursed on or after the effective date of the adoption medical subsidy agreement.

*\*Information expanded from:MDHHS-Pub-1511*

## Suggested Read



### ***Attaching in Adoption: Practical Tools for Today's Parents***

*Author: Deborah D. Gray*

You'll find thoughtful information on what attachment is and how grief and trauma affect a child, as well as tips to improve attachment and create trust. In addition, you'll learn more about such challenges as fetal alcohol syndrome and learning disabilities. The book also features various parenting techniques for different stages and situations and handy checklists to monitor your child's progress.



## PARC in the Community

PARC families please join us in a huge THANK YOU to the Jockey Being Family Program who supports each of you in your adoption journey. Our PARC program was awarded a generous grant from the JBF foundation to support the work we do and activities we provide. The Jockey Being Family also supports the adoption community with wonderful trainings. The trainings are provided by Creating A Family, please take a look and also sign up to receive their newsletter at: [creatingafamily.org](http://creatingafamily.org)



# JOCKEY BEING FAMILY®

With the help of Jockey Being Family, PARC has been able to jump back in to some more in-person events. We love being able to spend more time with all of you and have met so many new families!

In addition to our monthly parent support group with Joy Davies, PARC has added quite a few reoccurring activities including a "Matters of Culture" virtual parent group, a teen support group at Urban Air, Karate and trauma informed yoga for the kids and teens, and a monthly Jungle Java meet-up geared towards the younger kids and their families.



The Easter Bunny joined us for a drive-thru Easter event to drop off some goodies and do a few quick photo shoots. We saw lots of smiles!

To kick off the summer, PARC held a "PARC in the Park" event with dinner, an ice cream cart, and a balloon twister. We were thankful for such beautiful weather and a fun evening in the park.



A training was held for our families to learn about making the most of IEP and 504 plans. Amalie Bergman and Jenna Manor gave some great information and tips to better navigate the special education system.

Our annual Island Lake Family Fun Day was a huge success once again! The weather was perfect and the afternoon was complete with a barbeque, snacks, swimming, a lot of inflatables and many smiles! PARC purchased a state park pass for all of the families that attended, hopefully they will get some good use this summer!



PARC has been busy for sure, but this is just the beginning and we have been having so much fun!

PARC is always working to come up with new ideas, trainings and activities and as always, we are open to any feedback or suggestions you might have. Feel free to share any pictures too, we love to see them!



## Upcoming Meetings, Trainings & Events

### Reoccurring Monthly Events

- **Matters of Culture (virtual group):** 1st Thursday of the month
- **Jungle Java Meet Up:** 1st Saturday of the month
- **Kids Karate:** 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month
- **Parent Support Group & Kids Trauma Informed Yoga:** Second Tuesday of every month
- **Adopted Teen (12+) Support Group at Urban Air:** Last Wednesday of the month



### DETROIT ZOO

**When:** Friday, July 15, 2022

**Time:** 11:00am

**Where:** Detroit Zoo is located at 8450 W 10 Mile Rd, Royal Oak, MI 48067

PARC will provide admission to the Detroit Zoo for families! Families must meet at the front gate **NO LATER THAN 11:00 a.m.** in order to get admission paid for.



### URBAN AIR—TRAMPOLINE & ADVENTURE PARK

**When:** Friday, August 19, 2022

**Time:** 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

**Where:** Urban Air is located at 12050 Hall Rd, Sterling Heights, MI 48313



### BACK TO SCHOOL BASH

**When:** Friday, August 5, 2022

**Time:** 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**Where:** Orchards Children's Services (parking lot) -  
24901 Northwestern Hwy, Southfield, MI 48075

This event is for PARC Families and OCS Foster Kids.

Join us for face painting, balloon twister, bounce house, games,



### Enriching Your Relationship – Working towards filling your cup so you can more effectively support your children

**When:** Tuesday, September 13, 2022

**Time:** 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

**Where:** 24901 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 500, Southfield, MI 48075

**OR** via Zoom: **Meeting ID:** 847 9379 5161 **Passcode:** Nw5gP6

**Facilitators:** Annie Lange and Sally Backofen



**This is a HYBRID event that is taking the place of the monthly parent support group.**

★ We are continuously working on adding trainings and activities, (and always have a few things in the works!) Please keep an eye out for updates via email and social media! Connect with PARC at:

**Website:** [parc-orchards.org](http://parc-orchards.org)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/OCSPostAdoptionResourceCenter](https://www.facebook.com/OCSPostAdoptionResourceCenter)

**Email:** [parcocs@orchards.org](mailto:parcocs@orchards.org)