

# fostering FUTURES

Rhode Island Foster Parents Association

No. 8 – Issue 2 – March 2009



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## Help Us Earn Much Needed Funds—It's Easy & FREE

Earning money for the Rhode Island Foster Parents Association (RIFPA) is now easier than ever. Just by shopping with your Shaw's Rewards Card on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday, you can earn money for kids in care. Just shop with your registered Shaw's Rewards Card and RIFPA will receive a percentage of all the eligible purchases you make.

You don't even have to save your receipt!

Simply, follow these easy steps to register your card:

1. Go to [www.shaws.com/neighborhoodrewards](http://www.shaws.com/neighborhoodrewards)
2. Click on "Shoppers login or register with your Rewards Card first."
3. Login using your Shaw's Rewards Card# and your phone number
4. Click on "Login"
5. Enter the ID # for RIFPA: 49001018910
6. Click on "Add an Organization"
7. Click on "Update Now"



Give back for RIFPA. One cart at a time.

### Your Privacy is Important!

The only information Shaws will provide to RIFPA or any program administrator is your name (if desired) and the quarterly contribution total. We will never provide any item-specific purchase information.



## Dr. Day Care

Dear Dr. Day Care,

My foster child is a toddler and says no to me all day long. It is frustrating to ask my two and a half year old a question and the answer is always no. How can I stop this behavior?

Signed, No, No, No

Dear No, No, No,

Two-year-olds, developmentally, are in the stage of building language skills. A good rule of thumb is that if a child is 18 months their vocabulary should be approximately 18 words. Each and every day a toddler absorbs their world and adds more words to their vocabulary. A great way to increase a young child's vocabulary is to read to them and talk to them because toddlers will start to repeat familiar words. Take a moment and listen to see if anyone in the family is saying the word no frequently. For example, take note when your daughter touches something in your home. Does she often hear the words "No touch"? If she is hearing the no word often, she will repeat the word back to you.

Here are some ideas to cut down on using the word no:

**Problem:** *She touches the buttons on the TV.  
You say "No."*

**Solution:** Give her an old or toy remote to play with. Try saying "Let's get your remote, so you can push the buttons."

**Problem:** *You ask "Do you want to put on your coat?"  
She says "No!"*

**Solution:** Give her a choice. Say "It's time to put your coat on. Do you want to put your right arm or your left arm in first?"

**Problem:** *It is time to leave and she says "No!"*

**Solution:** Try giving her a transition notice. For example: "As soon as you finish playing, we will put our coats on to go outside." If she says no, ignore the no and say: "I will help you pick up your toys and then we will go outside together."

Toddlers love choices and the more choices given to them the less you will hear the word "No". Here are some more ideas for acceptable choices:

- Do you want to eat breakfast first or get dressed?
- Do you want to put the toothpaste on your toothbrush yourself or let mommy do it?
- Do you want to wear the red shirt or yellow shirt?

Giving choices allows toddlers to expand their vocabulary and keep frustration at a minimum. Here is one more hint...if a child does not make a choice, then say "OK, Mommy will put the toothpaste on your tooth brush." Then just do it.

In the meantime, keep in mind that your two year old will soon be a much calmer three year old. Remember (as my mom would always say to me) "This too, shall pass."

*Dr. Day Care is actually Mary Ann Shallcross Smith, Ed.D., owner of Dr. Day Care Enterprises which encompasses Kids Klub, Inc., Dr. Day Care's Child Development Center for Learning and Play, Comprehensive Child Care Services of Rhode Island, Women's Business Talk Show, and is also co-founder of Child Care Connection. Dr. Day Care welcomes your questions as they relate to child care. Please contact her at 1-877-333-1393 ext. 222 or email her at drdaycare@kidsklubri.com.*

**Susan M. Fink**  
**Law Offices of Greenwood & Fink**  
**273-8202**

**Adoptions and mediations\***  
**DCYF foster care licensing and placement issues**  
**Custody, visitation and juvenile matters**  
**Simple estate planning**

Qualified for DCYF Adoption Subsidy.

*\*The RI Supreme Court does not license or certify any lawyer as an expert or specialist in any field of practice.*

## Casey Family Programs Requests Nominations for Youth and Alumni Advisors

We are seeking adults and young people (ages 11 and older) to advise us as we implement our **2020 Strategy**. Advisors must currently be in foster care, or have experienced foster care in the past. Candidates for this role should also have experience in the areas of mental health, education, or employment. Those who are selected will advise Casey Family Programs' executive leadership in the development of strategies and policy positions around child welfare, education, employment, and mental health. **Submit a nomination at <https://surveys.casey.org/Collector/Survey.ashx>.**

**If you have questions, please contact Gregory Davis at [gdavis@casey.org](mailto:gdavis@casey.org).**

# Youth Can Double Their Money with JCYOI

JCYOI is an exciting program for 14-23 yr olds who are currently in or were formally in foster care. The goal of JCYOI is to provide youth with the tools they will need to transition successfully from care into adulthood.

To begin the program youth attend financial literacy training where they will learn how to set financial goals, to save/invest, to create a budget and to manage their credit. Youth will then open a savings account to begin saving money for a car, housing, education, and other assets.

**JCYOI will match dollar for dollar of what the youth saves up to \$1,000 per year!**

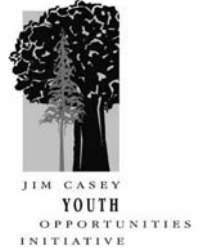
Opportunities to make connections within the community regarding education, housing, employment, and health care will be provided. Youth will also have the chance to help improve state policies that affect youth in care by participating in our youth board.

Adults can support youth as they participate in this program by making sure that they attend all of the financial literacy classes, open a bank account, and meet their savings goals. Program participants are only able to double their savings if they provide monthly copies of their bank statement to their JCYOI case manager. So be sure to check in with your young people to see if they are saving and turning in those statements.

**To enroll or for more information, call RIFPA at 401.438.3900 and ask to speak to Leslie at x102 or Cory x109.**



## JCYOI Financial Literacy Training



### New Locations!

#### March @ Providence Youth Center

Trainings held at:  
Providence Youth Center  
1 Reservoir Ave  
Bus 21, 22 from KP

**Tuesday and Thursday  
4:00 PM to 6:30 PM**

**Begins Mar 3 and ends Mar 19**

#### March @ RI Foster Parents Association

Trainings held at:  
RI Foster Parents Association  
55 South Brow Street  
East Providence

**Sunday  
10:00AM to 3:00 PM**

**Mar 15 and Mar 22**

Download Referral Form at:  
[www.caseyfamilyservices.org/pdfs/jcyoi\\_referral\\_form.pdf](http://www.caseyfamilyservices.org/pdfs/jcyoi_referral_form.pdf)

### Joseph A. Palmieri, Esq.\* Adoption Attorney

**DCYF Adoptions • DCYF Subsidy Accepted**

Never a charge for court mediations, court appearances, document preparation, or subsidy negotiation with DCYF

**Never A Fee Paid By You**

Just Call 401.258.3371

The RI Supreme Court does not license or certify any lawyer as an expert or specialist in any field of practice.

## Free tax help is available

The AARP Tax-Aide program is offering free tax preparation services from Feb. 1 through April 17. The program expects to have more than 150 volunteers staffing 50 sites statewide, including senior centers, libraries and other public locations, and estimates that it will help about 10,000 people file their returns this season.

The program offers free counseling and preparation for taxpayers with low to middle incomes. It offers special attention to those 60 and older, but membership in AARP is not a requirement. The program also provides free electronic filing from most of its sites, said Reggie Narciso, a program volunteer from Portsmouth.

If you want to take advantage of the program's free tax-preparation service, bring to the site a picture ID, Social Security cards for everyone listed on the return, a copy of the prior year's return, and any tax information you've recently received—such as Form W-2 wage statements and Form 1099 interest statements. **To find a site near you, call the program toll-free at 1.888.227.7669 or use its Web site.**

## NFPA Federal Tax Guide for 2008

The National Foster Parent Association is pleased to present the 2008 Tax Benefits for Foster, Adoptive Parents and Kinship Caregivers. This resource guide provides you with valuable information worth several thousand dollars or more in tax benefits.

The guide explains basic rules and offers tips on ways that foster and adoptive parents and kinship caregivers can claim deductions and credit available to them. Neither the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) nor commercial tax manuals offer information on unique tax rules that affect these families. As a result, obscure and complicated tax rules cause some families, and even some commercial tax preparers, to overlook or miss deductions and tax credits.

This information should not be considered legal advice or tax advice - it is general information that should not be acted upon except in consultation with a professional tax advisor. Give a copy of this guide to your tax preparer, and discuss the qualifications for any of the benefits discussed here.

You can download a copy at [www.nfpaonline.org/uploads/2008\\_federal\\_tax\\_benefits.pdf](http://www.nfpaonline.org/uploads/2008_federal_tax_benefits.pdf).

**Don't leave money on the table! Bring a copy of this guide to your tax preparer today!**

## Over 1,800 Families Will See Your Ad

Do you have a product or service that directly relates to children and families? Advertising in Fostering Futures gives you a unique opportunity to reach a world of parents, families and caregivers who need to know about your business today! Our newsletter is published monthly by the Association and is mailed to over 1,800 households throughout Rhode Island. In addition, each issue is emailed to 600 state employees.

Please consider advertising with us. Your ad will get noticed and you'll be helping to ensure the quality of this publication for Rhode Island's foster families.

We have a package to fit your needs, start with an 1/8 page ad or show your support with a cover sponsorship!

Contact Kara Duffin at [karaduffin@comcast.net](mailto:karaduffin@comcast.net) for details.



## Help for Children Raised by Grandparents and Other Relatives

### Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008–Q&A

*Q. How will this new law offer support for relatives already caring for children, both in and out of foster care?*

A. This Act allows states to use federal funds to help pay for kinship guardianship assistance to help children in foster care live permanently with relatives. The Act also offers grants to states to develop or expand Kinship Navigator programs that help link relative caregivers to a range of services and supports for themselves and the children in their care.

*Q. How will this law help connect children with relatives before or shortly after removal from the home?*

A. The law requires states to identify and give notice to relatives within 30 days of a child's removal from the custody of his/her parents.

*Q. What does the new law require about the placement of siblings?*

A. States must make reasonable efforts to place siblings together and for those siblings not placed together, the agency needs to make efforts to ensure that the siblings maintain their connections to each other through frequent visitations.

*Q. What does the new law require about the education of children in foster care, kinship guardianship and adoptive families?*

A. States are required to ensure that every school-aged child receiving federal assistance is enrolled in school full-time and that they must coordinate with local schools to ensure that children remain in the school they were enrolled in at the time of placement, unless not in the best interest of the child.

*Q. When does this new law take effect?*

A. Many parts of the law, such as notice to relatives, state options to provide kinship guardianship payments, and keeping siblings together took effect the day the law was signed, October 7, 2008. As of October 1, 2010 states with federal adoption assistance programs will be able to begin claiming additional federal money for children with special needs and may opt to claim funds for youth in foster care beyond their 18th birthday.

Adapted from New Help for Children Raised by Grandparents and Other Relatives: Questions and Answers about the Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008.

For more information on the new law, the new resource available to relative caregivers, or how to get involved in federal and state policy please call Kat Keenan at 401.438.3900 x106 or [kat.keenan@rifpa.org](mailto:kat.keenan@rifpa.org).



Call Neighborhood  
to learn about our  
many benefits!  
1-800-459-6019



We are proud to partner with DCYF and the RI Foster Parent Association in supporting foster parents and the children in their care.

### John H. Chafee Award for Excellence in Foster Care

Do you know a foster parent who does an outstanding job fostering teens?

If so, please nominate them today for the John H. Chafee Award for Excellence in Foster Care.

Thank you for helping us to recognize and celebrate outstanding foster parents.

**Deadline for nominations is March 20, 2009.**

*Nomination Forms are available on page 11 of this issue.*

# Fostering Friends

## Team Up For Teens

**It's Not Too Late to Contribute to the DCYF Holiday Gifts for Teens Campaign: The Association Ensured That All Youth in Care Were Served This Holiday Season Despite 22% Decrease in Funds**

Cash contributions to the DCYF Holiday Gifts for Teens Campaign ensure that no teen in DCYF care goes without during the holiday season. This year, due to the difficult economy and layoffs of state workers cash donations to the campaign were down 22%. Nevertheless, the Rhode Island Foster Parents Association made a commitment to keep our holiday promise and still purchased gift certificates for all youth in need. Although contributions were down significantly we were amazed at the tremendous generosity that people can have in times of trouble. As a result of more group home sponsorships, led by Textron, the campaign's cash donations were able to go much farther this year. The Association made the decision to purchase enough gift certificates to serve all youth in need even though the full funds were not raised this year. **Any individuals or groups interested in making donations to help close the funding gap can contact Julie DiBari at 401.438.3900 x101.**

## Shaw's Neighborhood Rewards

Thank you for saving your Shaw's receipts. So far those little scraps of paper have helped earn \$500 for RIFPA. As you know (if you read our cover article this month!) you no longer have to save your receipts. Simply, log onto [www.shaws.com/neighborhoodrewards](http://www.shaws.com/neighborhoodrewards) and follow the simple steps on the cover of this issue. Here's a list of our most recent supporters of this program. Thank you for your continued support.

Anne Fortier	\$8,972.56
DCYF Region 1	\$4,228.00
C. Mellen	\$1,860.86
Gencorp Insurance Group Staff	\$1,805.77
Christine Faulkner & RIHEAA	\$1,719.12
Jason Marzini	\$1,446.96
Jody Lesieur	\$1,313.56
Jessica Rodrigues	\$1,154.02
June Stankiewicz	\$1,075.93
DCYF - Region 2	\$798.65
Angela Sousa	\$790.61
Lisa Guillette	\$541.46
Sandra Daniels	\$423.14
Doreen Silvia	\$375.67
Carol & Anne Reed	\$338.52
Ruthanne Farina	\$288.18
Unknown	\$191.32
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$27,324.33</b>
<b>Donation Amount</b>	<b>\$256.85</b>
<b>Program to Date</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>



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# DCYF Post Secondary Tuition Assistance Program

## FAQ's about the DCYF Higher Education Opportunity Grant and the Chafee Education and Training Voucher Programs

*1. It is my understanding that, as a young adult who is or was involved with DCYF, I am entitled to financial aid from DCYF for college. Is that true?*

The DCYF Post-Secondary Tuition Assistance Program is funded through two separate sources, both with somewhat different rules for eligibility. These are not true entitlement programs. DCYF receives a set amount of money each year from each funding source and gives that money out based on young adults who apply and meet eligibility criteria. Funds are distributed based on the number of young adults applying, the unmet need of each applicant, and the amount of money DCYF has available. It is important to apply no later than the **annual deadline of June 1st** because, once we've committed our funds for the year, we can't get anymore to give out.

*2. What are the two separate funding streams that make up the DCYF Post-Secondary Tuition Assistance Program?*

• **DCYF State Higher Education Opportunity Grant**

**Program:** This program was created by RI Law and funded by the RI General Assembly. DCYF receives \$200,000 each year to provide financial aid to young adults who meet the criteria for DCYF involvement and who are fulltime students at the Community College of Rhode Island, Rhode Island College or the University of Rhode Island. Funds from this program cannot be used after you turn age 21, unless you are full-time student at one of these schools on your 21st birthday. If you are, then you may continue to receive money from this program until the end of that academic year.

• **Chafee Education and Training Voucher Program:**

This program was created by Federal Law and can be used for students attending a school which meets the federal Higher Education Act's definition of "Institution of Higher Education". While the amount DCYF receives for this varies from year to year, it generally is about \$225,000 per year. Young adults do not need to be attending full time and each young adult

identified as eligible can get no more than \$5,000 per academic year (which we define as the Fall Semester through the Summer Sessions of each year—e.g., Fall 2008 through Summer 2009). Eligibility for ETV funds ends at age 21 unless you are currently participating in the program when you turn 21—if you are, then you can remain eligible until you turn age 23 as long as you stay in school and in this program.

*3. I was told I only have to fill out this DCYF application one time and it covers me for the whole time I'm in school. Is that right?*

**No.** You must complete the DCYF Post-Secondary Tuition Assistance Program Application for each year you are attending school or if you change schools. If you fail to do so, we cannot guarantee that you will continue to be eligible. Our funds are given out based on the number of applicants and the total amount of money we have available so, once we run out of money, we can't pay for any more youth for that year.

*4. If I get financial aid from DCYF, can I use it for any expenses I want?*

**No.** DCYF must use the "Cost of Attendance" as determined by the school you are attending. How a school determines what is included in "Cost of Attendance" can vary a little from school to school but generally includes things like tuition, room and board, and student fees. A helpful tool in looking at your school's cost of attendance is the College Navigator website (<http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/>). The information is sometimes a year behind but can at least show you what your school includes in the cost of attendance and help give you an idea of what your total cost for a semester/year might be for that school.

*5. I heard that DCYF won't make me take out loans for school and will cover any cost not covered by other grant programs. Is that true?*

**No.** DCYF uses the following formula to determine a student's unmet financial need: Cost of Attendance (as determined by the school) – Private, Federal & State Grants (including Work/Study) – Scholarships – Federal & State Loans = Unmet Student Need.

For example, say you are attending URI where this year the cost of attendance is \$19,752. URI identifies that you are eligible for a Pell Grant of \$4,731, \$2,000 in Work/Study, \$4,244 in scholarships and a Stafford Loan of \$3,000. Using the formula, your unmet need is \$5,777 ( $\$19,752 - \$4,731 - \$4,244 - \$3,000 = \$5,777$ ). In the past, DCYF was able to cover all of both the unmet need of \$5,777 plus the Stafford Loan amount of \$3,000 for a total

DCYF award of \$8,777, which meant you, as the student, didn't have to take out a loan. However, because we have so many more young adults taking advantage of the DCYF Post-Secondary Tuition Assistance Program, we cannot guarantee this for the future and we anticipate that students, regardless of the school they are attending, will need to take out loans.

It is important to remember that students attending CCRI, RIC or URI have two potential DCYF funding sources from which to get help– the DCYF State Higher Education Opportunity Grant Program and the Chafee Education and Training Voucher (ETV) Program. If you are attending any other school, you can be considered only for the Chafee ETV Program and can get only a maximum of \$5,000 per academic year.

### ***6. How does DCYF decide if I am eligible for the DCYF Higher Education Opportunity Grant Program?***

#### ***Can I use funds from the DCYF Higher Education Opportunity Grant to pay for the cost of attendance at any school in the country?***

This grant program is limited to young adults attending CCRI, RIC or URI who meet the following criteria:

- You are in DCYF care at the time of your initial application and were in foster care (defined as any out of home care except the RI Training School) for at least the two years prior to the application. If you've already turned 18 before your initial application, you must have been in foster care from your 16th birthday to your 18th birthday. If you were adopted while in DCYF foster care, even if you were adopted at age 17, you are not eligible for these funds; and
- You graduated from high school or received the equivalent of a high school diploma not more than one year before the date of your initial application or must be expected to graduate at the end of the semester in which the application is made; and
- You are attending one of the following Rhode Island schools on a full-time basis: the Community College of Rhode Island, Rhode Island College or the University of Rhode Island; and
- Your school must consider you to be in good academic standing for you to keep getting these funds; and
- This funding ends when you reach age 21 unless you are participating in this program at age 21 and are still enrolled in one of these three schools on your 21st birthday, DCYF can continue your funding for the rest of the academic year after you turn 21.

### ***7. How does DCYF decide if I am eligible for the ETV Program? Can I use the Chafee Educational and Training Voucher Grant to pay for the cost of attendance at any school in the country?***

Young adult eligibility criteria are:

- You must have been in the child welfare system and in foster care (defined as any out of home care excluding the RI Training School and/or a juvenile justice related temporary community placement) for at least one day on or after your 16th birthday and the Department must have identified you as being at-risk to age out of foster care (or you have already aged out of foster care). If you were adopted from foster care after your 16th birthday, you can be considered for the ETV Program.
- You must not have reached your 21st birthday when you initially apply. If you are attending school and participating in the ETV program on your 21st birthday, (this includes if you turn 21 during the summer break as long as the school continues to view you as a student), you can remain eligible until you turn 23 as long as you stay enrolled in a post secondary education or training program and are making satisfactory progress toward completion of that program.
- You must be attending a school which meets the definition of an Institution of Higher Education according to Sections 101 and 102 of the federal Higher Education Act. For a full definition, see [www.nrcys.ou.edu/yd/programs/pdfs/hea1965.pdf](http://www.nrcys.ou.edu/yd/programs/pdfs/hea1965.pdf)
- Please note that a you can be a part time student and be eligible to receive ETV funding but the amount of that funds we can give you is still based on the your unmet need as defined by the school.

### ***8. Does DCYF send the financial aid check to me directly?***

- No. DCYF, through the RI Council of Resource Programs (RICORP), issues awards directly to the student's school. After the school deducts any costs which they pay for directly, they will usually give the student a check for the remaining amount. As with most post secondary financial aid programs, the student must use this money to pay for items related to the cost of attendance such as off-campus meals if the student lives off campus and is not part of the school's meal plan, books/supplies, off-campus rent, transportation to and from school, etc.
- These funds cannot be used to purchase durable assets (e.g., a car, a laptop) unless that is identified by your school as part of the Cost of Attendance and/or you receive separate approval from DCYF.

**9. What happens if I drop out of college in the middle of a year/semester - do I have to pay DCYF back?**

- You will need to notify us that you have withdrawn and the date of your withdrawal. We will work with your school to determine whether or not any refunds are due to us. If you were given a check from the school to cover expenses not directly covered by your school, you may have to return funds to the school and/or DCYF. You will need to discuss your situation with your school's financial aid office to determine what funds, if any, you need to pay back.
- For example, if you live off-campus, you may get a check from the school which is intended to cover your rent while attending that school. If you withdraw before the end of the semester, you cannot use these funds for rent for the remaining time in that semester as you are no longer a student.

**10. What happens if I don't get good grades in one semester—can I still get financial aid from DCYF for the next semester?**

Both the DCYF Higher Education Opportunity Grant Program and the federal ETV Program require the student to make what be in good academic standing. We rely on your school to make this determination for us. If you are informed by the school that you are not in good academic standing, you need to notify us immediately. We will look at your situation and try to work with you to help you get back on track. We want you to succeed so we may not stop

**11. When is the application deadline?**

There is only one application deadline for the 2009-10 Academic Year and that is June 1, 2009. Youth who do not apply by this deadline will not be considered for the 2009-10 Academic Year which is defined as Fall Semester 2009 through Summer Sessions 2010.

Additionally, youth must complete **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** before completing our application and provide us with the documentation requested. Information on how to access this and other resources are included in the application which can be found at [www.dcyf.ri.gov/docs/index.php](http://www.dcyf.ri.gov/docs/index.php)

## DCYF Worker of the Year

Do you know a DCYF worker who deserves recognition at our Annual Appreciation Dinner

Can you think of someone who does an outstanding job supporting foster families and kids in care?

Please nominate them today for our Annual DCYF Worker of the Year Award!

**Deadline for nominations is March 20, 2009.**

*Nomination Forms are available on page 10 of this issue.*

## Resolve to Make A Difference in 2009

### DCYF Adoption and Foster Care Information Night

**Wednesday, March 25**

**6:30 PM - 8:00 PM**

**DCYF Region 3 Office**  
650 Ten Rod Road  
North Kingstown

**For more information, please call Robin Perez, DCYF Foster Parent Recruiter, at 401.528.3700**

**Isn't it worth 1 minute to help support Fostering Futures?**

Your e-mail address is all we need to help combat rising printing and distribution costs for our monthly newsletter, Fostering Futures. Please opt to receive your issues of Fostering Futures via e-mail and help us keep costs down. Simply send your Email address to [karaduffin@comcast.net](mailto:karaduffin@comcast.net) and type "Save Money" in the subject line. A simple e-mail address can help kids in care. **Thank you so much.**



Rhode Island Foster Parents Association  
55 South Brow Street, East Providence, RI 02914  
(401) 438-3900 phone • (401) 438-3901 fax

## **2009 DCYF Worker of the Year Award NOMINATION FORM**

Name of DCYF worker being nominated for the Award: \_\_\_\_\_

Tell us why this DCYF worker deserves the award. How have they supported foster parents and the children for whom they care? \_\_\_\_\_

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How long has the nominee been a DCYF worker? \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Nominator: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel. #: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Names of any additional references who can speak to the nominee's experience as a DCYF Worker:

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Please mail nominations to: RIFPA, Attn: Lisa Guillette, 55 South Brow Street, East Providence, RI 02914; or fax to the RIFPA at 438-3901; or e-mail to Lisa Guillette at [lisa.guillette@rifpa.org](mailto:lisa.guillette@rifpa.org)

**Deadline for nominations is March 20, 2009. Thank you for your participation!**



Rhode Island Foster Parents Association  
55 South Brow Street, East Providence, RI 02914  
(401) 438-3900 phone • (401) 438-3901 fax

## 2009 John H. Chafee Award for Excellence in Foster Care **NOMINATION FORM**

Name of foster parent(s) being nominated for the Chafee Award for Excellence in Foster Care: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Nominated Foster Parent's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominated Foster Parent's Tel. #: \_\_\_\_\_

Tell us why this foster parent deserves this award. How have they supported the teen(s) in their care?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What are the first name(s) and age(s) of the children they have supported? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

How long has the nominee been a foster parent? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Nominator: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel. #: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail nominations to: RIFPA, Attn: Chafee Committee, 55 South Brow Street, East Providence, RI 02914; or fax to the RIFPA at 438-3901; or e-mail to Lisa Guillette at [lisa.guillette@rifpa.org](mailto:lisa.guillette@rifpa.org)

**Deadline for nominations is March 20, 2009. Thank you for your participation!**



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## Therapeutic Child Care for Children in Foster Care

Therapeutic Child Care is available for children from infant through middle school.

We work with area child care centers in Rhode Island where your foster child will be integrated with their typically developing peers for a fun and exciting learning experience.

For more information please call Rita at 401.475.7707 ext. 250 or email [rboie@tccsri.com](mailto:rboie@tccsri.com).

## Foster Parent HelpLine

The Foster Parent HelpLine is a peer support service that is available statewide. It is staffed by foster parents who understand the issues and situations you face on a daily basis. Foster parents are encouraged to call the helpline with their questions or when they simply need someone to talk to.

**Call the Rhode Island Foster Parents Association's HelpLine:**  
**1.800.655.7787**

*24 Hours.* Your call will be confidential.  
A service of the Mentor Program.

RIFPA STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS ARE MANDATED REPORTERS OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT LAWS.



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RIFPA

Attn: Newsletter Editor

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