

2008 Trainer Event

We are looking forward to the 2008 Trainer Event on March 3rd. This year's theme, *Your Connection to Permanency*, will explore youth empowerment and development principles and how trainers can use their workshops to promote these principles. Presenters include Lisa Dickson and Amanda Dunlap, former foster youth who are active in the Ohio Chapter of the Foster Care Alumni of America; Michael Sanders, national consultant on youth issues and winner of the 2000 Rising Star Award; Jim Still-Pepper, therapist and winner of the 2006 Rising Star Award; Dr. Joseph Shannon, psychologist and winner of the 2007 Linda Pope Award; and a panel of youth from Ohio's foster care system.

LMS

In preparation for the launching of the LMS, we are working to identify which OCWTP trainers will be in the SACWIS database. If you are employed by a public child welfare agency and have an email address that ends in @odjfs.state.oh.us, please let Kelley Gruber know.

Revisions to the Trainer Handbook

We are in the process of revising the trainer orientation manual to make it three separate documents: The Quick Reference Guide for Prospective Trainers, the Trainer Applicant Handbook, and the New Trainer Orientation Manual. We are excited to announce the Quick Reference Guide is posted on our website (<http://www.ocwtp.net/Prospective%20Trainers.html>) and available in booklet form at IHS and the RTCs. The Trainer Applicant Handbook will be available by the end of this year, and we plan to distribute the new Manuals at the 2008 Trainer Event in March.

Cancellation of Workshops

Once a workshop is scheduled and the calendar is posted, you should not cancel a workshop unless absolutely necessary. If you must cancel, please contact the RTC by phone. If you are calling outside of business hours, make sure to use the emergency contact numbers. (<http://www.ocwtp.net/Trainer%20Resources.html> and click on Emergency RTC numbers.) Email is NOT appropriate for cancellations, especially at the last minute. It is the preference of most RTCs to keep the workshop date and find a replacement trainer rather than reschedule the workshop.

Trainer Policy Revisions

The OCWTP Steering Committee has approval revisions to some of the trainer policies. Please review these policies at <http://www.ocwtp.net/General%20Resources.htm>. (Click on OCWTP Policy Manual.) Changes occurred in the following policies: Trainer Categories, Trainer Criminal History, Distribution of Trainer Content Outlines, Responsibilities of Trainers, Trainer Evaluation/Monitoring, Trainer Endorsements, Marketing Policy (new), and Trainer Communication with the OCWTP Steering Committee.

Pilot of Evaluation forms

In preparation for the LMS, we are revising our current evaluation forms. Thank you to all the caregiver trainers who assisted us in piloting the Preservice and Caregiver forms. Piloting of the Staff Evaluation form will begin this week. You may be asked by an RTC to assist us with this important project. Please note that these forms cannot be entered

into our current database (TrainTrack). A summary evaluation report will still be made available to you. Thank you in advance for our help.