

TRAINER NEWS FROM THE OCWTP

New Fiscal Year

ODJFS notified IHS a purchase order was obtained for the new fiscal year, and training activity began on July 28.

Recruitment Initiative

At this year's Trainer Event in March, we offered our OCWTP trainers the opportunity to help promote the permanency of Ohio's waiting children through a special recruitment initiative. Each trainer in attendance received a packet containing a photo and brief description of two children. The trainer was asked to promote both children's availability sometime during each training session. We hope the response so far has been favorable and would love to hear from you. We still have several children needing to be assigned, and would like to give our trainers who missed the event the opportunity to participate in this exciting project. If you have an interest, please contact Charlotte Osterman at costerman@ihs-trainet.com.

Ethnocentrism

Ethnocentrism is "the tendency of people to put their own group at the center: to see things through the narrow lens of their own culture and to use the standards of that culture to judge others." (Philip H. Herbst, 1997). Barriers are created when a person is unable to move outside his or her own experience, culture, and values in relationship with others. In the training environment, these barriers hinder the learning process and lead to cultural misunderstandings. As trainers, it is vital that we reflect on our ethnocentric tendencies and avoid the pitfalls they may create in our training environment. Check out the article on ethnocentrism in the next issue of *Common Ground*.

The Color of Words: An Encyclopaedic Dictionary of Ethnic Bias in the United States. Philip H. Herbst. (Yarmouth, Me., USA: Intercultural Press, 1997); Mortola Ref E184.A1 H466 1997

Conference Calls

Thank you to all the trainers who participated in the recent conference calls on Alternative Response. The next series of conference calls will be in September - details coming soon.

If you were unable to call in but want to learn about **Alternative Response**, please read the following articles posted on the OCWTP website:

- The February 2008 issue of the *Common Ground*
<http://www.ocwtp.net/Trainer%20Resources.html>
- An article from the ODJFS staff newsletter that explains the basic principles of Alternative Response and Ohio's pilot of Alternative Response. It also lists the 10 public children services agencies involved in the pilot.
<http://www.ocwtp.net/PDFs/Trainer%20Resources/AR%20News%20Today%2007-14-2008.pdf>

Kudos

Congratulations to **Pat Kelly** who was elected Athens County Sheriff. Pat trains on cults, gangs, child exploitation, and methamphetamine labs.

Ruth McMonagle will be recognized for Distinguished Service in Training at the 21st Annual NSDTA Conference in September of this year. Ruth specializes in Supervisory skills training and received the Linda Pope award at the 2008 OCWTP Trainer Event.

5.0 club for June: Lynne Anderson, Ann Bagley, Joe Cooper, Linda Davis, Maggie Foulk, Laura Gaines, Denise Goodman, Mel Gravely, Ronna Johnson, Lynn Johnston, Pat Kelly, Raymond Lloyd, Pat McCollum, Debra McMullen, Adam Nickoloff, CeCe Norwood, Marketa President, Sandy Prestino, Judy Qualls, Michele Santin, Bev Spivek Morris, Jim Still-Pepper, Cathy Tiggs, Susan Tucker, Carilyn White, Tyrone White, and James Yokley.

Reading Powerpoints and PDF Documents

For those of you who do not have PDFCreator or PowerPoint software, here are two useful pieces of free software. This software will allow you to read documents in that format, but you will not be able to edit them:

- PDF viewer
<http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>
- PPT viewer
<http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?FamilyID=048DC840-14E1-467D-8DCA-19D2A8FD7485&displaylang=en>

Resources

Many OCWTP staff members are on multiple mailing lists/e-alerts to make sure they stay current in the field. Below are newly identified resources they have found particularly relevant.

Quality Child Development

<http://www.zerotothree.org/site/R?i=mJLsZvouz-y2zRc90RjGQ>..<http://www.zerotothree.org/site/R?i=mJLsZvouz-y2zRc90RjGQ>.

Latest Child Maltreatment Statistics

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/pubs/cm06/index.htm>

Information Packet on Relative Placements

http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/socwork/nrcfcpp/downloads/information_packets/relative-placements.pdf

Children of Incarcerated Parents

<http://www.ssw.umaryland.edu/cpe>

Disproportionality

<http://www.casey.org/NR/rdonlyres/98176277-9AA4-42D2-9EB9-3955CCAB82FB/1264/AnalysisOfDisproportionality.pdf>

If you are interested in receiving e-newsletters, here are a few to check out:

- *NRCFCPPP Weekly Update* from the National Resource Center for Family-Centered Practice and Permanency Planning (NRCFCPPP) at the Hunter College School of Social Work
- <http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/socwork/nrcfcpp/update-subscription.html>
- *Children's Monitor Online* from the Child Welfare League of America (CWLA) <http://ga1.org/cwla/join.html?r=c1s3SDS1Snh4E>
- *E-lert!*, *My Child Welfare Librarian*, and *The Children's Bureau Express* from the Children's Bureau/ACF/HHS and Child Welfare <http://www.childwelfare.gov/admin/subscribe/index.cfm>