



Now that your child is home

Post Adoption Workshops

Open to the community

Being a Conspicuous Family and Living It

Saturday, May 19, 2007, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.,

Location: DePaul University, Naperville Campus, 150 Warrenville Rd., Naperville, IL 60563

Speakers: Moderated Panel of Adoptive Parents

For families formed by adoption it's likely parents and children don't look a like. As a result, questions, comments and even stares from complete strangers, as well as acquaintances are inevitable. It is also likely that your child will experience prejudice, even though you might not feel it. These experiences will occur throughout your child's life with different issues coming up at different ages. It is important to consider how you will respond to different situations and how you can support your child. Come hear from and share with other families in your similar situation.

Learn from the personal experiences of parents who adopted transracially who will address these questions:

- How should I respond to comments and questions?
 - How can I help my child respond to comments and questions?
 - How can I help my child identify with his or her race and culture?
 - How can I be sensitive to and help prepare my child for prejudice in the world, be it towards him or her personally or their race in general?
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Promoting Children's Language Skills

Wednesday, June 20, 2007 6:30 – 8:30 p.m., The Cradle, Evanston

Location: The Cradle, 2049 Ridge Avenue, Evanston, IL 60201

Guest speaker: Renee Reilly, PhD, CCC/SLP, Licensed Speech Pathologist, and an adoptive parent

Effective communication skills are critical for relating in a family, succeeding in school, and developing a secure sense of self. For a variety of reasons, children may be at risk for communication delays and disorders. This can be particularly true for children adopted internationally but can also apply to children adopted domestically. Parents are often unsure about how to best support rapid language learning as well as how to distinguish typical delays associated with a language switch from more significant disorders.

This presentation will address:

- Expectations for typical language development and second language learning
 - Strategies for home language stimulation
 - Red flags for speech and language impairments that require more direct treatment
 - Accessing appropriate support services for language development
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Navigating Early Intervention and Special Education Services

Saturday, September 29, 2007, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Location: DePaul University, Naperville Campus, 150 Warrenville Rd., Naperville, IL 60563

Guest speaker: Pat Kluzik-Stauch, MA, STAR NET Region II Resource Specialist, and an adoptive parent

This interactive presentation is for parents who want to learn more about the special education and support services that may be available for their child, and how to advocate to obtain these services. Pat will provide an overview of the Early Intervention system for infants and young children, birth to 3 years of age, and of the Special Education system for children from 3 years to young adulthood, and how these services can help meet your child's developmental and learning needs.

This presentation will address:

- Common risk factors
 - How and when to search for services
 - The eligibility and evaluation process
 - The Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) and the Individualized Education Plan (IEP)
 - Navigating the Early Intervention and Special Education systems
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Ain't Misbehaving - The Difficult Job of Discipline

Tuesday, October 16, 2007, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Location: The Cradle, 2049 Ridge Avenue, Evanston, IL 60201

Guest speaker: Nicole Hoffman, Psy.D., Long Grove Psychological Associates

Applying the principles of natural consequences to misbehavior can make a parent's difficult job of discipline less stressful by avoiding getting caught in a vicious circle of arguing with your child. Learning techniques to be firm, but kind, to be consistent, and to provide choices and consequences are important for raising a responsible child.

This presentation will address:

- Understanding your child's goals, behavior and emotions
 - How to become more consistent in your actions
 - How to provide your child with choices
 - When consequences work best and when they do not
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Open Adoption Relationships and How They Evolve

Saturday, November 3, 2007, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Location: The Cradle, 2049 Ridge Avenue, Evanston, IL 60201

Speakers: Moderated Panel of Adoptive Parents

Open adoption is a gift to two families, where communication can flow back and forth and questions are answered. As with all relationships, they tend to change over time with ups and downs along the way. What do open adoption relationships look like as the child gets older? Even though every situation is unique, we have invited several families who will share their insights and experiences that will better prepare you for your lifetime of open adoption experiences.

Hear from adoptive parents whose contact with their child's birthparents began at the time of placement. They will share their personal experiences and how they have handled these situations:

- The birthmother or both birthparents have continued contact with the adoptive family, and how that relationship has evolved.
- Their child's birthmother or birthfather has dropped out of contact.
- They have contact with the birthmother of one of their children, but not with the other.

**** 2 hours of DCFS Foster Care Training for each workshop attended****

Registration Information:

Fees: \$20 per person per workshop, \$10 for second family member; non-refundable.

Pre-registration is requested: register online at www.cradle.org/post_workshops.html or by calling 847-733-3233 to ensure a seat; space is limited. *If you register online, plan to arrive a bit early and bring payment* – cash, check, Visa, Mastercard, Discover accepted.

Walk - in registration times: Please arrive 15 minutes prior to start time.

We regret that **babysitting is not available**; programs are not appropriate for children.

PLEASE NOTE: The Cradle also provides **counseling services** to the community for adoption-related issues. In-service training for schools and other organizations is also available. Please contact the Director of Post Adoption Services at 847-733-3217.



Post Adoption Workshops Registration Form

Please complete the following information and send with payment to: Training Department, The Cradle, 2049 Ridge Ave., Evanston, IL 60201, or fax with credit card information to 847-475-5871.

Name (s): _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Ages of children: _____

Please indicate which workshops* you will be attending.

(You can register for one at a time, several or all.)

- 5/19/07, "Being a Conspicuous Family and Living It," Naperville
- 6/20/07, "Promoting Children's Language Skills," Evanston
- 9/29/07, "Navigating Early Intervention and Special Education Services," Naperville
- 10/16/07, "Ain't Misbehaving - The Difficult Job of Discipline," Evanston
- 11/3/07, "Open Adoption Relationships and How They Evolve," Evanston

**See www.cradle.org/post_workshops.html for full descriptions and details.*

Fees: \$20 per person per workshop, \$10 for second family member, non-refundable.

For **one person** attending:

Number of workshops ____ x \$20 = \$_____ (fee due)

OR

For **two people** attending:

Number of workshops ____ x \$30 = \$_____ (fee due)

Payment Method:

- Check made out to "The Cradle" enclosed
- Credit card (*circle one*): Visa MasterCard Discover

Name on Card: _____

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ 3-digit Security Code on back of card _____

Signature: _____