

September 1, 2013



## Straight From The Heart Newsletter

### Crib Regulation Changes

Beginning December 28, 2012, any crib used by Child Care Centers and Family Child Care Homes must meet new and improved federal safety standards. The Consumer Product Safety Commission banned the use of drop-side cribs.

This ban is more than a drop side issue, and immobilizing your current crib will not make it compliant.

When your licensing worker visits your home you will be cited if your crib is a drop-side model. You will have 24 hours to replace it.

Click on the link below for more information regarding this topic.

<http://www.cclcd.ca.gov/res/pdf/LicensingEnforcement-DropSidedCribs.pdf>

### SFTH Give Aways!

We have been given wonderful school supplies for foster and kinship children. We also have shoes for foster children, costumes and of course, Kid Packs for newly placed foster children and birthday gifts.

We have some costumes that can be given to any child in the foster home. Please inquire about those when you drop in. Please come by Straight From The Heart during business hours to pick up items for your family.



### Special Care Rate/ESC Cuts

Since the beginning of the ESC program in San Diego County, foster children qualified for the ESC rate and the special care rate for the first month of care. San Diego County has decided to deny this funding for children as of April 2013. The child will only receive the ESC amount or the special care rate, whichever is larger. We disagree with the agency cutting funding to our children. These programs were created for different purposes and should continue. More to follow...

### Changes to CPR/First Aid

We are going to a three hour class beginning in September. Our classes will begin promptly at 9:00am and conclude at 12:00pm. Please come early to fill out your registration form. You must be in your seat before 9:00. Each class is good for two years.

Classes are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays of each month.

Only foster/kinship/adoptive parents and their respite providers are eligible for our classes. All participants must be 18 or older.

September 14	September 28
October 12	October 26
November 9	November 23
December 14	No class Dec 28

**SPANISH CPR/FIRSTAID**  
**Noviembre 23**  
**9:00-12:00**

Straight From The Heart  
760-744-2240  
general email [sftheart@sbcgloabl.net](mailto:sftheart@sbcgloabl.net)

## SFTH Email List

If you know of other foster/kinship or adoptive parents who are not currently on our email list and would like to be please have them email us at [patricialboles@gmail.com](mailto:patricialboles@gmail.com) to be added.

We cannot afford to use traditional mail so all our communication is through email. We send out Placement Alerts from the North County placement specialists, upcoming trainings and special events, items community members would like to donate for free to foster families, respite needs and our SFTH Give Away announcements and our Newsletter.

## Children's Product Recall List

Many items that children use or may be nearby in your facility or home have been recalled over the past few months. These items range from footed pajamas to home generators. For a full list in order to see if you have any recalled items in your facility or home, please visit the website for the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/>

## Upcoming Trainings

Many hours of support group training and workshop classes are offered monthly at SFTH. For the latest schedule click on the Grossmont Foster, Adoptive and Kinship Care Education Program website.

[www.fakce.org](http://www.fakce.org)

## SFTH Wonderful, Glorious Staff!

SFTH is blessed to have a wonderful group of women who tirelessly work to keep our doors open for foster children and their caregivers. No one would work this hard if they didn't have a strong commitment and desire to give back to those who need so much. I thank them from the bottom of my heart and hope that you will say hello when you drop in. Let us not forget the menfolk...who haul stuff and hang things and dump trash and take care of plumbing and other necessary tasks. We love them and the fact that they will work for a sprinkled donut is awesome! *We couldn't get pictures of everyone, we are missing Zulema, Beverly, Glenda and Rosemary.*

## Tax Assistance for Foster Parents

The National Foster Parent Association (NFPA) provides tax benefit guides for foster parents that describe basic rules and offer information on how foster parents can claim tax deductions and credits that may be available to them. As advised by the NFPA, you should consult with your professional tax preparer to see which benefits you may currently qualify for. For more information, please visit the website for NFPA.

<http://www.nfpaonline.org/taxinfo>

## About our Newsletter

We have been wanting to do this for many years but the many years list of things we want to do is rather long!

Our purpose is to:

- provide information that will keep foster parents up to date on changes within foster care and adoption policy, regulation and law.
- give you information on community events and helps for your families

If you have things that you are interested in knowing more about or you think would be helpful, please contact us. We can include it in an email notice or in the newsletter.

