



# NEWS

Spring 2011 Issue

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

The Wisconsin Post Adoption Resource Centers are located at:

**Northeastern Region:**  
Family Services of NE Wisconsin, Inc.  
300 Crooks Street  
Green Bay, WI 54301  
Phone: 800-998-9609/x1264

**Western Region:**  
Catholic Charities of the Diocese of La Crosse  
3710 East Ave.  
La Crosse, WI 54601  
Phone: 608-782-0710

**Catholic Charities of the Diocese of La Crosse**  
448 N. Dewey Street  
Eau Claire, WI 54703  
Phone: 715-832-6644

**Northern Region:**  
Catholic Charities of the Diocese of La Crosse  
1408 Ellis Street  
Stevens Point, WI 54481  
Phone: 715-344-2500

**Southeastern Region:**  
Adoption Resources of Wisconsin  
6682 W. Greenfield Ave.  
Suite 310  
Milwaukee, WI 53214  
Phone: 800-762-8063

**Southern Region:**  
Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Madison  
30 South Franklin Street  
Madison, WI 53703  
Phone: 888-236-4673

The Friends of Adoption Post Adoption Centers are funded by a grant from the Wisconsin Department of Children & Family Services.

## Adoption Themed Movies: Preparing Ourselves to Prepare our Children

By: Magen Duffy

There are so many bad movies out there that as parents we would never let our children watch, but what do we do when the children's shows and movies that we thought were safe are filled with negative adoption themes? We can't preview every movie our children want to see, and when it comes from Disney we want to believe that they would get it right! But many times they don't, and that leaves us banning a movie or having to do a lot of talking with our children.

This topic comes to mind for me because last Thanksgiving we were on a family trip and the boys received the new movie *Santa Paws* for St. Nick day from Grandma. They were so excited to see it so we popped it in the DVD player for the drive home. About ten minutes later I was shocked by what I was hearing. I wasn't seeing the movie but what I heard made me cringe. I kept thinking, "oh my this is portraying adoption so bad". It is about a little girl whose parents died and is placed in a girl's home. The lady who runs the home is a mean, grumpy lady who has banned toys, singing and

anything that has to do with Christmas. The first line that jumped out to me was when they were bringing the little girl to the girl's home and the social worker who dropped her off made a comment that they could use some more holiday cheer. The foster mom says something like, well if you paid me more, maybe I could do more. Only a few minutes later the little girl is meeting the other girls and the foster mom puts one of the older girls in charge to teach her the rules. She comments to the older girl, "the new girl is cuter and younger, she'll go fast." Wow at this point in the car ride I am about to go crazy, trying to decide if I just slam the dvd player shut, but I knew that the boys wanted to watch this movie and I realized that this was going to be a good teaching moment. As the show goes on another little girl talks about that she believes her parents are coming back for her but the other girls respond that they are never coming back. Then the word adoption comes up and the new girl asks what is adoption, the older girl responds, "adoption is when a new mommy and daddy

come and get you because they think you're cute," wow unbelievable and boy did Disney get it wrong.....

As a parent and listening to this show in the car I was mortified, but as I thought more and more about it I realized that the real world is hard. I am not going to be able to shelter my children from all of the negative portrayals that exist about foster care and adoption, God made me their mother so that I can prepare them to understand that movies and others don't always get it right. I believe strongly that if we take these moments as teaching moments, and talk with our children, our children will learn to develop a sense of who they are, and what is truth and not. Talking to our children opens up the doorway of trust and many negative situations can make for a great learning opportunity.

*\*Magen Duffy is the Post Adoption Specialist in La Crosse and a mother of four children, her three boys joined their family through adoption.*

## Adoption Themed Movies/Show

Here is a list of both Positive and Negative adoption themed movies and shows that we have discovered.

### Positive

- Babe
- Anne of Green Gables
- Hotel for Dogs
- Because of Winn-Dixie
- The Tigger Movie
- Dinosaur Train
- Martian Child
- The Blind Side

### Negative

- Despicable Me
- Santa Buddies
- Stuart Little
- Meet the Robinsons

## Thank You

Friends of Adoption would like to send a warm thank you out to both Zoe Wirtz and her ten year old daughter Jayda from Wisconsin Rapids for making beautiful blankets for our program.

We would also like to thank Project Linus from the Trempealeau area and project Linus from the Merrill area for donating lots of wonderful blankets to our program.

A Big Thank You to everyone for all that you have done!

## Reminder!

Catholic Charities Friends of Adoption is open to all pre and post adoptive families regardless of adoption agency used or type of adoption. Come join us for the many activities, events, celebrations and trainings we have to offer. Please feel free to share our events with other families you may know that would be interested!

## Online Resources

Catholic Charities Friends of Adoption has many online resources for you to check out.

Find us out on Facebook under Catholic Charities Friends of Adoption and make sure to become our friend!

Visit our website at:  
[www.friendsofadooption.org](http://www.friendsofadooption.org)

Check out our blog at  
[www.friendsofadooption.blogspot.com](http://www.friendsofadooption.blogspot.com)

Join one of our online Yahoo support groups:

Go to Yahoo groups and search for;

Domestic Friends of Adoption

Friends of Adoption International

Parent network FOA

## Book Review

### Horace

By Holly Keller

Reviewed by: Tosha Reetz

This is a very cute book; it is about two tigers that adopt a cheetah. The cheetah is having a hard time figuring out why his mommy and daddy don't look like him. His mommy would tell him the same bedtime story every night that explained they chose him when he was a tiny baby because he had lost his first family and he needed a new one. She always told him that they liked his spots and wanted him to be their child. At Horace's birthday party, he looked at all his cousins with their stripes and stated that his spots are silly and that he is all the wrong colors. He tried to turn his spots into stripes by a marker but that didn't work. Then he cut pictures out of magazines of other cheetahs and hung them on his wall. That night he dreamed about being someplace where everybody looked like him and the next morning he set out to the park to find just that. He found a big family that was all spotted just like him, he joined them in play. They played hide and seek, and he hid behind a rock, and it took forever for them to find him, he was getting cold and started thinking about things back at home that would make him warm. He then decided he wanted to go home and started on his way to find his mommy and daddy looking for him. He was so happy to be back in their arms, he didn't care about his spots anymore!! Great book for children to learn about the love that is shared in their adoptive homes!!!!

# Friends of Adoption Summer Picnic's



Thursday ~ June 16, 2011  
International Adoption  
Picnic  
Carson Park-Eau Claire  
4:30-6:30pm

Monday ~ June 20, 2011  
Copeland Park, LaCrosse  
4:30pm-7:00pm

Friday ~ June 24th, 2011  
Hatchery Creek Park,  
Hayward  
4:30pm-6:30pm

Thursday July 14th, 2011  
Hodag park (shelter #1),  
Rhinelander  
3pm-6pm

Thursday August 18th,  
2011  
Bukolt Park Lodge,  
Stevens Point  
4pm-7pm

Contact your area Post  
Adoption Specialist for  
more information.

Join us at one of our summer picnic's!  
Hotdogs and drinks will be provided ~ just bring a dish  
to share.

There will be face painting, games and prizes!!

Hope to see you there!

 Catholic Charities  
*friends of adoption*  
post adoption resource center



# Save The Date!

# UMOJA

## A BLACK HERITAGE EXPERIENCE



**October 21-23, 2011**  
**Green Lake Conference Center**  
**Green Lake, WI**  
**For more information visit**  
**[www.umojabhe.com](http://www.umojabhe.com)**

## NEW GROUP Families with Children from Ethiopia



Join us for an informal soccer game followed by the International Picnic Thursday, June 16th, 4:00 PM Carson Park - meet at Oak Pavilion  
If you plan to join us or have any questions, please contact Mary ([mary@valleybrookchurch.org](mailto:mary@valleybrookchurch.org) or 715-379-7674) or Becca ([becs\\_2@yahoo.com](mailto:becs_2@yahoo.com) or 715-579-0380).

Catholic Charities Friends of Adoption presents...

## Let's Talk About the "Tough Stuff"

Thursday May 26, 2011 6:00-8:00pm  
Menomonie Public Library

A FREE workshop! Panel Discussion and Q & A for Foster and Adoptive Parents



A panel of foster/adoptive parents share their experiences, challenges and victories in dealing with:

- ~ Multiple diagnoses
- ~ Attachment Issues
- ~ Children with past physical or sexual abuse
- ~ Aggression
- ~ Stressful family events on top of adoption issues
- ~ Older Child Adoption

Bring your tough questions and leave with new ideas, resources, support, and connections.

Registration required by Tuesday May 24th. Please register with Christy at Friends of Adoption by emailing [cropp@cclse.org](mailto:cropp@cclse.org) or calling 715-332-6644 ext. 18. Refreshments will be provided. Workshop subject to cancellation based on numbers attending.

Friends of adoption  
your adoption resource center



## Come Celebrate Cinco De Mayo with the new Multi Cultural Adoptive Families Group

Saturday, May 7th  
10:30 to Noon

Holiday Heights Park in Onalaska, WI  
Lets get together and let the kids play and learn about different cultures and traditions!

**RSVP:** To Magen by May 5th,  
[mduffy@cclse.org](mailto:mduffy@cclse.org) or 782-0710 x223. If there are no RSVP's event will be Cancelled.

# Upcoming Friends of Adoption Trainings and Events

## **Parenting Children with Severe Behaviors: What Brain Research tells us about Trauma**

**April 29th, 6:00-9:00 pm and  
April 30th, 9:00-4:00 pm  
River Falls, WI**

Join the Family Resource Center of St. Croix Valley for an informative conference on trauma presented by Kimberly Erickson-Nichols, MS, APSW, LPC. Kimberly is a therapist in Onalaska, WI with expertise in Trauma, attachment and bonding.

Cost is: \$45/couple or \$30/individual (includes meals) A limited number of childcare sponsorships are available.

For more information or to register contact: Family Resource Center St. Croix Valley  
715-684-4440  
info@frcscv.org

## **The Traumatized Child/ Adolescent Saturday, April 30th 10:00-11:30 am Plover, WI**

Join Therapist/adoptive parent Laurianne Nichols, MSSW, LCSW for a FREE workshop. Come learn about What is psychological trauma? How children process trauma And much much more.

Please RSVP to Anne at arozeboom@cclse.org or 715-344-2500 ext. 24

## **Mom's Night Out La Crosse/Onalaska Area**

Friday, May 13th at Big Al's in Downtown La Crosse, 6:00 pm

Thursday, July 14th at Features in West Salem, 6:00 pm

### **New Locations:**

#### **Tomah:**

Monday, July 11th at the Ground Round, 6:00 pm

#### **Viroqua:**

Monday, July 25th at the Main Street Kitchen, 6:30 pm

Just RSVP and meet us for dinner. Open to ALL adoptive or pre-adoptive moms, regardless of agency or type of adoption.

RSVP to Magen at mduffy@cclse.org or 782-0710 ext. 223

## **Mom's Night Out Friday, May 13th 5:00 pm Chanticleer Inn Eagle River, WI**

Join Friends of Adoption for a night out to relax and connect with other adoptive moms (pre-adoptive mom's welcome too!)

For more information or to RSVP contact Anne at 715-344-2500 x24 or email: arozeboom@cclse.org

Please RSVP by May 11th.

## **Mom's Night Out Chippewa Valley Area**

Monday, May 16th, Smiling Moose Deli,  
Eau Claire, 6:00 pm  
RSVP by Friday, May 13th

Monday, June 20th, Galloway Grille, Eau Claire, 6:00 pm  
RSVP by Friday, June 17th

### **St. Croix County Area**

Monday, June 27th, Urban Olive and Vine, Hudson,  
6:00 pm  
RSVP by Friday, June 24th

Just RSVP and meet us for dinner. Open to ALL adoptive or pre-adoptive moms, regardless of agency or type of adoption.

RSVP to Christy at creppe@cclse.org or 715-832-6644 ext. 18

## **Touched By Adoption Support Group Eau Claire Tuesday, May 17th 6:00 PM**

Open to all members of the adoption triad-Adoptees, Birth Parents, and Adoptive parents.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 17th, 6:00 PM at Realife Cooperative Eau Claire, WI  
To RSVP contact Jeri at Weiserjl@uwec.edu

# Upcoming Friends of Adoption Trainings and Events

**Lets Talk About the  
Tough Stuff  
Thursday, May 26th  
Menomonie Public Library  
6:00-8:00 pm**

Join us for a FREE Workshop!  
This will be a panel discussion  
and Q & A for foster and  
adoptive parents.  
Bring Your tough questions and  
leave with new ideas, resources,  
support, and connections.

To Register contact Christy by  
May 24th at 715-832-6644 x18

**AAMAN's Summer Adoption  
Retreat  
Saturday, July 23rd  
The Tarantula Arms  
Rushford, MN**

AAMAN (African American  
Mutual Assistance Network)  
will be holding their annual  
summer retreat for adoptive  
families. This retreat is open to  
all adoptive families, regardless  
of age, race, type of adoption or  
agency used.

This will be a day full of family  
fun, meeting new friends and a  
day of outdoor activities.

AAMAN's Retreats are FREE  
and located on acres of beauti-  
ful land with a pond, wildlife,  
campfire, hiking, farm animals,  
flower & herb garden, good  
food, bike trails, and more!

For more information please  
contact Magen at  
mduffy@cclse.org or visit  
<http://aaman.us/retreat.html>

**Friends of Adoption Summer  
Picnics**

It's almost that time of year  
again, school will be out and  
it's time to enjoy some picnic  
fun! Join us for one or all of our  
picnics!!

Thursday ~ June 16, 2011  
**International Adoption Picnic**  
Carson Park-Eau Claire  
4:30-6:30pm

Monday ~ June 20, 2011  
Copeland Park, LaCrosse  
4:30pm-7:00pm

Friday ~ June 24th, 2011  
Hatchery Creek Park,  
Hayward  
4:30pm-6:30pm

Thursday July 14th, 2011  
Hodag park (shelter #1),  
Rhinelander  
3pm-6pm

Thursday August 18th, 2011  
Bukolt Park Lodge,  
Stevens Point  
4pm-7pm

To RSVP contact your local  
Post Adoption Specialist.

**WFAPA Conference  
Fall 2011**

The fall WFAPA conference  
will be held in Kenosha, WI  
from Sept. 30-Oct 2nd.

For more information please  
visit their website at  
[www.wfapa.com](http://www.wfapa.com)

**SAVE THE DATE!  
Adoptive Families Back-To-  
School Camping Trip  
Weekend of Saturday, August  
13th, 2011**

Join Friends of Adoption for  
their second annual Adoptive  
Families Back-to-school  
camping trip.

Want to join us? Here's how:

**Make your campsite reserva-  
tion** with Lake Wissota State  
Park. Planned activities will  
take place on Saturday. Some  
families will stay Friday-  
Sunday, some choose only one  
night.

**Consider "hosting" an activity**  
during the weekend. Maybe it's  
Friday night s'mores at your  
family's campsite, a hike on  
Saturday morning, fishing, or a  
craft you'd like to share. We  
will leave plenty of free time,  
but we would love your help!

**Register by July 28th** to  
Friends of Adoption

**Get ready to camp!** You are  
on your own for food with the  
exception of lunch on Saturday  
when we will provide hotdogs,  
drinks, and utensils. Just bring a  
dish/snack/dessert to share.

As the date approaches, you  
will receive more information.

For more information Contact  
Christy Reppe at  
[creppe@cclse.org](mailto:creppe@cclse.org) or 715-832-  
6644 ext. 18

## Upcoming Events

**Come Join us for some great speakers, trainings and family fun**

Date/Time:	Event	Other information
April 29th 6-9 pm and April 30th 9-4 pm	Parenting Children with Severe Behaviors	To RSVP contact the Family Resource Center at 715-684-4440.
April 30th, 10:00-11:30 am	The Traumatized Child/Adolescent	Oswald Counseling Center, Plover, WI. RSVP to Anne if you plan to attend.
May 7th, 10:30-Noon	Multi Cultural Adoptive Families Group-Celebrate Cinco De Mayo	Holiday Heights Park, Onalaska, WI RSVP to Magen by May 5th.
May 13th, 6:00 pm	Mom's Night Out-La Crosse	Big Al's Downtown La Crosse Please RSVP to Magen by May 12th.
May 13th 5:00 pm	Mom's Night Out-Eagle River	Chanticleer Inn, Eagle River. RSVP to Anne by 5/11 if you plan to attend.
May 16th 6:00 pm	Mom's Night Out-Eau Claire	Smiling Moose Deli-Eau Claire. RSVP to Christy by May 13th.
May 17th 6:00 pm	Touched by Adoption Support Group	Open to all members of the adoption triad. Realife Cooperative-Eau Claire.
May 26th 6:00-8:00 pm	Lets Talk About the "Tough Stuff" Menomonie Public Library	A panel and Q & A for Foster and adoptive parents. Please RSVP to Christy.
June 16th	International Picnic-Eau Claire	Carson Park, Eau Claire. Please RSVP to Christy if you plan to attend.
June 20th 4:30-7:00 pm	Friends of Adoption Summer Picnic-La Crosse area	Copeland Park, La Crosse. RSVP to Magen by June 16th. Bring a dish to pass.
June 24th 4:30-6:30 pm	Friends of Adoption Summer Picnic-Hayward	Hatchery Creek Park, Hayward. RSVP to Anne by June 20th, bring a dish to pass.
July 14th 3:00-6:00	Friends of Adoption Summer Picnic-Rhineland area	Hodag Park Shelter #1, RSVP to Anne by July 11th, bring a dish to pass.
August 13th All Weekend	Adoptive Families Back-To-School Camping Trip-Lake Wissota St. Park.	Camp one night or all weekend. For more info. Contact Christy at <a href="mailto:creppe@cclse.org">creppe@cclse.org</a>
August 18th 4:00-7:00 pm	Friends of Adoption Summer Picnic-Stevens Point	Bukolt Park Lodge. RSVP to Anne by August 15th, bring a dish to share.

To Learn more or to register for these events please see the information in the newsletter or call:

Anne : 715.344.2500 x24, Magen: 608.782.0710 x223, Christy: 715.832.6644 x18



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*Friends of Adoption*

## Meet the Faces of CC Friends of Adoption



Anne Rozeboom  
Post Adoption Specialist  
Stevens Point



Chrisy Reppe  
Post Adoption Specialist  
Eau Claire



Magen Duffy  
Post Adoption Specialist  
La Crosse



Tosha Reetz  
Administrative Assistant  
Eau Claire