

4th International Conference on Post-Adoption Services

ACTION



Adoption
Connections
Training
Institute:
OneWorld
Neighborhood

February 23 - 25, 2009
Hotel Marlowe
Cambridge, MA

Presented By:
Center For Family
Connections



In Collaboration With:
MA Department of
Children and Families

www.kinnect.org/training.html

Join us to build a worldwide conversation about
the extended Family of Adoption and to create
understanding and change through dialogue

Adoption is an interesting social construction that creates a very different unique understanding of family—adoption proves families are not only related by blood, but also by choice and chance. The community of adoption includes private and public service organizations, and legal and medical professionals from around the globe. This community must endeavor to establish and maintain the crucial connections among birth families, adoptive families, and adopted persons.

Center For Family Connections (CFFC) was founded in 1995—though it existed under different names since 1975—to serve families, children, and professionals whose personal and/or professional lives are touched by adoption, foster care, kinship, guardianship, divorce, and other complex family issues.* CFFC is a non-profit, educational, and clinical resource center known internationally for its pioneering and innovative clinical work in the adoption field.

Adoption Connections Training Institute: One World Neighborhood (ACTION) is CFFC’s effort to develop a larger “Neighborhood of Adoption” and create an international dialogue about post-adoption services. ACTION is an international collaboration among many grass roots organizations, individuals, and agencies. The purpose of ACTION is to work together to provide the best possible training, treatment, services, and psycho-educational tools for families and children, and for the professionals who work with them worldwide. ACTION has begun to establish a network that will exchange ideas, knowledge, models, and resources to provide the best possible services for all members of the extended “Family of Adoption.”

The goal of this 2009 ACTION conference is to have a conversation about what we are doing well, what we can share, what we could do better for the families, and most of all, the children in adoption.

* What do we mean by *complex blended families*?

- *Root families* are families where the mother and father who gave birth to the child are also parenting the child together...
- *Complex families* are every other type of family structure...
- *Complex blended families* are a blending of many families by adoption, fostering, kinship care, remarriage, or alternative reproductive technologies.

Monday, February 23

Keynotes:

- *Opening Thoughts*: Dr. Joyce Maguire Pavao (Massachusetts)
- *Rise and Fall of Intercountry Adoption in the 21st Century*: Dr. Peter Selman (Newcastle, UK)
- *A Comparison of Policies and Practices in Irish and USA Adoption*: Dr. Valerie O'Brien (Dublin, Ireland)
- *Supporting the Birth Families of Children Adopted From Care*: Dr. Elisbeth Neil (Norwich, UK)
- *Utopian Dreams*: John Sobraske (New York)

Panels:

- *Standards and Practice - What We Are, What We Would Like to Be*: Ada White (Louisiana), Gerald P. Mallon (New York), Mary Gambon (Massachusetts), and Susan Soonkeum Cox Fitz Gerald (Oregon)
- *Infertility Issues and Adoption*: Phyllis Lowinger (New York), Adam Pertman (New York), and Leslie Pate Mackinnon (Georgia)

Workshops:

- *A Look at Adoption in VT, PA, RI, and NH*: Barbara J. Consentino and Christina Shuma (Vermont), Cindy Laufman Walker and Scot Hines (Pennsylvania), Michelle A. Hirst and Ardell Brackley (Rhode Island), and Erin Murphy (New Hampshire)
- *Crossover Families...Crossing from Foster Care to Adoption, from Grandparenting to Parenting...Much More Than a New Title*: Lynn G. Gabbard and Kathleen Lutz (both Connecticut)
- *The on Your Feet Foundation - Creating Independent Supports for Birthparents*: Jennifer J. Pedley (Michigan)
- *The Me I Don't Know: An Adoptive Mother's Adventures with Her Daughter, Her Bestseller and Her Translator*: Penny Callan Partridge (Massachusetts) and Anna Genni Miliotti (Mantova, Italy)
- *Talking to Children about Adoption, Supporting the Social and Emotional Needs of Adoptees, Implicit Associates and the Language of Adoption (Workshop Panel)*: Patricia Brady, Barbara Ann Gowan, and Gretchen Hall (all Massachusetts)
- *Blended Learning for Families Blended Through Adoption, Innovated Practices in Academic and Cognitive Remediation of School-Age International Adoptees, Adoption and the Elementary School - Teaching Children, Teaching Parents, Teaching Teachers (Workshop Panel)*: Judy Stigger (Illinois), Dr. Boris Gindis (New York), and Charlotte Simpson (Massachusetts)

Tuesday, February 24

Keynotes:

- *Poetry and Opening Remarks*: Dr. Joyce Maguire Pavao and Penny Callan Partridge (both Massachusetts)
- *Viewing and Discussion of the Film “Adopted”*: Nancy Kim Parsons and Barb Lee (both New York)
- *Race, Culture, and Ethnicity in Intercountry Adoption - An Adoptee’s Perspective*: Susan Soon Keum Cox Fitz Gerald (Oregon)
- *Swimming Upstream - Preparing Professionals for Working “Effectively” Within the Triad*: Leslie Pate Mackinnon (Georgia)
- *Working Conjointly with Members of the Kinship System in Creating Harmonious and Sustainable Environments for Children*: Dr. Valerie O’Brien (Dublin, Ireland)
- *What’s Changed and What Hasn’t in the Adoption Field*: Dr. Betty Jean Lifton (Massachusetts)

Panels:

- *Adoptee Panel*: Justin Pasquariello (Massachusetts), Elise Prebin (France and Massachusetts), Jamie Kim Ramola (Massachusetts), and John Sobraske (New York)

Workshops:

- *The Role of Birth Country Travel in the Life Experience of Adoption*: Becca Piper (Wisconsin) and Pat Hoopes (Massachusetts)
- *Transracial and Intercountry Adoption in Finland and England, The Interaction of Development Issues of Adoptive Parents and Adoptees in International Transracial Adoptive Families, Ethiopia—Evolving Standards, Evolving Practice (Workshop Panel)*: Saija Westerlund (Banes, UK), Marilyn Lammert (Maryland), Margie Perscheid (Virginia), Kate Ingalls-Maloney, and Corrie L. Wold (both Minnesota)

Wednesday, February 25

Keynotes:

- *Poetry and Thoughts*: Dr. Joyce Maguire Pavao and Penny Callan Partridge (both Massachusetts)
- *Emotional Distance Regulation of the Life Course in Adoptive Kinship Networks*: Harold D. Grotevant (Massachusetts)
- *Thirty Years of Search and Reunion in England and Wales*: Dr. Peter Selman (Newcastle, UK)
- *Educating Health Professionals about Adoption and Foster Care*: Dr. Martha Henry and Michael McManus (both Massachusetts)

Panels:

- *Search and Reunion*: Sarah Gerstenzang (New York), Gerald P. Mallon (New York), Dr. Peter Selman (Newcastle, UK), and Leslie Pate Mackinnon (Georgia)
- *American and International Issues in Adoption*: Dr. Lisa Albers (Massachusetts)

Workshops:

- *Finding the Right Distance - My Birth Family and I*: Elise Prebin (France and Massachusetts)
- *Adoption and Medical Professionals - What Have we Learned From Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics*: Drs. Lisa Albers and Wendy Schmidt (both Massachusetts)
- *“Three-Legged Stool” - A Specialized Mental Health Service for Foster Parents*: Paula Stahl, Lulie Munson, and Stefi Rubin (all Massachusetts)
- *Post-Adoption Issues - An Experience from Mantova, Italy*: Anna Genni Miliotti and Roberta Gonnelli (both Mantova, Italy)
- *Natural Medicine in Adoption*: John Sobraske (New York)
- *Parent-Child Interaction Therapy-Adaptations - A Dyadic Treatment for Foster/Adoptive Children and Their Caregivers*: Kristina Konnath and Rona Sandberg (both Massachusetts)

Registration is also taken on our website and by email, phone, or fax

Full Name: _____

Company/Agency: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____ Country: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Position: Direct Service Provider Judge Case Management Lawyer Supervisor
 Program Administrator Director CEO Elected Official Board Member Student Teacher
 Courts Adopted Person Parent (Circle One: Birth, Foster, Adoptive, Kinship, Guardianship, ART, Step)
 Other: _____

Principal Field: Behavioral Health Education Child Welfare Juvenile Justice Research
 General Health Law Enforcement Courts Other: _____

Did you attend: 2007 ACTION conference in Cambridge: Yes No
 2005 ACTION conference in Dublin: Yes No 2003 Best of Both Worlds conference: Yes No

If CEUs are approved, please contact me about them: Yes (MSW LMFT LMHC) No

Payment Method: Visa MasterCard Check Call me for payment

Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Name on Card: _____

Send this form with payment to: CFFC ~ 350 Cambridge St. ~ Cambridge, MA 02141 ~ USA
 Tel: (617) 547-0909 ~ Fax: (617) 497-5952 ~ cffc@kinnect.org ~ www.kinnect.org/training.html#oneworld

Registration:

\$300 USD/person

CEUs:

Professional CEUs (MSW, LMFT, and LMHC) have been applied for, and are pending approval. If approved, they will cost an additional \$35 USD/person.

Etcetera:

- ~ Payment is non-refundable.
- ~ Lodging and travel costs are not included in the registration fee. Your registration fee covers registration, materials, and two lunch buffets.
- ~ To access special conference room rate of \$179 USD/night at the hosting hotel (Marlowe Hotel, Cambridge, MA), simply mention CFFC and the ACTION conference. www.hotelmarlowe.com.
- ~ To access special conference room rate of \$119 USD/night at the Holiday Inn, Somerville, MA (shuttle service to Hotel Marlowe), simply mention CFFC and the ACTION conference. www.holidayinn.com.
- ~ Presenters and schedule are subject to change without notification.
- ~ Check www.kinnect.org/training.html#oneworld for updates.

Advertising and Exhibiting:

Conference program advertising and exhibit opportunities are available for this international conference!

Your ad will appear in the final program, which is the only resource that attendees receive containing the full conference schedule. Needless to say, the program receives close examination from attendees.

Exhibiting at the conference provides an excellent way to gain access to the attendees as it offers your organization face-to-face contact with the attendees themselves.

For more information on these two excellent methods of getting your message to the adoption community, please contact larisak@kinnect.org.

CFFC is seeking collaborators from various agencies/organizations from all countries to partner with us as we build an international network of people and professionals in the world of adoption.

Underwriter: \$10,000 USD per agency/organization

Benefits include:

- Agency/organization's name and logo featured in conference materials sent all over the world to advertise the conference
- Agency/organization's name and logo on the program cover. The program is given to all participants in the conference and is the sole source for all conference information for attendees
- A full-page ad in the conference program
- Large-sized exhibit table on which to display materials, etc. about your agency/organization
- Six conference registrations

Conference Associate: \$5,000 USD per agency/organization

Benefits include:

- Agency/organization's name and logo featured in conference materials sent all over the world to advertise the conference
- A half-page ad in the conference program
- Small-sized exhibit table on which to display materials, etc. about your agency/organization
- Three conference registrations

Conference Supporter: \$1,500 per agency/organization

Benefits include:

- Agency/organization's name and logo featured in conference materials sent all over the world to advertise the conference
- Quarter-page ad in the conference program
- Two Conference registrations

Please contact larisak@kinnect.org to collaborate on this international conference. Visa and MasterCard accepted.

Special Conference Rates Available:

Hotel Marlowe, Cambridge

- Kimpton Boutique Hotel
- Location of the conference
- \$179 USD/night (special reduced rate - simply mention the conference)
- www.hotelmarlowe.com

Holiday Inn, Somerville

- Accessible by Shuttle Service
- \$119 USD/night (special reduced rate - simply mention the conference)
- www.holidayinn.com

Other Cambridge Hotels:

Very Near:

- Sonesta Hotel Cambridge - \$182.33
(Directly across from the conference site)
- Holiday Inn Express and Suites - \$160
(Walking distance to conference site)

Near via Public Transportation:

- Marriott Residence - \$195-229
(Cambridge near Kendall/MIT)
- Harvard Square Hotel - \$162
(Cambridge in Harvard Square)
- Irving House at Harvard - \$140
(Cambridge near Harvard Square)
- University Park Hotel at MIT - \$184
(Cambridge in Central Square and MIT)

Near via Car or Shuttle:

- Hyatt Regency - \$169
(Cambridge on the Charles River)
- Radisson - \$149-169
(Cambridge on the Charles River)

Boston Hotels:

- Parker House - \$119-179
(Lovely old hotel on Boston Common Park)
- Marriott Courtyard Tremont - \$155
(Nice suites on Boston Common Park)

