WATAUGA DSS FOSTER CARE

Fall 2024 Newsletter

In This Issue



Important Dates Upcoming Events National Recovery Month New Team Members Foster Parent Shoutouts A Child's Perspective Online Training Resources



COURT DATES SEPTMEMBER \$\$ OCTOBER \$\$ OCTOBER 24 & 25 OCTOBER 11 NOVEMBER 8

UPCOMING EVENTS

RECOVERY MONTH REENTRY SIMULATION

Join us to wrap up Recovery Month 2024 with a Reentry Simulation! These simulations provide powerful insight into the perspectives and barriers faced by people reentering the community after a period of incarceration and how we can better serve our community.





Foster parents can get training hours for attending reentry simulation!!





Foster Connection Donations and items will be collected. Go to mischaone.org for a list of items. Free Food Live Music Harvest Games Hay Ride Bounce Houses & More:

October 9, 2024 | 6pm-8:30pm

ME Vernon Baptist Church 3565 Bamboo Rd, Boone, NC 28607

Family Fun Fall Events

September 20: Kid Cove Fall Fest Oak Grove Baptist Church 5:30-7:30pm

October 26: Blowing Rock Halloween Festival 3-8pm

October 27: Watauga County Parks & Rec Trunk or Treat 5pm

October 31: Boone Bool 5-7:30pm

September is National Recovery Month

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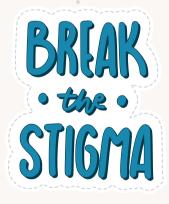
National Recovery Month (Recovery Month), which started in 1989, is a national observance held every September to promote and support new evidence-based treatment and recovery practices, the nation's strong and proud recovery community, and the dedication of service providers and communities who make recovery in all its forms possible.

SAMHSA aims to increase public awareness surrounding mental health and addiction recovery. In the years since Recovery Month launched, SAMHSA has timed announcements of initiatives and grant funding during Recovery Month, while collaborating with private and public entities to celebrate individuals during their long-term recoveries.

HOMESTEAD RECOVERY TRAININGS

NARCAN & Overdose Reversal Community In Services Recovery Reentry Simulation (see above for information)

Please reach out to Mollie Bolick at 828.406.8069 or mollie@homesteadrecoverync.org if you're interested in any trainings



COVERY

Steve Collins -Foster Care



Steve is originally from Hampton, TN. He is currently residing in Johnson City, TN, with his mom, Jane. Steve is working to complete their new home on Beech Mountain, NC, and plans to move in very soon. Steve has a daughter, Alli, a son-in-law, Spencer, and 2 granddaughters - that he is looking foward to spending more time with on Beech Mountain. Steve has worked in Social Work for most of his life. He previously worked for the State of TN in CPS & Intellectual Disabilities. His hobbies include construction projects, hot rod cars, a variety of music, sports - especially high school athletics.







Mary Moffett -BSW Intern

Mary is a senior at Appalachian State majoring in Social Work with a minor in Spanish. She will graduate in December and is excited to work with Watauga DSS for her fall internship. She is passionate about mental healthcare and connecting families to community resources. In her spare time, Mary teaches spin classes, enjoys paddleboarding, watercoloring, and hiking. After Mary graduates, she plans to apply to the Masters of Social Work program to continue gaining valuable experience in the social work field.

Fo<mark>ster Parent Shout</mark> Out

Kathy Abi Haydar is a superhero in the foster care world! She has served the community of foster children outstandingly, meeting their needs and providing a safe, loving place for them to call home even if it is for a short period of time. She works diligently to understand each child's individual needs and how to best ensure that each need gets met without criticism. Her patience and care shine through in the way she works with, loves, and cares for the children that come into her home. Her background in teaching allows for her to be an amazing support system for the children's growth as well as parents' as they work towards accomplishing their own personal goals. If you see her out in community, be sure to give her a smile and thank her for all she does for the foster care community.

a child's perspective

What is an important lesson your foster parents or social worker have taught you?

FROM STELLA: Ms Emma taught me not to be afraid of my trauma. I was afraid to talk about my past. But it's important to talk about your past or it will bug you. I learned my trauma is not my fault, and it does not make me a bad person. Now that I've talked about it, I feel better and safe at home and everywhere. I sleep better too!

FROM PATIENCE: I have lived in 10 places over 2 1/2 years. Sometimes it hard to find people to trust. In my last foster family, they lied to me and said everything was alright, but it wasn't. They did not tell me my dad passed away, and I also had to move 3 days before Christmas to a new foster family. I was very sad because I thoguth they could be my forever family. Christmas came and I was with my new foster mom. She was not as bad as I thought. She really taught me how to trust again, and she's the best. She took me to camp this summer for the first time. She feels like a real mom to me and I feel at home.

FROM LAVADA: When you get abused or anything, then you need help, and if that means you are going to foster care, then do it! They're safe, and you're loved. If you ask me, the life in foster care if pretty good. Ms Franklin - she's the best. Now you want to know about her, here it is: she's been a foster parent for 20 years and now she is still doing it. The reason she is doing it is because her momma did it, and it made her want to do it.

If you ask me, that's a pretty good idea and we need foster parents now days.

Online Training Resources

postadoptionsuccesscoach.org

https://fosteringnc.org/on-demand-courses/

Fosterparenttraining.com

fosterparent.com

<u>fosterparentcollege.com</u>

fosteringprospectives.org

<u>adopttogether.org/top-5-general-</u> <u>adoption-resources-online/</u>