



Open Hearts Open Arms

Family Assessment Response (FAR)

FAR is a new approach being offered by 5 Colorado county child welfare agencies to help families access services, supports and other resources that will help resolve the concerns. The approach is designed to help welfare agencies work with families to meet the safety needs of children. The core belief is that families can stay together if they receive the assistance needed when concerns arise.

In the FAR model, a comprehensive assessment of family needs and strengths is completed. Caseworkers use a variety of strategies and therapeutic methods in the delivery of services with ongoing assessment of safety and level of risk. Various forms of family-involved decision-making processes are incorporated to help the family create a solution-based plan to keeping the children and family safe.

Families may decline services offered through the FAR model without consequences. However, if the level of risk for a child's safety is discovered to be higher than initially assessed the case will be reassigned as a child welfare investigation case.

For many families, FAR is a more appropriate approach to child safety and to creating a stronger family unit. The strength-based FAR model focuses on finding solutions to the concerns; not on assigning blame. The collaborative nature of FAR allows the family, caseworker and community agencies to partner together to ensure the safety and well-being of both children and families.

Got Tools?

Evergreen, May 7 & 8th.

Some may remember the couples training from the past for adoptive families. The training has a new name: Got Tools? This training is packed full of techniques to manage a strong personal relationship while raising children. Knowing that households can be stressful when one or more of our children are acting out, it is a valued topic for families to address. It is a two day seminar with accommodations provided at no cost to registered families. Call Denise Leffingwell at 303 755 4756 for registration information, or check the Adoption Exchange Website.

Summer Camp...

It is time to get the kids registered for summer camp. If you haven't chosen a camp the following link may help select just the right camp for your kiddos.

http://colorado.parenthood.com/VC_Spring2011_home.php

April, 2011 Edition



101 Ways to Praise A Child

Continued from February edition—Words to praise your children:

Bingo + Magnificent + Marvelous + Terrific + Your Important + Phenomenal + You're Sensational + Super Work + Creative Job + Super Job + A Real Trooper + You Are Responsible + You Are Exciting + You Learned It Right + What An Imagination + What A Good Listener + You Are Fun + You're Growing Up + You're A Good Friend + I Trust You + You're Important + You Mean A Lot To Me + That's Correct + You're A Joy + You're A Treasure + You're Perfect + Awesome + A+ Job + You're A-OK + You Made My Day + That's The Best + A Big Hug + A Big Kiss