



Heartland for Children

FOSTER CARE NEWSLETTER

June 2024

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Message from Our Licensing Program Manager

Hello Circuit 10 Foster Parents!

I wanted to take a moment to say **THANK YOU!** We appreciate your willingness to open your home to the children in your community who are in need of a safe place to live. Your diligent care to the children within Polk, Hardee, and Highlands Counties is so incredibly important! Our system of care here in Circuit 10 could not be what it is today without our strong foster parent network! So once again, **THANK YOU** for all you do!

Chelsea Hand – Program Manager
of Foster Home Licensing
Chand@heartlandforchildren.org
(863) 519-8900 ext. 217



Council on Accreditation (COA) Survey is coming!

You know how important your opinion is to us! In the upcoming weeks, we will be asking you to complete a stakeholder survey for the Council on Accreditation (COA). The COA surveys are completely confidential and are submitted directly to COA for them to use as part of their evaluation of Heartland for Children (HFC). Since you are currently caring for children or youth served by HFC, it would be very helpful for COA to know what you think about our organization and its services.

What is COA and why do we do this? COA is a national organization that sets standards for quality service. HFC has been accredited by COA since 2009 and we undergo a reaccreditation review every 4 years. Our contract with the Florida Department of Children and Families requires that we maintain our accreditation.

Please be on the lookout for the survey link and thank you for all that you do for our children and community!

Please direct any questions to:

Kim Corpus

Contract Manager

(863) 519-8900 ext. 206

kcorpus@heartlandforchildren.org



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Important Dates June 2024

- 11 Board rate payments disbursed
- 27 Foster Caregiver Advisory Council Meeting, 12-1 pm

TBRI Updates

Olivia Paulson has resigned as our TBRI Practitioner - Lead on May 13, 2024. She is already very missed, but we wish her the best of luck on her new journey!

Please contact your Licensing Specialist to register for upcoming TBRI classes listed on page 4.

Calling All Cooks!

Send us your favorite summer recipe, including where it came (i.e. the name of the cookbook or website). We will print it in an upcoming newsletter AND enter your name into the drawing for one of three \$25 gift cards!

Send your recipe to Faye at fdyer@heartlandforchildren.org by Friday, 6/14/24.



Foster Care Appreciation Month May 2024

We appreciate everything our foster caregivers do for the children & teens in their homes every day of the year! This May, we like to celebrate you for this. Our Licensing Specialists are delivering t-shirts, hats & car magnets to those who ordered them. We had two great family events at Family Fun Center and the FL Children's Museum at Bonnet Park. We enjoyed it so much that there is one more little surprise coming in June!

Thank you all so much!

Foster Home Statistics As of 5/22/24

- 39 homes licensed since July 1st, 2023
- 55 inquiries for the month of April
- 175 homes total in Circuit 10
- 53 Children & Teens entered out of home care in April 2024

YOU are our best recruiters for new foster families! Please share your stories with others and ask them to contact us at (863)519-8900 x289 if they are interested in learning more about fostering.

Hosted by Heartland for Children



BACK TO SCHOOL BASH

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JOCKEY
BEING FAMILY.

for children in the foster care system & post-adoptive families in Polk, Highlands & Hardee Counties.

GIVEAWAYS
FREE SCHOOL
SUPPLIES,
BAGS & MORE



SATURDAY, JULY 27
10AM-1PM

FREE School Supplies for Kids (Grades K-12), Lunch, Hair Cuts, Sports Physicals, Giveaways, Bounce Houses, Firetruck, Games and more!

Heartland Youth Village - Activity Center

(Florida Sheriff's Youth Ranch)

3350 E State Rd 60, Bartow, FL 33830

Space is limited to the first 350 people who register.
To attend you **MUST** register by Friday, July 19.





Dates for TBRI training in June for Modules 1 (Connecting), 2 (Empowering), and 3 (Correcting) which are 3 hours each. Participants can sign up for the module they need on different days and times.

-CONNECTING-Module 1- This will include an explanation of what trauma is and what it does to brain development. We will go in depth with attachment styles and how to connect with others by meeting them where they are.

-EMPOWERING-Module 2- This module will be in depth learning on the Empowering principle and finish with Connection.

-CORRECTING-Module 3 This module will cover the Correcting principle and how to change behaviors in a healthy way using tools and strategies of TBRI.

Online dates for JUNE:

	<i># of hours</i>
6/4 Tues-9am-noon- Module 2	3 hours
6/5 Wed-6-9 pm - Module 3	3 hours
6/6 Thurs -9am-noon- Module 3	3 hours
6/10 Mon 9-noon- Module 1	3 hours
6/10 Mon- 6-9pm-Module 1	3 hours
6/12 Wed-9-noon- Module 2	3 hours
6/12 Wed- 6-9pm-Module 2	3 hours
6/14 Fri-9-noon-Module 3	3 hours
6/17 Mon- 6-9pm-Module 3	3 hours
6/25 Tues-6-9pm-Module 1	3 hours
6/27 Thurs-6-9pm-Module 2	3 hours

In Person for JUNE:

6/3 Mon-6-9pm- Module 3	3 hours
6/7 Fri- 9-noon - Module 1	3 hours
6/8 Sat-9-3-Module 2 & 3	6 hours
6/14 Fri- 9-noon-Module 2	3 hours
6/15 Sat-9-3- Module 1 & 2	6 hours
6/26 Wed- 6-9- Module 1	3 hours
6/29 Sat- 9-3-Module 2 & 3	6 hours