

# The Schedule

## Friday March 23rd

8:00	–	9:00	Registration and Continental Breakfast
9:00	–	4:30	Institute, Kevin Creeden
12:00	–	1:15	Buffet Lunch
4:30	–	7:00	Registration Open

## Saturday March 24<sup>th</sup>

7:30	–	9:00	Registration and Continental Breakfast
8:45	–	9:15	Welcome and VFAPA Business Meeting
9:15	–	10:15	Keynote Jeanine Fitzgerald
10:15	–	10:30	Break
10:30	–	12:00	Session I
12:00	–	1:15	Lunch on your own
1:30	–	3:00	Session II
3:00	–	3:15	Break
3:15	–	4:00	Open Forum
6:00	–	6:30	Social time
6:30	–	8:30	Banquet

## Sunday March 25th

7:30	–	9:00	Breakfast
9:00	–	11:00	Closing, Tasha St. Gelais

## *Special Events*

### **VFAPA Business Meeting**

Election of President and Secretary will take place. Other business brought by membership will be addressed.

### **Resource Fair**

Products, books and information will be displayed at the conference. Please contact Jane Siddall to reserve a space at [janes@vfafa.org](mailto:janes@vfafa.org).

### **Open Forum**

Leaders from VFAPA and DCF will share information about current initiatives and will listen to your concerns. Please join us for this important dialogue.

### **Program Book**

VFAPA is accepting ads for the Program Book. Show your support for our amazing foster and adoptive families. Contact Pam Piper for more details at [Pamela.Piper@partner.state.vt.us](mailto:Pamela.Piper@partner.state.vt.us)

VFAPA is actively seeking candidates  
for the positions of President and Secretary.

Elections take place at the Saturday business meeting.  
Visit [www.vfafa.org](http://www.vfafa.org) for job descriptions and more information.

## Featured Speaker – Kevin Creeden M.A., LMHC



Friday Institute

9:00 – 4:30

### **Partnering For Resiliency: An Integrated Approach for Families and Treatment Providers**

**Description:** Children and adolescents do not proceed through development in a vacuum. Yet frequently treatment interventions are focused exclusively on the behavior or other difficulties exhibited by the individual child. While trauma and attachment difficulties create obstacles for children moving along a positive developmental trajectory; fostering stable and supportive relationships with caring and knowledgeable adults can create a foundation that facilitates resilience and growth. In terms of both treatment progress and assessment of future risk treatment providers must constantly examine and interact with the child in the social/environmental context in which they live.

The premise of this workshop is that wounds inflicted in relationship need to be healed in relationship. Therefore, by educating and engaging families in the therapeutic process we create a partnership that enhances treatment of trauma and the problem behaviors that stem from it. Utilizing an attachment based perspective we will discuss specific interventions for facilitating improved attunement, stability and safety to promote resiliency and healing.

*Kevin Creeden, M.A., LMHC is the Director of Assessment and Research at the Whitney Academy in East Freetown, MA. He has over 30 years of clinical experience treating children, adolescents, and their families working extensively with sexually and physically aggressive youth. Over the past 20 years, his primary focus has been on issues of trauma and attachment difficulties, especially with regard to the neurological impact of trauma on behavior and he has authored articles and book chapters on the neuro-developmental impact of trauma on sexual behavior problems. In the past, Mr. Creeden has served as the president of the Massachusetts chapter of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC), a Teaching Fellow at Boston College, an Instructor in Psychology in the Department of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School at Cambridge Hospital, and a guest faculty at the Boston University School of Social Work. Presently, he is a guest faculty at the Simmons School of Social Work advanced training program in Trauma-Focused treatment. Mr. Creeden trains and consults both nationally and internationally to youth service, community, forensic services and mental health service agencies.*

## Saturday's Keynote Speaker – Jeanine Fitzgerald



### Nurturing the Nurturer

No matter how much we love children, or how fulfilling we find caring for them, it is difficult and demanding work. There are no instruction manuals or cookbook recipes for raising happy children. Nor are there mandates that require us to take care of ourselves. However, your success as a caregiver is determined, in part, by your ability to renew your energies and meet your needs first. This workshop will explore ways to Nurture the nurturer. It is about creating wellness in life which is much more than stress reduction and management.

*Jeanine draws on more than 30 years of professional experience to empower teachers and parents to achieve more with children “at risk.” With experiences as a certified teacher, licensed mental health professional, and mother of three children, she understands the promise of every child, as well as the diversity of their needs. Jeanine is a certified Human Behavior Specialist and is the Owner of The Better Behavior Bureau and The Behavior Institute. As a speaker, consultant and trainer, Jeanine has worked with thousands of educators, child care professionals and parents across the country. She has taught at the college level and presented on the campuses of Bryant University, the University of Rhode Island and Harvard University. Jeanine is recognized on the federal level as an approved trainer in the fields of education, disabilities and mental health.*

*As an author, Jeanine has published *The Dance of Interaction* and is currently working on *Educating the Heart*, due to be released in 2012. *Education with Insight*; a national training program, in association with *Personality Insights, Inc.*, was released in 2010.*

*Jeanine lives in Massachusetts with her husband. They have three grown children.*

# The Workshops

## Session I

Saturday 10:30 – 12:00

### **A Getting Back to Our Senses**

At every age, the brain craves sensory input, and we all have a unique sensory profile of preferences and defensiveness. These are real needs and our children and adolescents will meet these needs whether they have permission to or not. The misfortune in all of this is our kids are being denied access to experiences that meet their sensory needs, diagnosed and medicated for disruptive or challenging behaviors that are nothing more than symptoms of their unmet needs. Current research recognizes these needs as keys to strategies that support healing and wellness. This session will increase our understanding of the sensory system and its importance to our well-being and address proven ways to approach sensory preferences and defensiveness in our children and teens.

*Jeanine Fitzgerald – see keynote*

### **B Undoing Aloneness: Strategies for Co-Regulation in Traumatized Adolescents**

Traumatized adolescents struggle with self-regulation. Anxious and vigilant, they experience even loving relationships as confusing and frightening. To learn self-soothing, they must first be able to rely upon others, and discover the joy of co-regulation. In this two-part workshop, we will describe and practice mindful, empathic strategies to help these teens feel more secure, connected, present and stable. The afternoon training and exercises build on the morning's individual and small group practice; we strongly recommend you sign up for the entire workshop.

*Martha Straus, Ph.D.* is a professor in the Department of Clinical Psychology at Antioch University New England Graduate School in Keene, New Hampshire, and adjunct instructor in psychiatry at Dartmouth Medical School. She maintains a small private practice in Brattleboro, VT, and consults to schools, hospitals, community mental health centers, and social service agencies. Dr. Straus conducts workshops internationally on child, adolescent, and family development, attachment, trauma, and therapy. She is the author of numerous articles and four books including *No-Talk Therapy for Children and Adolescents*, and more recently, *Adolescent Girls in Crisis: Intervention and Hope*.

*Brian Denietolis, Psy.D.* is a licensed clinical psychologist at the UMass Adolescent Continuing Care Unit. Over the past several years, Dr. Denietolis has had numerous supervised training experiences in infant, child, and adolescent psychotherapy and assessment at leading teaching hospitals and medical schools in New England. Most recently, he completed his APA accredited pre and post-doctoral training at Dartmouth Medical School where he received extensive training in evidence-based trauma-focused treatments for children, adolescents, and families. His research and scholarly interests include child maltreatment and interpersonal trauma; adoption and foster care; evidence-based treatments for trauma and trauma-related disorders; and the intersection between attachment, affect regulation, and reflective functioning.

### **C Trauma-Informed Tips for Caregivers**

A solution focused workshop for caregivers at all levels of the continuum of care. From foster parents to psychiatric hospitalization, these tips will assist caregivers with the challenges of nurturing traumatized children. Techniques utilized by residential treatment providers will be shared and discussed.

*The Vermont Coalition of Residential Providers (VCORP)* represents nonprofit human service providers that operate an out of home care program. These include foster care, group homes, residential treatment and inpatient hospitalization.

*Lee Gallagher* is a licensed MSW and a Kripalu yoga teacher. She has been actively engaged in helping and treating child/adolescent trauma survivors for over 20 years. She served as the clinical coordinator of Bennington School Inc for 18 years

*Kriss Lococo M.S. LCMHC* is a licensed clinical mental health counselor specializing in children's therapy and abuse and trauma based issues. Kriss has 20 years experience in private practice and residential treatment. Kriss also runs Yoga and relaxation groups.

## **D Stress Reduction with Laughter**

Laughter Yoga is an efficient way to disconnect from one's memories. It makes it easier to handle life and its challenges, because it puts us strongly 'in the moment', and it's when we are in the moment, that we are not aware of our problems. It's as if we literally drop them. Laughter lightens up life and gives an inner coping strength.

*Debbie Boyce- Certified trainer of Laughter Yoga – by Dr. Kataria. I am certified to train and certify Laughter Yoga Leaders, start Laughter Clubs and add more laughter to peoples lives. I have conducted Laughter Yoga Seminars & Workshops for corporations, hospitals, schools, colleges & universities, old age homes, prisons, children with special needs etc. Dan and I are a Specialized Foster Home, in Brandon Vermont. Retired Special Educator of 30 yrs.. EMT with Brandon Rescue Squad.*

## **E Education Matters! You can make a difference!**

Advocating for foster children in a school setting is a critical role of foster parenting. In this workshop we will explore some startling research about educational outcomes of children in the foster care system and highlight opportunities for improving the situation. In this interactive workshop we will discuss tools and techniques that can enhance educational stability and offer information about what is working well in some VT communities. We will share tips about how to build relationships with your local school personnel so that you can be an effective advocate around the issues concerning educational stability. Our panel, consisting of a foster parent and representatives from DCF and Education, look forward to a lively conversation around this topic.

*Barbara Bruno has been a foster parent in the Barre district for 15 years. She has a Masters Degree in Higher Education from the University of Alaska and has worked with older teens in the Special Education Department at U-32 High School for 17 years. Barbara is a strong educational advocate for any child that has lived with her. Her sense of humor combined with her skill level is a recipe for success with the youth and families she has worked with. Barbara has practical tips for foster families working with teachers and other school system personnel that have proven to be effective over the years.*

*Joan Rock is the Resource Coordinator in Morrisville. She has a BS in Human Service Administration and for the previous 19 years, Joan was the Resource Coordinator in the Barre district where this practice became an integral part of her work.*

*Dana Lawrence, MSW, is the currently working as the DCF Practice and Policy Specialist out of the Family Services office in Essex Junction as part of the Planning, Policy, and Practice Unit. He has worked for DCF Family Services and it's predecessors since September, 1974 as a counselor, special educator, caseworker, and supervisor at ESP. Since 1994 he has worked out of central office in a variety of program management positions, including, for a time as the Foster Care Chief. Originally trained as a teacher, he is strongly committed to improving the educational outcomes of youth in care.*

*Mike Mulcahy works for the Vermont Department of Education. He is the State Coordinator for Education for Homeless Children and Youth . He also serves as the State Coordinator, Vermont Educational Surrogate Parent Program. He participates in Interagency Coordination, Residential Review and Case Review Committee.*

## **F Life on the tightrope: How to find your center when your child knocks you off balance**

It is human nature to be angry, upset, and sad when encountering a child who is angry, upset and sad. When met with the intense behaviors and emotional energy of foster and adopted children, how can we, as parents keep our center? Together we will brainstorm techniques, strategies and learn simple, key phrases that we can repeat to ourselves in the tough moments. We will support each other with ways to get us through the tough moments.

*Nancy Birge, MSW has been a social worker working with adoptive families for 11 years at Casey Family Services, specializing in supporting parents with especially challenging children with serious trauma history.*

*Julie Cunningham, LICSW has been the executive director of Families First for over 20 years. Families First is an organization the helps families find supportive homes for their developmentally delayed children. Julie is also the parent of 2 older child adoptions, both with trauma history, and has lived the life of foster and adoptive parenting.*

## **G Let's Talk: Substance Abuse and Families**

This will be an interactive workshop about the use and abuse of drugs and alcohol. We will focus on the impact of drug and alcohol use on children and their families. Together, we will acknowledge the many cultural and social factors that impact drug and alcohol use, and how they differ from one generation to the next.

*After a 30+ year career in human services, Carl Yalicki retired from the State of Vermont as a Probation and Parole Officer in 2009. He has been a Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor since 2001, and currently operates a counseling practice, One More Mile, in Waterbury, Vermont. An accomplished cook, a mediocre musician, and an accumulator of old motorcycles, he is the father of a 20 year old son.*

## **H Family Time Coaching- A Panel Discussion**

Family Time Coaching has proven to be an effective strategy for empowering parents and families, at their most vulnerable, through direct focus on the needs of their children. Presentation includes, A Foster Parent, Birth parent, Family Time Coach and Social worker in a mock Initial Shared Parenting Meeting as well as an ongoing Shared Parenting Meeting. Examples of Family Time coaching will be modeled by a Family Time Coach, and birth parent. Participants will be encouraged to engage in a question and answer session.

*Karen Reynolds has a Master's degree in Social Work from the University of Vermont, and a Bachelors of Science degree from the University of Maine. Karen has been a DCF Social Worker for 5 years in Middlebury.*

*Jean Stone has an associate's degree in Early Childhood Education. Jean has worked with at risk children and families for 20 years in Addison County. Jean is currently employed by Easter Seals VT in Middlebury. Jean and her husband have adopted 3 children from Vermont Foster care.*

## **Session 2**

**Saturday 1:30 – 3:00**

### **A Undoing Aloneness: Strategies for Co-Regulation in Traumatized Adolescents - (Part 2)**

The afternoon training and exercises build on the morning's individual and small group practice.

*Martha Straus, Ph.D., Brian Denietolis, Psy.D.*

### **B Reflecting on Change and My Role In It**

In this workshop, participants will gain further clarification about various aspects of the Family Services Practice Model, its implementation, and what it really means to be a "learning organization." Participants will be able to offer feedback, ask questions, and reflect on their individual role as it relates to policy and practice changes like family safety planning, shared parenting, district implementation plans, and more!

*Andrew Brown has over seven years experience leading organizational continuous quality improvement and change management efforts within the public and private sectors.*

*Betty Johnson has worked with Vermont foster and adoptive parents for over 25 years. She has presented nationally and internationally for various groups including the National Foster Parent Association on issues of recruitment and retention and for The Child Welfare League of America on child welfare topics.*

*Cheryle Bilodeau is the Policy and Operations Manager and Juvenile Justice Director for Family Services. Her experience includes working as a Juvenile Services social worker with Family Services, as a school social worker, foster parent for adolescent boys, outpatient therapist and a training coordinator and consultant with the Child Welfare Training Partnership. Most notably, Cheryle is the proud adoptive parent of a seven year-old son who she learns and laughs with each day.*

### **C Dancing with Porcupines**

Have you ever been frustrated by other people? Wondered what people were thinking or thought that people behaved unpredictably and randomly? If so, you are not alone. We've been there ourselves, but we found a way to create collaborative organization by making sense of the "people puzzles" in our lives. This session uses the ultimate discovery system to understand the finer points of ourselves and others. Once understood, the system can be used for greater success in reducing stress, minimizing conflict, restoring relationships, enhancing communication and managing team dynamics.

*Jeanine Fitzgerald – see Keynote*

## **D Roots and Wings on the Double: Life Skills Development with Youth Approaching Adulthood**

This workshop will explore practical tools and resources families can use to help young people develop and increase valuable life skills. Participants will also look at ways to help youth expand their emotional supports to sustain skill development and healthy behavior. We will work with several outstanding tools, including “The Youth Development Toolkit” from the National Resource Center for Youth Development, the “Ready, Set, Fly” workbook from Casey Family Programs, the “Permanency Pact” from Foster Club, and “Linking Learning to Life” through AmeriCorps Vista. Participants will also hear first-hand the process of life-skills planning that has led Tasha St. Gelais, currently a youth in care, to being a full-time college student, Foster Club All-Star, and motivational speaker.

***Katherine Boise** has worked in the youth services field since 1993 as a youth advocacy trainer, youth liaison bridging legislative initiatives with community organizations, a direct service provider for a decade and the past recent five years as a Grants Administrator in the role of State Youth Development Coordinator for the Department For Children & Families; contracted with Vermont Easter Seals Division. Katherine has a Master’s Degree in Education and a Bachelor’s of Arts Degree in Social Work. Katherine brings extensive drive, motivation and enthusiasm to the field of Youth Development.*

***Quinn Lockwood** is currently an AmeriCorps/Vista volunteer with the Department for Children and Families. Her work involves the “Linking Learning to Life” program which connects young people with educational opportunities. She graduated from Brandeis University with a Bachelor’s Degree in International Studies and Anthropology.*

***Deidra K. Razzaque** is a Training Coordinator with the UVM/DCF Child Welfare Training Partnership, as well as the mother of young children, a writer, and an artist. She was raised in kinship care. Deidra has worked with youth as the Assistant Director of the Monteverde Friends School, as a Youth Advocate with the US Peace Corps in Costa Rica, and through a wide range of programs involving intercultural education, the arts, violence prevention, life planning, and resiliency.*

***Tasha St. Gelais** is a 19-year-old youth in the foster care system. She is in her sophomore year at Paul Smiths University, and is studying Hospitality, Business, and Biology. Having grown up in Delaware and New Jersey, Tasha has been in the Vermont Foster Care system for seven years, and with her current foster family for the past three years. Tasha works hard at her studies, and is a rock climber as well as a soccer and rugby player. She hopes to help children move through the foster care system and create successful lives for themselves.*

## **E The Nuts & Bolts of Adopting Your Foster Child or Becoming a Kinship Guardian**

This workshop will describe the entire adoption process for foster parents who adopt a child in DCF custody. Participants will learn each step of the adoption process after termination of parental rights (TPR) to finalization in court. We will also discuss who can become a Kinship Guardian and when TPR and adoption is not possible, age requirements, and what a family should consider if asked by social workers. Information on adoption assistance and subsidized guardianship and ideas to consider when adopting will be given. Questions are encouraged.

***Karisa Thompson** has worked as the Adoption Finalization Case Manager for Lund and Project Family for the past five years completing over 375 adoptions for foster children during that time. She works with foster families and relatives in their homes to complete all necessary adoption paperwork, acting as an advocate for the family, negotiating adoption assistance, and following the family through the adoption finalization hearing. Karisa has a Bachelor’s degree in Social Work and previously worked at Lund’s Residential Treatment Program working with women seeking custody or reunification with their children. She has also been a licensed foster parent.*

***Diane Dexter** has been the adoption manager for DCF for the past 20 years and is the Co-Director of Project Family. Prior to that, she worked as both a child protection social worker and a juvenile probation officer for DCF. Diane has a Master’s Degree in Sociology, a Bachelor’s Degree in Sociology, Women’s Studies & Education. She has worked in women and children’s services for over 30 years. She is the adoptive parent of two children and a kinship guardian*

## **F GLBT Foster Parenting/Adoption – a Dialogue**

Foster parenting or adopting as a gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgendered person or couple offers gifts and challenges that are not always discussed in the mainstream foster parent training, support groups, or general association meetings. How does our orientation affect our children? How do we navigate a system that doesn’t always understand or make room for differences? How can your experiences help others? Bring your joys, challenges and hopes and join us in honoring what we bring to the table.

***Lisa Steckler** is a masters level clinician working in Rutland, VT. She has been a foster parent in Vermont for 15 years and an adoptive parent for 1 year. She and her partner are currently raising 5 children in Shrewsbury.*

## **G Behavioral Control or Internalization? Tips on Helping Kids to Self-Regulate Behaviors**

Families are often confronted with issues of how to manage a child's outbursts and meltdowns. Often, we are faced with a choice between providing strong external limits versus allowing a child the room to make mistakes and internalize the learning that may come from them. This workshop helps parents to define their own personal parenting philosophy while addressing effective ways for parents to address "meltdowns."

*Robert A. Pelosi, NCC, BCETS, LMHC is a clinician who specializes in the treatment of children and families with trauma, disability and attachment concerns. He is a National Certified Counselor and a Board Certified Expert in Traumatic Stress. Bob is the founder of No Broken Kids, a specialized training for the families of children and adolescents with disruptive behavior disorders.*

## **H Listening So Youth Will Talk**

If you take the time to truly listen, you will be amazed and impressed at how much teens have to say. This workshop explores listening and communications techniques designed to get from "I don't know" and "whatever" to meaningful conversations with adolescents.

*MaryBeth Pinard-Brace has been working in the non-profit arena for 24 years specializing in education, youth services, marketing, communications, advocacy, and public relations. She taught teens and adults for six years and is a strong supporter of youth and families. She is cross-trained in three family engagement practices and works to improve communication and build relationships between schools, families, and communities across Vermont. She is a frequent presenter at schools, conferences, and community events, addressing a wide number of topics including Family/Community Engagement, Communication Best Practices, Gross National Happiness, and Grief and Trauma Recovery from the Family Perspective. MaryBeth is also a certified instructor for Northern Lights Career Development Center. MaryBeth sits on a number of boards and committees including: the Refugee and Immigrant Services Network, Champlain College's Kelley Marketing Group; the Lake Champlain Regional Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Committee; the Working with Youth Conference Planning Committee; and the Vermont Center for Afterschool Excellence Partner Advisory. She is former director of the Vermont Association for Career and Technical Education and former regional board member for the New England Chapter of the Association for Career and Technical Education. She served on the Communications Committee for the Greater Burlington YMCA from 2006-2010*

## **Tasha St. Gelais - Foster Club All-Star**

## **Sunday Closing**

Foster care is a rough thing that kids of all ages are put into; most times not voluntarily and sometimes for their own good. In my case it was for a good cause. My story of self-discovery involves a lot of mistakes but it has made me who I am today. It is easy to get in trouble in the System; I want to help kids just like me, a punk growing up. I want to show kids that with some work anyone can turn their lives around and become a success. For me "family" is a big part of my life that I didn't have until very recently. These adults encouraged me to push myself to finish high school, begin college and to start my life. All kids deserve these types of people in their lives. In this talk I will share stories of my experiences in foster care. I will also discuss the importance of having supportive adults and opportunities such as Foster Club All-Stars. I have learned that time is a precious thing and it can slip out of your hands in an instant, with a little work anything is possible if you take control of your life no matter how scary that might seem

*Tasha St. Gelais is a 19-year-old youth in the foster care system. She is in her sophomore year at Paul Smiths University, and is studying Hospitality, Business, and Biology. Having grown up in Delaware and New Jersey, Tasha has been in the Vermont Foster Care system for seven years, and with her current foster family for the past two years. Tasha works hard at her studies, and is a rock climber as well as a soccer and rugby player. She hopes to help children move through the foster care system and create successful lives for themselves.*

## **Important Information**

Please read carefully as there are several changes from previous years.

**REGISTRATION:** There are two ways to register:

1. Register online at: [www.regonline.com/vfafa\\_2012\\_conference](http://www.regonline.com/vfafa_2012_conference) or at [www.vfafa.org](http://www.vfafa.org).
2. Submit paper registration & payment to My-Lanh Graves @ DCF/FSD 103 S Main St. Waterbury, VT 05671. Make checks payable to VFafa.

**HOTEL RESERVATIONS: IMPORTANT:** reserving for the "Conference" does not secure you a room at the Sheraton. *You must book your own room.*

- To book a room online, you must click on the link to the Sheraton at the end of the Conference registration. You will receive a second confirmation number for your room reservation.
- Paper registrations: call the Sheraton directly at 1-800-325-3535 and mention that you are booking under the VFafa Conference.
- Credit cards are required to reserve all rooms. If you are getting a conference scholarship, your card will be charged only if you do not show!

**WORKSHOPS:** Some workshops have limited space; indicate a second choice or we will assign one for you.

**FEES:** Are listed on registration form. For groups of five (5) or more, the cost is \$90 per person for the Institute and \$50 per person for Saturday only.

**SCHOLARSHIPS:** Scholarships for the registration fee and overnight accommodations are available for licensed foster parents and DCF adoptive parents who have paid their VFafa dues. All other applicants must be approved by the VFafa Executive Board. Please send requests to VFafa Executive Board, PO Box 220 Graniteville, VT 05654 or email Jane Siddall at [janes@vfafa.org](mailto:janes@vfafa.org). *Scholarships are limited and awarded "first come first served".*

**MEMBERSHIP:** VFafa Membership is open to foster/adoptive parents, agency staff, and community members wishing to support the activities of VFafa. As of Feb 1, 2012, dues will be \$25.00. Please make check payable to VFafa and send to Gordy Wells, PO Box 220 Graniteville, VT 05654.

**INVOICES:** If your registration is to be paid by your agency, it must be submitted with a signed invoice from the agency authorizing payment. No registrations will be accepted unless submitted with payment or invoice.

**REFUND POLICY:** Registration may be canceled up to seven (7) days before the Conference with a full refund. Notify My-Lanh Graves directly if you wish to cancel. Foster parents who receive scholarships and do not attend without canceling may jeopardize their chances of receiving future scholarships.

**CHILD CARE:** Child care is not available. Children are not allowed in workshops and must be supervised at all times.

### **QUESTIONS CONTACT:**

**Registration for Foster/Adoptive parents and DCF/Family Services:** My-Lanh Graves at (802) 769-6343 or [my-lanh.graves@state.vt.us](mailto:my-lanh.graves@state.vt.us)

**Resource Fair:** Jane Siddall at [janes@vfafa.org](mailto:janes@vfafa.org)

**General Questions:** Pam Piper (802) 272-6986 or [pamela.piper@partner.state.vt.us](mailto:pamela.piper@partner.state.vt.us)

**REGISTER ONLINE:** [www.regonline.com/vfafa\\_2012\\_conference](http://www.regonline.com/vfafa_2012_conference) or [www.vfafa.org](http://www.vfafa.org)

# Registration Form

Person 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Person 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

District/Program: \_\_\_\_\_ District/Program \_\_\_\_\_

**Any Food or other special requirements** \_\_\_\_\_

Registration	Person 1	Person 2
Type of Registration – please circle choice at right: ~ Institute: All-Day Friday ~Conference: Saturday – Sunday ~Institute & Conference: Friday – Sunday	Institute Only – Friday Conference – Sat. –Sun Institute & Conference Fr.-Sun	Institute Only Friday Conference – Sat. –Sun Institute & Conference Fri-Sun
Session 1 Workshop. First & Second Choice (please indicate workshop letter)	1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Session 2 Workshop. First & Second Choice (please indicate workshop letter)	1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Banquet Choice of Beef, Roast Turkey, or Vegetarian (included in full registration).	Beef    Turkey    Vegetarian	Beef    Turkey    Vegetarian
I will attend Sunday Morning VT Buffet Breakfast (included in full registration).	Yes                          No	Yes                          No

Please Circle: DCF Licensed Foster Parent or Kin, DCF Adoptive Parent, Private Agency Foster Parent, Private Agency Staff, Residential Program Staff , GAL, Other State Agency Mental Health Provider, Child Care Provider, Educator , Parent/Relative DCF/Family Services Staff , Presenter, Other \_\_\_\_\_

	Others	DCF Foster/Adoptive Parent
<b>Friday Institute</b> Includes seminar, continental breakfast and lunch	<b>\$100.00</b>	<b>scholarship</b>
<b>Institute &amp; conference, (All day Fri-Sun)</b> Includes seminars and continental breakfast, banquet and Sunday breakfast	<b>\$165.00</b>	<b>scholarship</b>
<b>Conference w/o Institute</b> Includes seminars, Saturday continental breakfast & banquet, Sunday buffet breakfast	<b>\$100.00</b>	<b>scholarship</b>
<b>Saturday Only</b> Includes seminars, Saturday continental breakfast; does NOT include Banquet	<b>\$75.00</b>	<b>scholarship</b>
<b>Extra Banquet Tickets</b> # ___ Beef ___ Turkey ___ Vegetarian	<b>\$35 each</b>	<b>\$35 each</b>
<b>Extra Breakfast Buffet Tickets #___</b>	<b>\$20 each</b>	<b>\$20 each</b>
<b>VFAPA Membership Dues ***</b> <b>*Dues must be paid to be eligible for a scholarship.</b>	<b>As of Feb. 1, 2012 are \$25.00</b>	
Late Fee for registrations postmarked after March 9th ** ** Scholarship does not cover late fees.	<b>\$15/person</b>	<b>\$15/person</b>

To register online please go to: [www.regonline.com/vfafa\\_2012\\_conference](http://www.regonline.com/vfafa_2012_conference) or [www.vfafa.org](http://www.vfafa.org)

**Make checks payable to VFAPA and return to My-Lanh Graves  
103 S. Main St., Osgood 3, Waterbury, VT 05671-2401**



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Waterbury, VT 05671-2401

## **Vermont Foster and Adoptive Family Association**

### **25 years of Nurturing Children and Families**

March 23 – 25 2012  
Sheraton Hotel and Conference Center  
Burlington, Vermont

**Registration Deadline March 9, 2012**