



CHILDREN'S HOME SOCIETY

OF MISSOURI

9445 Litzsinger
St. Louis, MO 63144
(314) 968-2350

www.CHSMO.org

LifeLines

Volume 2, Issue 3

July 1, 2009



A Message from the Crew:

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It is hard to believe it is already the middle of summer—we hope you are enjoying a more relaxed and stress-free pace this time of year.

On June 6, 2009 CHS hosted its second annual homecoming carnival on our grounds in Brentwood. We were so happy to see many of the children and families that come to CHS for classes, groups or counseling. The day was lots of fun and included a dunking



Face painting was just one of the great things to do at the CHS Homecoming Carnival.

booth, a cakewalk, and ice cream treats for everyone. Planning has already started for more fun next year—hopefully you will be able to join in!

We have exciting activities coming up in the next few months—

including several events featuring Metro Theatre Company that give children a chance to express their thoughts and feelings through drama and creative learning. Look for details on page 3.

We believe:

All children are able to grow to their fullest potential as members of loving and supportive families.

All children deserve a family that is able to meet their emotional, developmental and physical needs.

Children who have been abused, neglected or otherwise traumatized will bring with them to their new adoptive families their feelings of hurt and anger, as well as the negative behaviors they use to express those feelings.

Families formed through the adoption process are equal to families created by birth in their love for and commitment to their children.

Families formed through the adoption process face challenges unique to adoptive families.

The challenges and issues faced by adoptive families require specialized skills on the part of the adoptive parents as well as the professionals serving the family.

It is essential that the systems and professionals involved in the process of forming families through adoption be available at all stages of the family's life – prior to, during and after the adoption is completed.

Raise Funds for CHS While Using the Internet

GoodSearch.com is a new search engine powered by Yahoo! GoodSearch donates 50% of its revenue, approximately a penny per search, to charities designated by its users. You use it exactly as you would any other search engine and the pennies add up quickly—just 500 people searching four times a day will earn around \$7,300 in a year. It does not cost you or the charity a thing!

Similarly, with **GoodShop.com**, consumers are helping their favorite causes by shopping at hundreds of well-known retailers including Amazon, Target, Best Buy and more. By going through GoodShop, up to 37% of the purchase price is donated to your favorite cause!

CHS is registered with the sites—all you have to do is visit GoodSearch.com or GoodShop.com, enter Children's Home Society of MO as your charity, and start searching or shopping.

Is Your Child A Drama Queen? A Comedian in Training? A Performer in Need of An Audience?

Then We Have Just the Thing...

Creative Play Workshop for Adoptive and Foster Families With Metro Theater Company

Saturday, September 12 10:00-11:30 am
(for families with kids 4 –10 years)

Tuesday, October 6 6:30-8:00 pm
(for families with kids 11—15 years)

CHS has partnered with Metro Theater Company, St. Louis' premiere theater for young people and families, to offer families an opportunity to play and explore creatively together. The workshop is specifically designed to give families a chance to enjoy some fun in an environment that accepts and celebrates the unique stories of each of our children. The day will begin with an art activity, then move on to fun, non-competitive games that everyone can play. Metro artists will then introduce a story that the group will explore through theater and improvisation. Activities are structured so everyone, can participate —there's no way to do it "wrong"! This is a great way to get to know other families formed through foster care and adoption.

COST: \$25 per family

Drama Workshop for Adopted and Foster Children

Tuesday evenings, 6:30-8:00 pm
October 20-November 24, 2009

CHS, with the help of Metro Theater Company, is also offering a special six-week drama workshop for children ages 11-15.

Studies support theater activity as a powerful intervention strategy to heal past trauma and to foster non-violent behavior in youth. Led by CHS staff and Metro's Teaching Artists, participants in this unique drama experience will explore activities that focus on collaboration, inclusion and building non-verbal communication skills. Through improvisation techniques, students will talk about issues of concern, and help each other strategize solutions to challenges faced by the group.

A fun environment —no experience necessary!

COST: \$60 per child for six week series

**Complete the form below and return with payment to:
Children's Home Society
attn: Sarah
9445 Litzinger
St. Louis, MO 63144**



Child's Name: _____ Gender: Male Female

Date of Birth: _____ Grade Entering in the Fall: _____

Parent(s) Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Best Contact Number: _____ Email: _____

Please register my child/my family for the following:

Creative Play Workshop for families Saturday September 12, 2009 _____

Creative Play Workshop for families Tuesday October 6, 2009 _____

Drama Workshop Tuesdays October 20 to November 24, 2009 _____

Total Payment Enclosed _____

CHS staff will contact you when you registration is received. Call Sarah at (314) 968-2350, ext. 235 with questions.

