

MARCH 11, 2021

DC CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES AGENCY

# FOSTERING CONNECTIONS

A monthly newsletter for CFSA's resource  
parents in the District of Columbia



GOVERNMENT OF THE  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR



## March 2021 at a Glance

- Help CFSA REACH New Resource Parents
- Older Youth Invited to Virtual CFSA Internship Meet & Greet
- To Claim or Not to Claim? Tax Implications for Resource Parents
- There's Still Time to Submit a My School DC Post-Lottery Application
- Fostering Spotlight: Meet Isaiah

[View This Email as a PDF](#)

## Feature Stories

### Help CFSA REACH New Resource Parents

The CFSA resource parent recruitment team seeks your help in identifying DC residents who would make outstanding resource parents. The REACH Ambassador program equips CFSA staff and certain members of the public to help grow the community of CFSA resource families. Your input will help the REACH Team understand the existing resource parent network to effectively engage people who may be interested in welcoming a child into their home.

With your support, we know we can recruit more quality resource parents to provide loving homes for CFSA children and youth who need a temporary safe haven or a new forever family.

Please complete [this eight-question survey](#)—short and sweet!



## News You Can Use

### Older Youth Invited to Virtual CFSA Internship Meet & Greet

**March 31, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. | [RSVP required](#)**

Youth in foster care ages 16-23 are invited to the Office of Youth Empowerment's (OYE) Internship Meet & Greet on Wednesday, March 31, from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. OYE is partnering with DMV-area employers to create pathways to meaningful, paid work experiences and professional mentorship. Interns will receive a laptop, cell phone, personal protective equipment (PPE), and wages at \$15/hour. **Encourage your young person to register for the virtual event at [bit.ly/CFSA\\_OYEinternship](https://bit.ly/CFSA_OYEinternship)!**

### To Claim or Not to Claim? Tax Implications for Resource Parents

Payments from CFSA are excluded from income and should not be reported on a tax return; this also includes certain difficulty of care payments. Resource parents may claim a foster child if they pass certain tests, including the Citizen or Resident Test, Qualifying Child Test, Qualifying Relative Test, and Taxpayer Identification Test. Additionally, parents may deduct expenses that are unreimbursed, out-of-pocket costs to care for the foster child. Review this [FAQ Sheet](#) for more information.

### There's Still Time to Submit a My School DC Post-Lottery Application

The [My School DC Post-Lottery Application](#) for the 2021-22 school year is now open. Families that missed the application deadlines or who wish to apply to additional schools are eligible. Call the My School DC Hotline at 202-888-6336 for assistance.

### REACH Support Hotline

Don't forget about the REACH Support Line! Should a challenging situation occur after regular business hours, please call 833-443-3775 for assistance. View the [REACH Support Line flyer](#) for more information.

### Foster Boy Movie Stirs

Have you heard about [Foster Boy](#)? As a movie written and inspired by real events, reviews say the film underscores the need for ethical social workers and committed resource parents like you. It's only available on BET+ or Amazon Prime, so be sure to check out how resource families can get an [Amazon Prime discount](#).

### Activities for All Ages

- [Safe Ways to Celebrate Easter](#): Stay connected to relatives of all ages with these free activities.
- [DC Mamba Hockey](#): DC Mamba is a minority-led organization that engages youth through street hockey clinics, including via Zoom! Check them out today.

- [Cherry Blossom Festival](#): Don't miss out on this beloved tradition. This year, the event features virtual opportunities to "step into spring."

## Fellowship & Feedback

**April 1, 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. | RSVP not required**

Join Fellowship & Feedback on Thursday, April 1, from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Connect with CFSA leaders, meet other resource parents, and share your thoughts. Submit questions to [ReachCFSA@dc.gov](mailto:ReachCFSA@dc.gov). Tune in via [Webex](#) or dial 202-860-2110 and use access code 180 172 61637.

## DBH Parent Support Group

**Wednesdays | 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. | RSVP not required**

The DC Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) [Wellness Wednesday parent support group](#) provides DC parents, including CFSA resource parents, with a space to connect, care for themselves, and help foster resiliency in the children in their care. Join via [Webex](#) Wednesdays from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. and use password WW20.

## Resource Parent Information Sessions

**Two March sessions | RSVP required**

This month there are two sessions: Saturday, March 13 from 10 to 11:30 a.m., and Thursday, March 25, from 6 to 7 p.m., attendees will learn about fostering and child-specific adoption, children currently in care, and CFSA supports. Registration via [Eventbrite](#) is required.

## Fostering Spotlight

### Meet Isaiah

Isaiah is a lovable 11-year-old who brightens every room he enters. He enjoys being held, is easily engaged, and loves to laugh. When communicating, he expresses interest by moving back and forth. Because he is not able to verbalize his feelings, he has developed a unique form of communication and is a delight to be near.



Isaiah needs a forever family who can provide total care and adult support for his daily living activities. Medical knowledge and experience caring for children with special needs are ideal, but a family willing to learn how to care for Isaiah is most important. If you can picture welcoming Isaiah into your home, please contact Ms. Kim Walk at [Kim.Walk@dc.gov](mailto:Kim.Walk@dc.gov).

## CFSA POLICY PRESS

### Medication Management and Administration Policy

The medication management and administration policy was updated and reissued in August 2020. The primary changes to the policy are the inclusion of doctors of osteopathy, licensed nurse practitioners, and psychiatric mental health nurse practitioners as prescribers of psychotropic medications, as well as new contact information for the HSA on-call manager since the Healthy Horizons Assessment Center (HHAC) is no longer operating on a 24-hour schedule.

Please visit [Program - Medication Administration and Management | cfsa \(dc.gov\)](#) to learn more.

## Have feedback, a tip, or a story?

We want to hear from you! Please send all inquiries, suggestions, or story ideas to [cfsa.opi@dc.gov](mailto:cfsa.opi@dc.gov).

## Follow CFSA on social media!



DC Child & Family Services Agency | 200 I Street SE, Washington, DC 20003

[Unsubscribe {recipient's email}](#).

[Update Profile](#) | [Customer Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [cfsa.opi@dc.gov](mailto:cfsa.opi@dc.gov) powered by



Try email marketing for free today!