



University of Houston
Graduate College of Social Work
Child Welfare Education Project

CWEP NewsLine

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Welcome Back!! Happy New Year !!

Wishing you a warm welcome back as we get started on the Spring 2007 semester! Best Wishes for a great semester from all the CWEP staff!

The CWEP Town Hall Meeting & Symposium:



When: Friday, March 23, 2007 1PM - 4P

Where: Child Protective Services 2525 Murworth,
Conf. Room D36A

The first hour will be a meet & greet and town hall discussion, followed by the 2 hour symposium. The symposium is being presented by Kelli Connell-Carrick, GCSW Assistant Professor. She will present on *"Working with Adolescents Transitioning to Adulthood: Four Principles to Guide Your Practice"*.

** Please notify LeAnna @ Lmccowan@uh.edu or 713-743-8147 if you are unable to attend. Remember, that if you cannot attend you must view the symposium video, write a one-page summary, and return it to LeAnna within 2 weeks.

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CWEP Spring 2007 Calendar

January 15th Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
January 16th First day of classes
February 3rd-4th CSWE Two day seminar in Charleston, SC
February 9th Last day for student to file for Spring Graduation
February 10th -11th CSWE Two day seminar in Phoenix, AZ
March 12th - 17th Spring Break
March 27th Social Work Legislative Day in Austin
April 3rd Last day for students to drop course/withdraw
April 30th Last day of Classes
May 11th University Commencement



TIP SHEET FOR ATTACHMENT OF CHILDREN IN OUT OF HOME PLACEMENT

- Process child's situation or removal issues in a manner that supports the family's strengths. Being honest with the child about the removal is important but workers and other professionals should help the child maintain a positive outlook to ease the trauma of removal that most children experience.
- Ensure that the resource family supports the biological family's strengths and assists the children in processing their feelings in a positive way. Children should be allowed to express themselves openly about visits and other contacts that offer the child support in maintaining family connections.
- Ensure that the resource family supports attachment to the biological family through regular contacts such as visitation, phone calls, mail and attendance of outside activities when appropriate.
- Establish required visitation that promotes attachment of parent and child. Remember that visitation may need to be separate for each parent.
- Choose a neutral visitation location that is comfortable and non-threatening to the family, preferably not in the local office unless ordered by the court.
- The visitation location should provide activities that will initiate direct and positive interaction between parent and child. Encourage parents to bring age appropriate games or toys.
- Intervene or coach the parent with suggestions for activities if the family does not appear to be interacting appropriately.
- Establish the routine for the visit in advance to ensure that the visit promotes family bonding, especially when visits are unsupervised,
- Involve all family members in joint counseling when the age of the child is appropriate. This will assist them in processing their feelings about the separation and provide additional positive contact.
- Include other family members significant to the child in the visitation when requested and appropriate.
- Encourage children to continuously develop and maintain a life book that includes all family members. Children should be encouraged to have photographs or special items related to their parents/family while in an out of home placement.

Source: <http://manuals.chfs.ky.gov/dCBS-manuals/dpp/Resources.asp>

Texas and the Legislative Process

Legislative Statistics from 79th Legislature (2005-2006):

Total bills Introduced: 12,091

Total passed: 7099

Total vetoed: 19

* 58% of all bills introduced were passed

* .1% of all bills introduced were vetoed

Dates of Interest for 80th Legislature (2007):

Tuesday, January 9th, 2007 (1st day): 80th Legislature convened at noon

Friday, March 9th, 2007 (60th day): Deadline for filing bills and joint resolutions other than local bills, emergency appropriations, and bills that have been declared an emergency by the governor.

Monday, May 28, 2007 (140th day): Last day of 80th Regular Session; corrections only in house and senate.

Legislative Statistics from 80th Legislature to date:

* Total bills Introduced: 946

*Total passed: 19

*Total vetoed: 0

Source: <http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/Reports/Report.aspx?ID=legislativestatistics>

Following are some of the filed bills of interest for the 80th Legislative Session:

HB 21 Corte: Relating to informed consent to an abortion

HB 28 Berman: Relating to the eligibility of an individual born in this state whose parents are illegal aliens to receive state benefits.

HB 49 Chavez: Relating to the minimum wage.

HB 61 Leibowitz: Relating to proximity of residences of certain sex offenders or sexual violent predators to schools.

HB 68 Leibowitz: Relating to the creation of an anti-bullying hotline.

HB 95 Martinez: Relating to interference with child custody in violation of a temporary child custody order.

HB 121 Dukes: Relating to public school policies designed to prevent dating violence.

HB 172 Raymond: Relating to the confidentiality of a family violence victim's identifying information.

HB 173 Raymond: Relating to a physical and mental examination of a child subject to the juvenile justice system

HB 175 Chisum: Relating to the protection of life, including unborn life, from point of fertilization.

HB 197 Gonzalez: Relating to the provision of intervention or counseling services to certain persons who have committed family violence and to a process for accrediting those services.

HB 204 Menendez: Relating to the elimination of the statute of limitation for certain sexual offenses committed against children.

HB 205 Anderson: Relating to the punishment for certain sex offenses committed against a child.

HB 306 Farrar: Relating to an abortion for a victim of incest or sexual assault.

HB 363 Naishtat: Relating to the provision of case management services for children by the Department of Family and Protective Services.

HB 379 Allen: Relating to corporal punishment in public schools.

HB 380 Allen: Relating to an education involvement agreement setting forth the respective responsibilities of students, parents, teachers, and principals in public schools.

SB 21 Nelson: Relating to the imposition of additional inspection and background and criminal history check requirements for day-care centers.

SB 23 Nelson: Relating to promoting the purchase and availability of health coverage.

SB 43 Nelson/Fraser: Relating to the modification of an order establishing the conservatorship of a child or providing for the possession of or access to a child based on military deployment.

SB 44 Nelson/Fraser: Relating to the provision of intervention or counseling services to certain persons who have committed family violence and to a process for accrediting those services.

SB 74 Lucio: Relating to the creation of an address confidentiality program to assist victims of family violence, sexual assault, or stalking in maintaining confidential addresses.

SB 78 Shapiro: Relating to the creation of the offence of continuous sexual abuse of a child, the prosecution and punishment of that offence, and the consequences of a conviction for that offense.

SB 97 Ellis: Relating to the elimination of the statute of limitation for certain sexual offenses committed against children.

SB 113 Van de Putte: Relating to the eligibility of certain foster care children to attend prekindergarten classes.

Source: www.capitol.state.tx.us

GCSW Summer Travel Study Course

To Hong Kong and China
July 13-27, 2007



GCSW Students and Alumni

Find out about the 2007 Summer Travel Course offered by the
GCSW
at one of the Informational Meetings to be held:



Thursday, February 1st:
Join us from 12-1 or 4:30-5:30



Can't make a meeting, but have interest in the Course?
Contact Jan Leger at jeleger@uh.edu

Brown Bag Seminar: Play Therapy with Asian Children

Presented by: Dr Monit Cheung
February 28th, 2007 (Wednesday)
Noon - 1:00 pm

Asian American Family Services Conference Room

Cost: \$10/person

Lunch and 1 hour CEU credit included



****Space will only be reserved upon receipt of payment****

Please RSVP by February 21st, 2007

For more information or to pay by phone, please contact Dion Or @
713.339.3688 (office), 713.339.3699 (fax), or email dionor@aafstexas.org

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