

Adoption Conference 2010: Connections

Auckland

Friday 4 June to Sunday 6 June, 2010

Planning is well underway for the 2010 Conference on adoption, with something for everyone - adoptive parents, internationally adopted young people and professionals working to assist families and their children. This conference is organized by the APIAF (the **Asia Pacific International Adoption Forum**) and ICANZ (**Inter Country Adoption New Zealand**).

Where: Waipuna Hotel and Conference Centre, 58 Waipuna Road, Mount Wellington, Auckland.

Keynote Workshops and Presentations

Jayne Schooler, based in the USA, is a well known adoption speaker, author and trainer. Jayne's passion for over 25 years has been the training and education of adoption and foster care professionals and families. She has been a featured presenter at numerous state and national conferences, and is an award-winning recipient for her work as a child welfare trainer.



Jayne and her husband were foster parents in Ohio for eight years before adopting their foster child Ray, at the age of 16. They also have a daughter Kristy.

The couple has recently spent many months in Kyrgyzstan working with orphanages, and training local social workers in child development and attachment. Jayne is the author or co-author of five books in the adoption field.

Jayne's workshops and presentations will include:

For social workers and other professionals working in the adoption and foster care field: Friday 4th June 9am to 4 pm: Assessing, Preparing and Supporting Families Caring for Traumatized Children.

For all interested parties: Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th of June:

Ten Factors of Success for Healthy Adoptive Families: This workshop describes factors of success for healthy adoptive families – taking a look at communication dynamics within the adoptive family and outside the family.

What's Inside an Adopted Teen? Navigating the teen years can be a challenge and when the layer of adoption is placed on top of that, it can create more issues. This workshop will examine key issues faced by adopted teens and offer parents strategies to move through these years with understanding.

Wounded Children, Healing Homes: Understanding the Impact of Parenting Traumatized Children on Adoptive and Foster Parents. This interactive workshop will examine the transformation that happens within the home with a traumatized children with behavior problems comes home. It will offer an opportunity for parents to self assess their areas of challenges and develop strategies to manage the life-changing dynamic in their homes, in order to achieve positive outcomes for the children and for the family as a whole.

Talking to Your Children About Adoption: What to tell and when to tell it.

Preparing Your Children to Talk About Their Adoption. This workshop will enable parents to guide their children on how to answer questions from friends, community, etc about their adoption. It will empower both parents and children, alike.

The Power of Unmet Expectations: (for new parents) This workshop presents ten common expectations offered experienced by prospective or new adoptive parents and suggests ways to readjust those expectations.

OTHER SPEAKERS will cover a wide range of topics to be advised shortly, including trans-racial adoption, trips back to the country of origin, birth family across borders, living with fetal alcohol effects, dealing with learning difficulties, the findings of local research into adoption (intercountry) in New Zealand. It is anticipated that Speakers will include some young adults who were adopted from Romania, Russia and other countries. We hope to have first hand accounts of life for children in orphanages in various countries from orphanage directors. A special afternoon or evening is planned for young adult adoptees, with speakers and DVDs.

Contact: ICANZ, Phone +64 9 623 9369

Email: office@icanz.gen.nz

See website: www.icanz.gen.nz under Events