

**KVC Behavioral HealthCare West Virginia, Inc.**

# Foster and Adoptive Parent Newsletter

## KVC Names 2013 Resource Foster Parents of the Year

KVC recently held its sixth annual Resource Foster Parent Picnic in Chief Logan State Park. During the event, families engaged in games, swimming, food, and fellowship. KVC also historically uses this time to recognize outstanding foster/adoptive parents in each Home Finder's area.

This year, KVC selected foster/adoptive parents Pete and Daphne Murphy as the 2013 KVC Resource Foster Parents of the year. The Murphy family resides in the Wayne area and have been foster parents with KVC since 2007. In this time, they have adopted six children with their most recent adoption occurring the week of the picnic. The Murphys were surprised and honored to be named Foster Par-

ents of the Year. They have such a passion for helping children in need that they joked they would get divorced and buy houses across the street from one another if it meant they could continue to foster and adopt children!

Since the Murphys currently have six adopted children in their home, they will sadly be closing with KVC. However, KVC is honored to have worked with the Murphys and will keep in touch with them.

Four other families were nominated this year for the award and deserve mention. They are Joe and Tjuanica Vance from the Logan area, Rick and Debbie Metheny from the Roane/Jackson area, Pam and Mike McCallister from the Kanawha area, Matt and Lisa McClung



The Murphy family accepts their award as 2013 KVC RFP of the Year.

from the Lincoln office area, and Rick and Trish Fatony from the Beckley area. Congratulations to these families for their hard work as KVC foster parents!

## More KVC Children Find Forever Families

### Home Finders

**Robin Cremeans**  
304-859-4229  
Kanawha and Lincoln Offices

**Lori Hesson** 304-966-6262  
Jackson and Roane Offices

**Marsha Messer**  
304-859-4243  
Logan Office

**Tommy Redden**  
304-859-4242  
Raleigh and Wyoming Offices

**Tiffany Skidmore**  
304-859-4225  
Wayne Office

KVC would like to highlight the children and families who have reached permanency since the last newsletter. We are so happy to recognize the following families:

Steven and Rachel Karr of the Wayne area welcomed Brandon into their family.

Pete and Daphne Murphy from the Wayne area adopted Michael, Tiffany, and Timothy.

Jeff and Wendy Graham of the Beckley area were pleased to add Alisha and Brandon to their family in August.

Okie and Mary Tilley of the Wyoming area adopted Hunter in July.

Mable Mosley of the Logan area provided a forever home for Jaslyn, Danny, and Cierra.

Betty and Cruz Oquendo of the Logan area celebrated Jeremiah's

adoption in July.

Tina Thaxton from the Jackson area adopted her granddaughter Alexis this past week.

Congratulations to these families!



## Spotlight on KVC Staff—Kristi Ferrell



Kristi R. Ferrell, Director of Human Resources and Foster Care Intakes, has been employed with KVC Behavioral Healthcare since August 1, 2001. Prior to KVC, Kristi was a Regional Director with Action Youth Care.

Kristi received a B.A. in Business Education from Marshall University in 1988. She completed a Master of Arts degree in Business Education from Marshall University in 1992. Prior to begin-

ning her social work career, she taught high school, college and adult education classes for six years in Logan County. She resides in Man, in Logan County, WV, with her husband Eddie and son Brent.

Kristi was instrumental in beginning the foster care program in Logan, Mingo and Boone Counties. She also plays a very large role in the success of our new intake process, by running referral

and disruption case staffings with KVC Home Finders and Directors three times weekly. She works closely with KVC staff and KVC foster parents to ensure that a good fit is made when placing children. She is also spearheading recruitment and retention efforts with the Home Finders in our communities and works with KVC staff on office and agency safety. Kristi is a hard worker and an integral part of the KVC West Virginia team.

## KVC Cookbook is Underway

KVC is currently in the process of making a new cookbook to highlight the culinary talents of our staff, foster/adoptive parents, and friends and to raise money for KVC West Virginia foster children.

Recipes are currently being gathered and the cookbook will go on sale in October for \$12. The cookbook will also include inserts of advertisements from

local businesses. The cost of the ads are \$20 for a full page advertisement and \$10 for a ½ page advertisement.

Those interested in advertising can get a free full page insert if at least five cookbooks are sold by the organization. All costs must be paid in full before the publishing.

This is a great opportunity to ad-

vertise as people across the state of WV will see the cookbook. KVC will also include recognition on our website, Facebook page, and in this newsletter.

If interested in purchasing advertisement space or a cookbook, please let Kristi Ferrell know at [krferrell@kvc.org](mailto:krferrell@kvc.org) or 304-752-8972. Thanks for helping West Virginia children!

## APS Wants to Hear From You!



You should have recently gotten a letter in the mail from KVC asking for your participation in an event with APS, the company that manages the services we provide to children.

APS is interested in finding out your opinions and experiences in using Administrative Service Organizations or ASO services

such as Transportation, Respite, and Connection Visits. They would also like to hear from youth regarding Supervised Visitation.

These sessions will be confidential and neither DHHR nor KVC will be present. If you attend, APS has said you can bill transportation for this time.

Sessions are on Monday, September 9 and are held at the KVC Charleston Office.

RFP Time is from 1:00-2:00.

Children 9-14 is from 2:30-3:30.

Children 15+ is from 3:30-4:30.

Please call our Charleston office at 304-347-9818 if you want to attend.

## Ride and Raffle is Quickly Approaching!

KVC will be having its Third Annual Ride and Raffle on October 12, 2013.

In the past, this event included rides from various locations around the state and ended in the Kanawha State Forest. We had food, music, and lots of prizes for raffle.

This year, we are switching up some of the riding routes and also having a new end point for

the ride. This year, riders will be ending at Cedar Lakes in Ripley, West Virginia.

We are also changing up the menu and will have a roasted pig supplied by Triple A Farms of Sandyville, West Virginia.

What will not change are the great prizes and raffle items that will be offered thanks to local and national businesses!

While the specifics of the

routes have not been finalized, KVC is looking forward to another great opportunity to support our communities and raise funds to support West Virginia's children.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 12 and be sure to let the riders in your communities know about the event.

If people would like to sign up, they can contact Kristi Ferrell at 304-752-8972.



Riders take off during the 2012 Ride and Raffle event.

## Roane/Jackson Area Picnic on September 7 at Cedar Lakes

Because not all families live close to the Logan area, KVC has decided to have a second picnic in the northern area to accommodate KVC families.

The KVC Roane/Jackson Foster/Adoptive Parent Picnic will take place on Saturday, September 7 at Cedar Lakes in Ripley (picnic shel-

ter #5). The event will take place from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm.

There will be a door prize, food, games, and an obstacle course. For every new potential foster parent that is brought to the picnic, that person will be able to have additional entries for the door

prize.

Please RSVP to Anna Patton at 304-373-1108 by September 4. We are looking forward to seeing you!



## KVC Foster Parent Advisory Board Still in the Works

During the recent KVC Listening Tours, President Brent Lemmon and Vice President Erin Keltner met with families to discuss KVC's foster/adoptive program. During that meeting, many parents showed interest in starting an Advisory Board to become

advocates for our children in the community, to meet and get to know other foster parents, and to recruit other potential homes in our areas.

This idea is still very much in the works and has not been forgotten. KVC is in the process of

trying to determine the best way to get all interested parties involved and how to best organize this group so that it will be fun and effective. Please bear with us as we get this board in place.

If you have questions, comments, or have an interest in

being involved with the advisory board, please contact Erin Keltner at [ekeltner@kvc.org](mailto:ekeltner@kvc.org) or at 304-347-9818. We will be sure to notify parents as this committee gathers. Thanks for your patience!

## Upcoming Training Dates

<u>Name of Training</u>	<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Office Location</u>
CPR/First Aid	Friday, September 13 at 10:00 am	Wyoming Office
Reactive Attachment Disorder	Monday, September 16 10 am—12 pm; 5:30-7:30 pm	Via videoconference
Cybersecurity for Parents and Children with Danielle Cox	Wednesday, October 23 from 10:00 am—12:00 pm	Charleston and via videoconference

Please let your Home Finder know if you will be attending these trainings. We will send an updated and more complete training schedule in the near future.

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Website: [www.kvc.org/west-virginia](http://www.kvc.org/west-virginia)

## KVC West Virginia is on Facebook!

In this day and age, it is not hard to find people who use the media site Facebook in order to stay connected to childhood friends, old college roommates, or former co-workers.

Now family and friends can use the KVC WV Facebook page to keep updated on KVC events, to view highlighted KVC staff, and to browse pictures from KVC events.

The best way to stay current on all of the KVC WV happenings is to 'LIKE' our page! You can go to [www.facebook.com/KVCWV](http://www.facebook.com/KVCWV) or search for 'KVC Behavioral HealthCare West Virginia.'

Thanks to all of those who have already 'liked' the page! KVC appreciates the positive support!

