

4TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

FOCUS ON EDUCATION
AND DEVELOPMENT:
THE FUTURE FOR
INTERNATIONAL ADOPTEES

An opportunity for parents, adoption professionals, educators, medical practitioners, and therapists to interact and examine in-depth the educational and developmental issues facing adoptees.

April 27-28, 2007

Marriott Redmond Town Center
Redmond, WA (a suburb of Seattle)

Sponsored by



FAMILIES FOR RUSSIAN
AND UKRAINIAN ADOPTION

Including Neighboring Countries

"Improving the Lives of Children"

In cooperation with
the FRUA, INC Washington State Chapter

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Don't miss this opportunity to hear nationally known attachment expert Deborah Gray; Dave Ziegler, a pioneer in treating children affected by severe trauma; adoption medicine and Fetal Alcohol Syndrome experts Julia Bledsoe and Julian Davies and other prominent professionals specializing in sensory integration, second-language acquisition, educational testing, dealing with the schools, and more!

OBJECTIVES: Since 1990, growing numbers of parents have turned to international adoption to create families. The experiences of these children and their families have yielded an expanding body of research and new insights into the challenges they face, as well as innovative treatment approaches. FRUA, INC regularly brings together parents, researchers, educators, and other professionals at conferences to focus on the developmental, educational, social, physical, and other challenges and treatment options. This year's Conference will offer information on new research into attachment, FAS, language acquisition, and other challenges common to adoptees and foster children, and zero in on practical strategies parents and professionals can use to equip struggling children to succeed.

♥ General sessions will address key topic areas, while smaller workshops will allow for in-depth discussion. Each session will provide ample opportunity for questions from the audience.

♥ Daily lunches and evening receptions will offer opportunities for attendees and speakers to network. An exhibitor area will provide books and other products and services to supplement the conference content and enhance families' understanding of the culture of their children's birth countries. Attendees will meet prominent authors at book signings and take home a Conference binder with copies of presenter slides, recommended reading and Website lists, and other resource information.

♥ *New this year* – a clearly designated track for professionals, with presentations tailored to provide the specific information they need to know. Still other sessions will offer helpful advice for both parents and professionals.

♥ *Also new this year* – a focus on broader issues shared by many adoptive families, such as telling the adoption story.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- ♥ Parents of international adoptees: Whether you've already brought home your child, are waiting, or just beginning to consider adoption, you will leave the Conference feeling better equipped to deal with any challenges that ensue.
- ♥ Parents of children adopted domestically and foster parents: Research suggests that, from attachment to learning issues, the challenges facing international adoptees often are similar to those encountered by foster children and some domestic adoptees. You'll glean valuable information from the Conference to help you help your children.
- ♥ Adoption caseworkers, social workers, therapists in many specialties, medical professionals: You'll interact with colleagues and parents to learn about current concerns and solutions.
- ♥ Educators: You'll come away with a better understanding of the children in your classrooms. Learn about parents' concerns, why some approaches work and others don't with these children, and how to build a closer relationship with parents and children to fuel real progress in school.

Questions: Visit www.frua.org, e-mail Marjorie@frua.org or call 703-560-6184



FAMILIES FOR RUSSIAN AND UKRAINIAN ADOPTION

Including Neighboring Countries

Families for Russian and Ukrainian Adoption (FRUA, INC) is an international support network of families who have adopted or are interested in adopting from Eastern Europe and neighboring countries. Founded in the early 1990s by parents in the Washington, D.C., area, FRUA, INC has grown to more than 2,300 members – both families and professionals – 36 regional chapters and contacts, and nearly 100 alliance members. FRUA, INC's mission is to support the whole-life experience of Eastern European orphan children and strengthen families created through adoption. FRUA, INC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, all-volunteer organization supported by membership dues and governed by an elected national board.

PROGRAM

THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 2007

- 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Registration
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Reception/Networking Opportunity

FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 2007

- 7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast
7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and
7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Exhibit Hall is Open
8:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. *Welcome and Opening Session*

NURTURING ADOPTIVE FAMILIES: CREATING RESILIENCE AFTER NEGLECT AND TRAUMA

Resilient children and families intentionally build capacities of resilience. This address describes what these capacities are and how to develop them. Families will be guided, not only in specific skill areas, but in the overall use of “learned optimism.”

Presenter: Deborah Gray, MSW, MPA, of Kirkland, WA, a children’s therapist and author of “Attaching in Adoption: Practical Tools for Today’s Parents,” and “Nurturing Adoptions: Creating Resilience after Neglect and Trauma.”



- 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. General Session Panel

POST-ADOPTION CHALLENGES: WHEN TO WORRY...HOW TO GET HELP

Adopted children may have experienced a myriad of risk factors. Our panel of experts on attachment, Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, and speech-language acquisition will review key warning signs of potential problems and offer recommendations on getting the right diagnosis and support, while an authority on dealing with the schools will provide suggestions for getting the services your child needs. Come prepared with questions, and look for other sessions that build on this material!

Panelists: Deborah Gray, MSW, MPA; Julia M. Bledsoe, M.D., Director of the University of Washington Center for Adoption Medicine and a pediatrician with the University’s Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Clinic; Yolanda Comparan, MSW, creator of the Adoption Referral & Information Service in Seattle; Adele S. Raade, Ph.D., CCC/SLP, a speech-language therapist with a practice in Massachusetts. Moderator: Deborah A. McGrew, M.D., OT.

- 12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. Lunch
1:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. Workshops
* Denotes for professionals

A. NEW INSIGHTS INTO THE IMPACT OF PRE-NATAL ALCOHOL EXPOSURE: With advances in neuro-imaging have come new insights into the effects on children of pre-natal alcohol exposure. Two experts will examine what the latest research suggests about the effect on a child’s neurodevelopment.

Presenters: Julia M. Bledsoe, M.D.; Julian K. Davies, M.D., Co-Director, University of Washington Center for Adoption Medicine and pediatrician with the University’s Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Clinic

B. VISION: OFTEN OVERLOOKED IN THE EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE ADOPTED CHILD: Vision is a critical part of child development. Looking beyond the oversimplified 20/20 eye chart, this session will examine other critical visual skills and provide recommendations for the developmental guidance of vision.

Presenter: Curtis R. Baxstrom, MA, OD, FCOVD, FNORA, has a practice in Federal Way, WA.

C. UNDERSTANDING AND GETTING THE EDUCATIONAL SUPPORTS YOUR CHILD NEEDS: This session will help parents understand the current special education law (IDEA 2004) and how to interact successfully with school personnel as part of the IEP/504 team. Case studies will illustrate the challenges and possible solutions for obtaining the services your child needs.

Presenters: Felicia Demchuk, M.Ed., Education Coordinator for the Positive Education Program in Cleveland, Ohio; Pat Gerke, MA, has worked in the field of developmental disabilities for more than 20 years.

D. * IMPACT OF THE CHILD’S INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES ON RELATING AND SOCIAL INTERACTION: This session will apply the presenter’s extensive knowledge of sensory processing and praxis, as well as the emotional development of the child, to understanding how unique individual differences impact the child’s ability to relate in a back-and-forth co-regulated interaction.

Presenter: Rosemary White, OTR, owner of Pediatric Physical and Occupational Therapy Services in Seattle

PROGRAM CONTINUED

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Workshops

* Denotes for professionals

A. BUILDING THE FAMILY: TRANSITIONAL TOOLS FOR NEW ADOPTIVE PARENTS: This workshop will look at the stages of adjustment of the newly placed child from both the child's and parents' perspectives and offer practical suggestions for how parents can encourage and build a foundation of trust and security with the child.

Presenter: Mary-Carter Creech, MA, LMHC, has a practice in the Seattle area

B. THE EDUCATIONAL EVALUATION: FIRST STEP TO GETTING SCHOOL SERVICES FOR YOUR CHILD: The results of the educational evaluation are critical to decisions such as whether your child is eligible for public school services under federal law, what kind of services, and with what frequency. A former school psychologist for more than 30 years looks at what to expect of the evaluation, how it's used, and what you can do to ensure that school officials pay attention to the results.

Presenter: Gwen A. Lewis, Ph.D., A.B.Pd.N, has a private practice in Edmonds, WA

C. HELPING THE LATER PLACED CHILD MOVE INTO ADULTHOOD WITHOUT DRAMA: Later-placed children are more likely to struggle with leaving home to the next step in life. Complications arise when a child has not yet fully developed trust in the adoptive parents and cannot see a relationship beyond the current family situation. Find out how parents can help.

Presenter: Rebecca Perbix Mallos, MSW, practices at the Attachment Center Northwest in Kirkland, WA

D. * SOCIAL COMMUNICATIVE ABILITIES OF SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS WITH FETAL ALCOHOL SYNDROME: Deficits in cognitive, social, and language abilities of children exposed to alcohol in utero create special problems in the way they communicate during social interactions. This session will give professionals working with these children a better understanding of the problems and how professionals and parents can develop strategies to help children.

Presenter: Truman E. Coggins, Ph.D., CCC-SpL, is Associate Professor and Head of the Speech-Language Pathology Center on Human Development and Disability at the University of Washington

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Reception/Networking Opportunity/Exhibits Open

SATURDAY, APRIL 28

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Registration, continental breakfast

7:30 a.m. – 4:15 p.m. Exhibit Hall is Open

8:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. *Welcome and Keynote Address*

HELPING CHILDREN FIND THEIR WAY FROM EARLY TRAUMA TO PERSONAL CONTENTMENT

Parenting -- the most difficult job on the planet -- is even more challenging when you adopt children who started life in a world where their needs were not met. And brain research is telling us that we need to instill in children now the mental elements necessary for happiness and personal contentment later. This is a difficult road for adoptive parents to travel. This presentation will provide directions, signposts along the way, and a reminder to enjoy the trip!

Presenter: Dave Ziegler, Ph.D., is Executive Director of SCAR/Jasper Mountain, an Oregon-based program that treats some of society's most damaged children. He is the author of "Raising Children Who Refuse to Be Raised," "Traumatic Experience and the Brain," and "Achieving Success with Impossible Children: How to Win the Battle of Wills"



11:45 a.m. – 1 p.m. Lunch

1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Workshops

* Denotes for professionals

A. DOES MY CHILD NEED SPEECH-LANGUAGE THERAPY? The internationally adopted child, particularly those adopted after one year of age, is learning English as a second language. This session will address the identification of normal second-language acquisition phenomena, the factors that influence the adopted child's ability to learn English, and how you can find an adoption-competent speech-language pathologist.

Presenter: Adele S. Raade, Ph.D., CCC/SLP, Adjunct Professor at Boston University and a speech-language pathologist in the Boston Area

B. THE ROOTS OF ISSUES FOR ADOPTED TEENS: The teen years are where development and adoption issues collide with the greatest impact. This workshop will review recent research on adopted teens, how to make sense of adopted teen behavior, and effective parenting strategies that can be used.

Presenter: Patty Cogen, MA, Ed.D, is a family and child therapist in private practice in the Seattle area. She is writing a book on "Parenting Your Internationally Adopted Child"

C. THERAPEUTIC ENVIRONMENTS: This workshop is designed for those working with children who have been traumatized by abuse, neglect, violence, and disrupted placements and who experience mental health challenges. The focus will be on how therapeutic environments can impact behavior, emotional development, and neurological development, as well as how core components of evidence-based practices are utilized in therapeutic environments.
Presenter: Scott Hanauer, MA, of Olympia, WA, is Clinical Director of Community Youth Services.

D. * SPEECH AND LANGUAGE OBSTACLES FOR ADOPTED CHILDREN: International adoptees face numerous obstacles in speech and language development. Early language and social delays are common, but most children will catch up to peers unless there are other contributing factors, such as hearing problems, clefts, specific language deficits, learning disabilities, attention deficits, or emotional problems. With such a complex array of possible obstacles, an interdisciplinary team is vital in assessment and treatment.
Presenter: Kathi R. Hoffer, Ph.D., CCC-SLP, is a Speech Pathologist for a consortium of school districts in Oregon and for the Child Development and Rehabilitation Center

2:45 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Workshops

* Denotes for professionals

A. RESILIENCY IN ADOPTION: “Mommy, we never have fun together anymore!” It is not just the adopted child and adoptive parents who need to learn resiliency. Children already in the home, whether by birth or adoption, need to learn to live with sometimes difficult situations which don't meet their fantasies. This workshop is designed to keep the fabric of family life strong, rather than fraying under the pressure of living with a hurting, angry child.

Presenter: Mary Ann Curran, M.A., is Director of Social Services at World Association for Children and Parents in Seattle

B. ISSUES IN DUAL LANGUAGE ACQUISITION FOR ADOPTED CHILDREN: It's important for parents to know about first- and second-language acquisition – what's normal and what's disordered. This workshop will cover the basics on bilingualism, language stimulation techniques, second-language acquisition patterns, and how to work with the school team in assessment and intervention.

Presenter: Kathi R. Hoffer, Ph.D., CCC-SLP, is a Speech Pathologist for a consortium of school districts in Oregon

C. WHEN IT'S NOT WORKING IN SCHOOL: UNDERSTANDING OUR CHILDREN'S SYMPTOMS: It's often difficult and frustrating for parents to understand what certain signs, risk factors, and behavioral cues suggest about problems their children may be having in school. This workshop will examine those and help parents understand when a diagnosis is important. Parents will learn about some tools necessary for meeting the challenges.

Presenter: Shelley Sears-Seigal, MAEd, MAPsych, has a private practice in Gig Harbor, WA

D. * ASSESSMENT OF THE INTERNATIONALLY ADOPTED CHILD: LANGUAGE DIFFERENCE OR DISORDER?: International adoptees are learning English as a second language (ESL). What are the differences between traditional ESL children and international adoptees, particularly those adopted after one year of age? This session will address the identification of normal second-language acquisition phenomena, the factors influencing the adopted child's ability to learn English, and the differential diagnosis of language difference or disorder.

Presenter: Adele S. Raade, Ph.D., CCC/SLP, Adjunct Professor at Boston University and a speech-language pathologist in the Boston Area

4:15 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. *Closing Session*

TALKING ABOUT ADOPTION WITH INFANTS, TODDLERS, AND TEENS: Telling the adoption story to our children has become an accepted part of modern parenting. But are we telling our children their story or ours? Learn how to empower your child to tell his or her own story and how this process deepens attachment, supports development, and nurtures resiliency from infancy through the teen years.

Presenter: Patty Cogen, MA, Ed.D, is a family and child therapist in private practice in the Seattle area who specializes in adoption and development

CONFERENCE DETAILS

♥ REGISTRATION FEES:

PARENT/SINGLE	One Day \$150	Both Days \$250	
PARENT/COUPLE	One Day \$260	Both Days \$475	
<i>(One Conference binder per couple)</i>			
PROFESSIONAL	One Day \$190	Both Days \$350	
<i>(Must register as Professional to receive CEUs or Certificate of Participation)</i>			CEU Processing Fee \$15
FRUA, INC MEMBERS receive discount of \$35 one day / \$50 both days (one discount per couple).			
(Registration for non-members includes 1-year FRUA, INC membership.)			
FULL-TIME STUDENT discount \$25.			

♥ **REGISTER EARLY:** Register by March 9 to receive the \$25 early discount. Registration is first-come, first-served. As workshops are filled, attendees will be given their 2nd choice. Walk-in registrations will be accepted as space permits, but we cannot provide lunches. Confirmation notice will be sent by e-mail for registrations received by April 20.

CONFERENCE DETAILS

♥ **CERTIFICATES:** You must register as a professional to be considered for CEUs or Certificates of Participation. Registration as a professional automatically places you on the list to receive one of the two. FRUA, INC anticipates offering CEUs in association with Cascadia Training, which is approved by the NASW, Washington State Chapter, to provide continuing education units to Licensed Social Workers, Mental Health Counselors, and Marriage and Family Therapists. FRUA typically offers 12-20 CEU hours for Conference attendance. For updates and number of hours for this Conference, check www.frua.org/Conference/2007 Conference page or e-mail Marjorie@frua.org. Certificates of Completion will be awarded at the end of each day. The Cascadia Training provider number is 1975-118, and it is an OSPI approved provider of in-service education. Certificates of Participation will be awarded to non-NASW professionals for submission to appropriate licensing boards.

♥ **HOTEL RESERVATIONS:** FRUA, INC has reserved a block of rooms for attendees in the Conference hotel, the Redmond Marriott Town Center, 7401 164th Ave. NE, Redmond, WA 98052. The hotel is located in Redmond, 14 miles from Seattle, off of SR 520, and 26 miles from the Seattle-Tacoma airport. The special Conference room rate is \$109 per night, plus tax. Reservations for the Conference should be made directly with Marriott by calling 800-218-7141. Specify your connection with the Conference to receive the special room rate. You must make reservations directly with Marriott by Friday, April 6, to guarantee a room in the Redmond Marriott Town Center. For more info on the hotel, see <http://marriott.com/property/propertypage/seamc>.

♥ **PARKING:** Conference attendees will enjoy free daily parking in the Redmond Town Center parking area. The hotel will offer 50% off on overnight self-parking for attendees. Check with the hotel valet parking attendants or the front desk for instructions on where to park.

♥ **MEALS/NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES:** Continental breakfast and lunch are included in the fee. On Thursday and Friday nights, there will be receptions/networking opportunities (with cash bar) from 7-9 p.m. Please e-mail Marjorie@frua.org with meal restrictions.

♥ **CHILD CARE:** FRUA, INC is not a licensed child-care provider and cannot provide child care on-site. If you are traveling to the Conference and would like to share child care in your room with another family, e-mail Marjorie@frua.org by April 6. Upon request, FRUA will circulate a list with the names and e-mail addresses of families seeking to share. For updates on other child care possibilities, see www.frua.org/Conference/2007 Conference page.

♥ **CANCELLATION/REFUND:** Participants cancelling registrations by April 4 will receive a credit or refund, less \$35 processing fee. E-mail lori@frua.org with notice of cancellation. No refunds will be given for cancellations after April 4 or for no-shows.

♥ **PLANNING:** FRUA, INC thanks the following for their assistance in planning the Conference: Deborah Gray, FRUA, INC Advisory Board Member; Yolanda Comparan of Adoption Referral & Information Service; FRUA, INC Washington State Chapter Board; and Cascadia Training/Northwest Resource Associates.

Questions: Visit www.frua.org/Conference/2007 Conference page; e-mail Marjorie@frua.org or call 703-560-6184.

SPACE IS LIMITED - REGISTER EARLY!

BY MAIL: Make check payable to FRUA, INC and mail with this form to Lori Zimmer, 13805 W. 56th Terrace, Shawnee, KS 66216.

ON-LINE: At www.frua.org click on "Conference," then "2007 Conference," then the link on that page. You may submit the form on-line along with your credit card payment using PayPal.

Name(s) _____ (A)
 _____ (B)

Address _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

FOR OFFICE
 USE ONLY:
 NO.: _____
 DATE: _____

FRIDAY 1:45 - 3:15

	CHOICES 1 AND 2 Attendee A	Attendee B
A. FAS: NEW INSIGHTS	_____	_____
B. VISION: OFTEN OVERLOOKED	_____	_____
C. GETTING EDUCATIONAL SUPPORTS	_____	_____
*D. RELATING AND SOCIAL INTERACTION	_____	_____

FRIDAY 3:30 - 5:00

	CHOICES 1 AND 2 Attendee A	Attendee B
A. BUILDING FAMILY: TRANSITION TOOLS	_____	_____
B. EDUCATIONAL EVALUATION	_____	_____
C. MOVING LATER-PLACED CHILD TO ADULTHOOD	_____	_____
*D. FAS AND SOCIAL COMMUNICATION	_____	_____

SATURDAY 1:00 - 2:30

	CHOICES 1 AND 2 Attendee A	Attendee B
A. NEED SPEECH-LANGUAGE THERAPY?	_____	_____
B. ROOTS OF ISSUES FOR ADOPTED TEENS	_____	_____
C. THERAPEUTIC ENVIRONMENTS	_____	_____
*D. SPEECH-LANGUAGE OBSTACLES	_____	_____

SATURDAY 2:45 - 4:00

	CHOICES 1 AND 2 Attendee A	Attendee B
A. RESILIENCY IN ADOPTION	_____	_____
B. ISSUES IN DUAL LANGUAGE ACQUISITION	_____	_____
C. WHEN IT'S NOT WORKING IN SCHOOL	_____	_____
*D. LANGUAGE DIFFERENCE OR DISORDER?	_____	_____

* Professional track

FEE NOTES: Early registration discount — \$25 for registrations received by March 9.

FRUA, INC member discount — \$35 one day/\$50 both days (one discount per couple).

Non-members: Registration includes 1-year FRUA, INC membership.

Full-time student discount — \$25.

Registration Friday, April 27 \$ _____

Registration Saturday, April 28 \$ _____

Registration both days \$ _____

CEU processing fee — \$15 \$ + _____

Professional — Specify NASW _____ or other _____

SUBTOTAL \$ _____

FRUA, INC member discount (\$35 one day/\$50 both) \$ - _____

Early registration discount (\$25 by March 9) \$ - _____

Full-time student discount (\$25) \$ - _____

TOTAL \$ _____