We’ve Moved!
Come visit us any time

Feel free to stop by between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. to meet our staff and browse our library. December is a great time to come downtown to see the holiday lights and to shop.

✓ Bring your children
✓ We serve snacks and hot apple cider in December
✓ We’re on the MAX line directly in front of Pioneer Square
✓ We validate parking; call for specifics

621 SW Morrison Street, Suite 450 - Portland

What are you waiting for?

Post adoption research shows most families wait too long before asking for assistance. (Groze, V. Successful adoptive families: A longitudinal study of special needs adoption). The following is an excerpt from an adoptive mother’s comment:

“I wish I had known that connecting with ORPARC would be so much more than just having access to a treasure trove of excellent resource materials. As a foster (and later adoptive) parent of three special needs children, we spent the last nine years just keeping up with our sweet, but very “busy” little people. Now that they are school age, we have “discovered” ORPARC. Of course, you were there waiting for us, even sending us newsletters that were put aside with other books, magazines and mail that went unread. Many of us make the mistake of not seeing our need to use the support offered by ORPARC. We think our experience parenting birth kids will be enough to raise our adopted children. We have come to realize there is a lot to learn if we truly want to know our children’s hearts and how to help them grow up whole and healthy.”
New in the Library

Books

- Birth Marks: Transracial Adoption in Contemporary America, by Sandra Patton
- City of One: A memoir of a childhood in foster care, by Francine Curnos

Videos

- The Baby Dance, An adoption movie featuring Stockard Channing and Laura Dern
- The School Success Kit: Answers to A.D.D., From John Taylor

Booklets

- Helping Hands and Smiling Faces: Getting Cooperation of Household Chores, by John Taylor
- No More Sibling Rivalry: A Practical Guide for Parents, by John Taylor

Attention Caseworkers and Other Professionals

“A person is NEVER too old to be adopted.”
Oregon Governor Ted Kulongoski
Shoulder to Shoulder Conference

This theme, reiterated at last month’s national CWLA Adoption conference, is the central tenet of the newly released 34-minute video “Finding Forever Families,” produced by the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption. With inspiring case studies and “how to” approaches, this video will walk caseworkers and other child advocates through successful strategies for finding families for teens. Check it out from the ORPARC library.

Thanks in great part to a generous donation from the Hanna Andersson Corporation, ORPARC now has a section in its library for professionals who serve our state adoptive families. The following list is a brief depiction of what we have. Please visit our website for additional titles.

- Handbook of Attachment, edited by Jude Cassidy and Phillip R. Shaver
- Psychological Assessment of Sexually Abused Children and Their Families, by William N. Friedrich
- Psychological Trauma, by Bessel A. van der Kolk
- Transracial Adoption and Foster Care: Practice Issues for Professionals, by Joseph Crumbley
- Treating Attachment Disorders: From Theory to Therapy, by Karl Heinz Brisch
- Treating Children with Sexually Abusive Behavior Problems, by Jan Ellen Burton and Lucinda A. Rasmussen
- Treating Troubled Children and Their Families, by Ellen F. Wachtel

Please visit our website to find monthly featured materials from our library.
Upcoming ORPARC Trainings

Courses taught by ORPARC staff and other professionals. Registration required. Call 503-241-0799, 1-800-764-8367, or e-mail orparc@nwresource.org.

Specific times and locations to be announced. Please check our website or call us for details on upcoming trainings.

Family Strategies for Improving Attachment
Saturday, March 12, 2005 – Redmond
Saturday, March 19, 2005 – Baker City
April 2005 – Portland

Attachment Issues in the Home
Thursday, March 24, 2005 – Oregon City

Lifestory Books: A Communication Tool
March 2005 – Portland
April 2005 – Salem

Discipline and Consequencing
Saturday, March 5, 2005 – Medford
Saturday, April 16, 2005 – Gold Beach

Behavior Management Approaches
Collaboration between ORPARC and the PSU Child Welfare Partnership
National expert and author Dr. Richard Delaney teaches parents and professionals to understand the underlying causes of abused children’s challenging behaviors and develop appropriate responses for helping children learn acceptable behaviors.

May 15, 2005 - Portland  May 21, 2005 - Bend

ORPARC trainings are free to state adoptive, guardian and foster parents. Childcare and Travel Reimbursement are available as funds allow. Request prior to training. Events are held in accessible locations. Please request auxiliary aids, translation/interpretation services, and alternative forms of written materials for persons with disabilities at least two weeks in advance.

Additional Trainings of Interest
These two organizations offer excellent trainings in all regions of the state. Please contact them directly for specific details.

PSU Child Welfare Partnership
(Visit www.cwpsalem.pdx.edu/foster for more information.)

Helping Children Attach in Your Foster or Adoptive Home  Relatives as Caregivers  Looking Back: Learning from a Former Foster Child’s Experiences  The Teen Brain  Caring for the Caregiver  Sensitive Transitions  The Science of Successful Parenting

Contact Information
Metropolitan: Sandra McIlhenny, 503-731-3134 x 1
Southern: Kristie Bishop, 541-687-7373 x 382
Western: Marlene Tuthill, 503-842-5571 x 319
Eastern: Mindy Rickman, 541-504-1320 x 436

Oregon Parent Training and Information Center
(Visit www.orpti.org for information.)

Transition Basics for Students with Disabilities and their Families  How Behavior is Addressed in the IEP  Behaviors That Interfere with Learning  Transition from High School/Age of Majority Issues  Transition: Postsecondary Options for Education and Employment  Behavior in the IEP
Are Your Teens “Home Alone’’?

Do you recall from your own teen years the connotations surrounding the back seat of the family station wagon? A recent study published in Pediatrics confirms the family home, not the family car, is where minor children are having sex, and that youth unsupervised for 30 or more hours a week were more likely to be sexually active than those left unsupervised for 5 or fewer hours a week. And conceiving babies is only one undesirable consequence. The exploding rates of sexually transmitted diseases in the age 15-24 population poses serious compromises for these young persons’ futures.

The importance of adequate parental supervision is documented in the new book: Home-Alone America, by Mary Eberstadt (available in ORPARC library). Eberstadt not only warns that “absent parents are practically an invitation to early sexual initiation,” but also asks parents to consider the “causal chain …in which home-alone teenagers pick up alcohol and drug habits that …make it easier to act on feral behaviors, including suicide.”

Teens, as all children, need time with caring adults to feel safe, and to develop healthy relationships and protective self esteem. Consider your child’s individual maturity level and put into place a carefully crafted “check-in” plan if you must leave a teen unsupervised for brief periods.

Scholarships Available

The Chafee Education and Training Voucher (ETV) assists current or former foster care youth with post-secondary education and training. Youth may be eligible to receive up to $5,000 per year. Eligibility:

- Currently in or have been in DHS or Tribal foster care for at least 180 days (six months) after their 14th birthday.
- Apply for ETV funds prior to age 21 (If a youth is participating in the ETV program at age 21, they may continue to receive assistance to age 23).

Obtain applications at www.osac.state.or.us/chafeeetv