

It is time to get involved and help fellow foster and adoptive parents. It is election time in the Metro and South regions for new regional vice presidents to represent the adoptive and foster parents in AFPAG. Anyone who would like to serve or nominate please contact the nominating chair Ron Mitchell. By e-mail at rlm123@mindspring.com, by voice or fax at 770-977-3453, or by mail at 2695 Dellinger Drive, Marietta, GA 30062

Positions Open in the following Sub-Regions:

Metro 1 representing COBB, DOUGLAS, and FULTON.

Metro 2 representing CLAYTON, DEKALB, GWINNETT, AND ROCKDALE.

South East 1 representing BRYAN, BULLOCK, CANDLER, CHATHAM, EFFINGHAM, EVANS, LIBERTY, LONG, MCINTOSH, TATTNALL, and TOOMBS.

South East 2 representing APPLING, ATKINSON, BACON, BRANTLEY, CAMDEN, CHARLTON, CLINCH, COFFEE, GLYNN, JEFF DAVIS, PIERCE, WARE, and WAYNE.

South West 1 representing BAKER, CALHOUN, DECATUR, DOUGHERTY, EARLY, GRADY, LEE, MILLER, MITCHELL, SEMINOLE, TERRELL, and THOMAS.

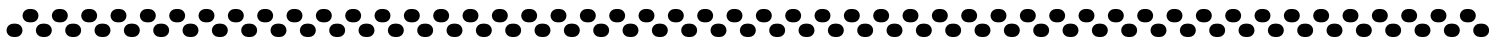
South West 2 representing BEN HILL, BERRIEN, BROOKS, COLQUITT, COOK, ECHOLS, IRWIN, LANIER, LOWMEDES, TIFT, TURNER, and WORTH.

Some of the duties and responsibilities of the sub-region vice-president:

- Attend and report at quarterly board meetings.
- Attend and assist at annual AFPAG conference.
- Assist county representatives in forming an association where none currently exists.
- Assist foster and adoptive parents on requested issues.
- Establish and maintain a working communication with county DFCS in the sub-region.
- Maintain current knowledge of AFPAG and state DFCS position statements and policies.

The term is for 2 years.

Nominations will close at the business meeting at conference. Ballots will be mailed the week after the annual AFPAG conference.



Medicine For Children

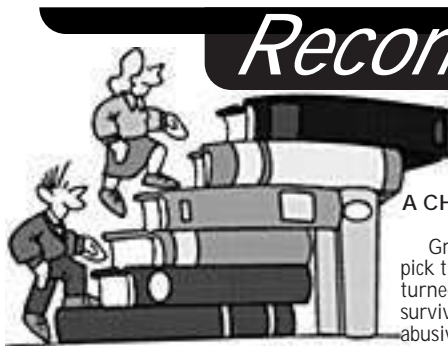
Childhood Ear Infections

"Many of the kids who are becoming infected with resistant bacteria are the children of affluent parents who have ready access to medical care. Their parents demand antibiotics and their doctors prescribe them. But parents should be trying to stop antibiotic use for their kids, not pressuring doctors to prescribe.

It is proven that most kids with mild to moderate otitis media will get better within 72 hours without antibiotics. In the Netherlands, a child with an ear infection who's older than two is not given antibiotics initially and is re-examined in three days. Younger kids are re-examined the following day. The rate of antibiotic resistance in the Netherlands is only 1% compared to 25% in the U.S.

Regarding Pain - it's important to remember that antibiotics do not stop pain. To treat pain, parents can use over-the-counter medications such as Motrin (ibuprofen), which is quite effective for ear pain, or Tylenol (acetaminophen), which is moderately effective. There are also prescription anesthetic ear drops parents can keep on hand. When the nasal spray form of the flu vaccine comes out, kids should get this to reduce their risk of ear infections." *

Edward O'Roarke, MD • Medical Director of Infection Control • The Children's Hospital, Boston



Recommended FOR FOSTER AND ADOPTIVE PARENTS Reading

A CHILD CALL "IT"; THE LOST BOY; A MAN NAMED DAVE
Author Dave Pelzer

Grab a tissue and carve out a little extra quiet time because once you pick these books up you will not want to put them back down until you have turned the last page. All three books are written by the victim's and survivor's perspective as he went through three different stages in his abusive life.

A Child Called "It" is written from an abused child's point of view as he slowly watches his fairy tale life turn into a living nightmare of abuse and neglect that almost left him dead! It reveals how a loving mother can turn into a monster that no longer considers her own birth child as her son but as slave and as a toy to be tortured and abused. If it weren't for his own Will to survive he would not be here today.

The Lost Boy is written from the point of view of a child that has been "rescued" from abuse and brought into the foster care system. This book will carry you through the roller coaster ride of a child that is looking for love and stability but must bounce through the system from one home to another. With foster parents that give every thing they have to try to save this child from the mother that still wants to hurt him from afar.

A Man Named Dave is the inspirational end to this trilogy of books. It will bring you to the happy ending of how this child could grow into the young man that was willing to forgive the mother that hurt him and the system that seemed to fail him and turn it into the triumph of peace and love and family. This book will leave you knowing that what you do every day with your children makes a difference somewhere down the road! ☑ Check His web site: www.davepelzer.com

"I can personally and highly recommend all of these books I read them with my foster son and we both wept with sorrow then with contentment. These books helped me to understand him and they helped him to see he is not alone. Add them to your library today!" - Rise Wampler, Legislative Chairperson

Recommended TV



Judging Amy is a new T.V. drama on CBS Tuesday nights from 10 to 11PM. It is written from a juvenile court judge's perspective. Although not always concerning foster care issues, it does help show life from the judge's perspective. It shows the struggles a judge goes through before, during and after making decisions on a case. It will help you to understand that judges are only human and they do feel the after effects of what they do! It is very well written and well worth the hour to watch it. ☺