



post adoption PARENT GUIDE

April 2022 | Issue 12

Hello Families,

Spring is officially here! Nice weather and longer days ahead. We hope you all are enjoying the changes around us. In this newsletter you will find helpful information as well as other resources and events.

April is also Child Abuse Awareness month and Easter is just around the corner. We hope your family is safe, well, and enjoying spring!

Please reach out via email at [id-adoptsupport@riseservicesinc.org](mailto:adoptsupport@riseservicesinc.org) or 208-252-6117. We look forward to answering questions and working with your family.

[Visit our website](#)



Who Is RISE?

RISE, Inc is a non-profit organization that was founded in 1987. RISE provides a range of services to adults, children, and families in Utah, Oregon, Arizona, Texas, and Idaho.

RISE provides services such as foster care, after-school and summer programs, early intervention, mental health therapy, behavioral supports, respite, and disability services. RISE, Inc. recently acquired the Idaho chapter formally known as Community Partnerships of Idaho.

NATIONAL OBSERVATIONS

APRIL IS

National Child Abuse Prevention Month

childwelfare.gov/preventionmonth



#ThrivingFamilies



National Child Abuse Prevention Month

This month and throughout the year, RISE encourages all individuals and organizations to play a role in making their community a better place for children and families. By ensuring that parents have the knowledge, skills, and resources they need to care for their children, we can help promote the social and emotional well-being of children and youth, and prevent child maltreatment within families and communities.

Protective factors are the strengths and resources families draw on during difficult times to shield them from life's stresses. Research shows that when parents possess protective factors, the risk for neglect and abuse diminish and optimal outcomes for children, youth, and families are promoted. Major protective factors include knowledge of parenting, knowledge of child development, parental resilience, social connections, and concrete support.

In support of these efforts, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Children's Bureau, Office on Child Abuse and Neglect, together with Child Welfare Information Gateway, and the FRIENDS National Resource Center for Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention developed the **2021/2022 Prevention Resource Guide**. The guide provides more information about protective factors and highlights examples of innovative prevention approaches being implemented by communities across the country.

There are four major types of child maltreatment: Neglect, Physical Abuse, Sexual Abuse, and Emotional Abuse. Examples of symptoms are listed below:

Neglect: Signs of malnutrition; Poor hygiene; Unattended physical or medical problems

Physical abuse: Unexplained bruises, burns, or welts; Child appears frightened of a parent or caregiver

Sexual abuse: Pain, bleeding, redness, or swelling in anal or genital area; Age-

inappropriate sexual play with toys, self, or others; Age-inappropriate knowledge of sex

Emotional abuse: Extremes in behavior, ranging from overly aggressive to overly passive; Delayed physical, emotional, or intellectual development.

Be aware of the signs. Learn more about Idaho Reporting of child abuse [here](#). If you suspect abuse or neglect, please call:

Statewide: 1-855-552-KIDS (5437)
Treasure Valley: 1-208-334-KIDS (5437)

Child Abuse Awareness Pinwheels

Prevent Child Abuse America introduced the blue pinwheel as the national symbol for Child Abuse Prevention in 2008. Representing a carefree childhood, the pinwheel reminds us of the responsibility we have to ensure happy, healthy, and safe childhoods for all children in our communities.



Join us in growing a better tomorrow for all children by participating in the nationwide virtual pinwheel garden. Donate and plant a pinwheel with your message of support to show how you are helping families and children thrive!

Visit the [Virtual Garden](#)

National Events

April 8, 2022: Wear Blue Day as a way to show support and increase awareness of child abuse.

Idaho Specific Events

Every year, the Idaho Children's Trust Fund looks forward to the opportunity to spread the important message of awareness for Child Abuse Prevention. To help increase excitement, a new theme is chosen annually.

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month



In 2022, "Be a Champion 4 Idaho Kids"

#Champion4IDKids

"Every child deserves a champion; an adult who will never give up on them, who understands the power of connection and insists that they become the best they can possibly be." — Rita Pearson

ACTIVITIES TO RAISE AWARENESS

Child Abuse Prevention month is a time to raise awareness and inspire collective action, so children can lead their best lives. Pinwheels symbolize a carefree, healthy childhood. The color blue is the national color of Child Abuse Prevention. Idaho families and children need champions like you, so please participate in any possible way:

- Host a window painting to raise awareness
- Light up your building or business with blue lights
- Participate in Wear Blue Day **April 8, 2022**
- Display blue pinwheels indoors or outdoors
- Post your support on social media using the hashtag **#Champion4IDKids**
- Construct a window display that champions Idaho children
- Donate \$300 to sponsor a school or sportsfield, so they can participate in the statewide chain-link fence message challenge: CHAMPION 4 KIDS
- Learn more from Idaho Children's Trust Fund:
<https://idahochildrenstrustfund.org/childabusepreventionmonth/>
- Contact Kim Hemmert at kim.hemmert@ctf.idaho.gov to sponsor or donate



EASTER FUN



As April has arrived, so has the Easter Bunny! Our Post-Permanency team has created a list of events in your regions that your family may enjoy.

Region 1



Region 3

SPRING EGGSTRAVAGANZA

SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 2022
11:00 AM - 3:00 PM

20,000 EASTER EGGS - SPRING MARKET - EASTER BUNNY PHOTOS

Spring into action at downtown Caldwell's Spring EGGstravaganza! Children will enjoy hunting for over 20,000 thousand eggs, meeting the Easter bunny, our Homes of Idaho 'cutest chick' contest, and other children's activities. The whole family will enjoy our spring market with local crafts and yummy treats!

11 AM - 3 years old & under @ Caldwell Luxe Theatre

12 PM - 4 to 6 years old @ Caldwell Train Depot

1 PM - 7 to 10 years old @ Indian Creek Plaza

2 PM EGGstrapecial Egg Hunt @ Caldwell Train Depot (for those with physical, cognitive, and visual impairments)

Region 4

Spring Bunny Scavenger Hunt

The Village Meridian, Idaho

Hop on over to the Village at Meridian and discover 15 little bunnies during the Spring Bunny Scavenger Hunt. Bounce by our Concierge Center, located next to Kona Grill at Fountain Square, to pick up your Scavenger hunt guide or print it in advance at home. Once you've found all of the bubbly bunnies, return to the concierge for a special goodie. Plan for the hunt, our bunnies are throughout the Village.



Region 5



Join us at the Filer Fire Department for the annual Easter Egg Hunt!

Region 6

Easter Egg Eggstravaganza

Sat, Apr 9, 11 AM – 2 PM

Chief Theater Sign
233 N Main St STE C, Pocatello, ID

Old Town is the place to be for the Family Fun Easter Egg Eggstravaganza! Participating merchants will have 15,000 Easter Eggs filled with fun items for the kids beginning at 11am.

Region 7



1220 Event Center Drive
Idaho Falls, Idaho

Additionally, we've included events that are not Easter-related if your family does not celebrate.

Family Friendly Comedy Show

Sat, Apr 16, 2:00 – 3:30 PM
The Waterfront at Snake River Landing
1220 Event Center Drive, Idaho Falls, ID

Side-splitting laughter with the hit TV series Studio C and Divine Comedy cast. Join us for hilarious comedy the whole family can enjoy! About this Even

Family Fun Fair Spokane & Coeur d' Alene

Sat, Apr 30, 11 AM – 4 PM PDT
Silver Lake Mall
200 W Hanley Ave, Coeur d'Alene, ID

Monster Truck Grand Nationals

Sat, Apr 2, 7 – 10 PM
Holt Arena
Pocatello, ID
Don't miss the No Limits Grand Nationals and Super/Cross in the Holt Arena in Pocatello

Easter and Adoption

This month, our program supervisor has spent time reading about the connection between Easter and Adoption. As we've shared in the past newsletter, here is a short excerpt of the article. We hope that you find this article helpful and interesting. The full article can be read by visiting [Easter & Adoption](#).

Easter can have a different meaning for some. It's linked to adoption in the sense of a new life for your child (or children) as they come to us from a variety of backgrounds and experiences. These lived experiences may include different memories or lack of experiences linked to Easter. Upon adoption (or even entering foster care), our children are faced with many new things that they've never experienced and so we are constantly reminded of all the new things that they might need or guidance that they will need. This can happen with any holiday, not just Easter. Just as Easter, adoption is a chance for a new life, one that will be full of joy and void of trauma.

TRAINING/SEMINARS/RESOURCES

2022 Online Children's Mental Health Symposium

The Institute of Child Psychology continues striving to provide parents, caregivers, and professionals with a diverse group of professionals to help support children struggling with mental health. This global event brought together thousands of people from every corner of the world. April 22-24, times vary. [Register Here](#).

CASE MANAGER CORNER



This month, our case manager, Jessica spotlights some neat resources linked to college.

It's that time of year to start thinking about college applications and scholarships. These days we can look everything up online but sometimes it's nice to refer to a book for information. Fostering Families has created a special book called, *College Ready, Career Prepared: A Guide for Postsecondary Education for Youth and Foster Care*.

Some of the highlights in the book include:

- Choosing the right college for you
- Evaluating alternatives to college

- How to write an essay for applications
- Where to find mental health and other support
- Workforce training, mentoring and internship programs
- Living on your own, and much more!

Send an email to sales@fosteringmediaconnections.org to be notified once the guide is available.

The tentative release date for a digital copy is APRIL 1, 2022! There may even be some hard copies available for purchase.



Jennifer Jopling is the Director of Programs & Development for **UMPS CARE Charities**, the official philanthropy of Major League Baseball Umpires. RISE has been informed about an incredible scholarship opportunity for youth adopted late in life through the All-Star College Scholarship Program. This scholarship offers \$10,000 per year for four years, and on top of funding each student is paired with a Major League umpire as part of their mentorship team to help them succeed in school and beyond! Below you will find more details.

The UMPS CARE Charities All-Star College Scholarship is for youth adopted at or after the age of 13. This scholarship gives students \$10,000 per year for a four year institution and \$5,000 for a two year institution. To learn more about the eligibility **visit our scholarship page**. Here is **the application** which can be saved and returned to at a later date. The deadline for submission is May 13, 2022.