



MIAMI DADE COUNTY FOSTER & ADOPTIVE PARENT ASSOCIATION

(“MDCFAPA”)

(Our Motto: “You Are Not Alone”)

JANUARY

2024 Newsletter



2024

Board Members

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*Travis Davis,
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*Barbara Johnson,
Vice President*

*Joann Jones,
Corresponding Secretary*

*Ethel Rivers,
Treasurer*

*Cynthia Hughes,
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*Elizabeth Brooks,
Chaplain*

*Lily Rodriguez,
Board Member At Large*

*Lashoan Singleton,
Board Member At Large*

*Shamele Jenkins,
Executive Director
& Immediate Past President
(305) 469-1157*

MDCFAPA is open to ALL co-parents (foster, adoptive, & kinship, non-relative caregivers and biological parents) in Miami Dade County as well as those interested in being advocates of our mission

**DUE TO THE PAST
PANDEMIC WE ARE NOW
ON “ZOOM”**

3th Saturday Meeting

SAT.

JAN. 20, 2024

10:30am – 12:30pm

2.0 hrs in-service training hours

Guest Speaker:

**Juan Fernandez-Barquin
Clerk of the Court and
Comptroller
Miami-Dade County**

Learn about new laws that pertain to homeownership, parenting, traffic tickets, court hearings and more!

Meeting ID: 890 4248 5236

Passcode: 284224

Registration Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89042485236?pwd=Z0t0c-uspj4oGdLkAtOBAjfltxdoEXjkr06>

PLUS:
Zoom prizes galore including a \$50 Visa Card and more!



MDCFAPA First Annual Talent

Contest & Showcase is

coming in **March 2024** for ages 4-21 (two [2] divisions)....

cash prizes & more...

(Open to all adopted, foster & relative care youth)

PRIZES: AGES 4-11

1st Prize: \$300.00

2nd Prize: \$200.00

3rd Prize: \$100.00

PRIZES: AGES 12-21

1st Prize: \$400.00

2nd Prize: \$300.00

3rd Prize: \$200.00

**Zoom Auditions & Video
Submissions**

call to get your appointment

RSVP: (305) 474-0078

Leave your name & telephone number (say you are calling to audition)



**EMPRESS & QUEENS
ALL MOTHER'S ZOOM
January 9, 2024
7:30pm**

Meeting ID: 821 5912 8644

Security
Passcode: 248987

Registration Link :
[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYscuCprDMsHtBMtjQdcWMntJkea0gpFAaG](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYscuCprDMsHtBMtjQdcWMntJkea0gpFAaG)

Great Zoom prizes and hear updates on future outings viewing!!!



CALLING

**ALL TWEEN/TEENS
AGES 12-18
Jewels & Gems Zoom
Tuesday, January 23, 2024
7:30pm**

Security: 849 8204 3883

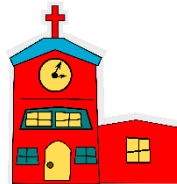
Passcode: 760340

Registration Link:
[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAKf-uoqjgiEtdtrQKQinnYUQ264qIEtpSB](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAKf-uoqjgiEtdtrQKQinnYUQ264qIEtpSB)

**Zoom Prizes including two (2)
\$25.00 gift cards and more!**



**FIRST FAITH
& FAMILY DAY**



**SUNDAY, JANUARY 28TH
3:00PM – 5:00PM**

Many of our youth come into care and have never been to church while others are accustomed to attending and perhaps the new family does not attend church. We ask that on Sunday, January 28th you and your family join us in church so we can fellowship together! Refreshments will be served after the service so please register so that we can be assured of having enough for everyone!

**** NORTH DADE ****

**New Providence Missionary
Baptist Church
760 NW 53rd St Miami 33127**

RSVP: 305-308-5881

**** SOUTH DADE ****

**Goulds Church of Nazarene
11805 SW 232 Street
Goulds 33170**

RSVP: 305-431-3272



**"SCHOOL DATES"
MIAMI DADE PUBLIC
SCHOOL**

January 17: Teacher planning day; no students in school, available to opt

January 20: MLK.'s Birthday; holiday for students

February 17: All Presidents Day; holiday for students

March 24-28: Spring recess for
March 31 - Teacher planning day; no students in school, available to opt April 1

April 18: - Teacher planning day; no students in school;

May 26: Memorial Day; holiday for students and employees

June 5: Last Day of School

**NEW FLORIDA LAWS
Effective January 1, 2024**

Special Persons Registry

SB 784 is known as the 'Protect Our Loved Ones Act' -- which authorizes local law enforcement agencies to develop and maintain a database called the 'Special Persons Registry.'

This database would account for people who may suffer from developmental or psychological conditions, as well as any other disability.

It would allow the law enforcement agencies to provide relevant information from the registry to law enforcement officers under certain

circumstances -- aimed at improving interactions between first responders and civilians with certain conditions.

The law specifically lists conditions such as autism spectrum disorder, down syndrome as well as Alzheimer's disease or a dementia-related disorder.

Pretrial Release and Detention

[SB 1534](#) addresses [Pretrial Release and Detention](#) -- which states that only a judge can set, reduce or alter an individual's bail.

It requires the Florida Supreme Court to create and periodically update a statewide uniform bail bond schedule for certain offenses, and prohibits a judge from establishing a local bond schedule that sets lower amounts than the Supreme Court's schedule.

SB 1534 outlines circumstances in which a defendant can't be released ahead of an initial hearing, which includes people who are on pretrial release probation, sexual offenders, repeat felony offenders, etc.

Child protection investigations

[SB 7056](#) requires the seven Florida counties that handle child protection investigations to give control to the state's Department of Children and Families.

Broward Sheriff's Office was notably one of the seven counties included.

DCF will handle all child abuse investigations beginning on January 1, 2024.

SB 7056 states that DCF would obtain files and documents, but that certain Sheriff's would remain the custodians or certain files and documents.



SEEKING MDC HOMEOWNERS call 305-474-0078

leave your name and tele we've got lots of info to share

* **FREE ENTRY INTO * NATIONAL PARKS including Biscayne and Everglades**

On six days in 2024, all National Park Service sites that charge an entrance fee will offer free admission to everyone. Mark your calendar for these entrance fee-free dates in 2024:

- **January 15:** [Birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr.](#)
- **April 20:** First day of [National Park Week](#)
- **June 19:** [Juneteenth National Independence Day](#)
- **August 4:** Anniversary of the [Great American Outdoors Act](#)
- **September 28:** [National Public Lands Day](#)
- **November 11:** [Veterans Day](#)



HOTLINES

**Foster Placement Line
(305) 810-1004**

**Citrus FCN Incident Report Hotline
305-445-1055**

**Placement On-Call/After Hours
305-810-1004**

ADOPTION UNIT: ADOPTION SUBSIDY ISSUES, POST-HEALTH CARE AND MORE?
BBofill@citrusfcn.com
postadopt@citrusfcn.com
Katrella -786-521-6194 Sergio 786-501-5317 Madalina 786-817-7240

F. A. S. T. Foster Allegation Support Team 1-800-327-8119 *
<http://www.floridafapa.org>

Florida Domestic Violence Hotline 1-800-500-1119, Florida Relay 711, TTY: 1-800-621-4202
Florida Sexual Violence information line 1-888-956-7273

**National Suicide & Mental Health Prevention Hotline
988**



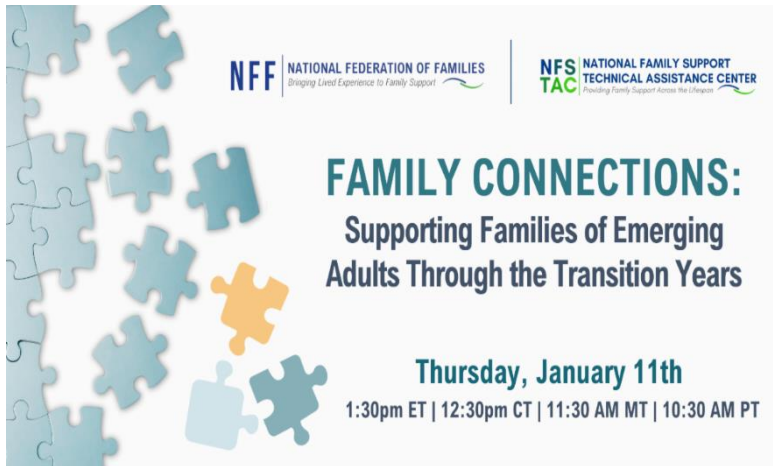
DID YOU RENEW OR OBTAIN YOUR MDCFAPA 2024 FAMILY REGISTRATION?

Memberships is \$25.00 per calendar year

Membership gets you

1. Tickets to plays, concerts
2. Movie premieres
3. Private parties
4. Distribution of foods, school items, clothing and more
5. New friends and networks
6. Support & more

YOU ARE NOT ALONE!
www.mdcfapa.org



Between the teen years and adulthood is another demographic: Emerging Adults. It describes the period of development spanning from about ages 18 to 29 -- a time of identity exploration, seeking stability, self-focus, and transition. However, today's Emerging Adults aren't like any other generation. They experience a variety of factors that may affect their ability to thrive: the high cost of living, student debt, uncertain employment, housing issues, and mental health challenges brought on by the pandemic.

What can parents and caregivers do to navigate the transition years in a way where each person thrives? Whether you have a close bond or some difficulties – we'll learn how to develop a new set of parenting skills and how to balance dependence with independence.

REGISTER

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/supporting-families-of-emerging-adults-through-the-transition-years-tickets-781437640017?aff=oddtcreator>