



The Adoption Center
of the MidSouth

Family Focus 2008 Conference

PO Box 11411

Memphis, TN 38111

Phone: 901-327-6650

www.theadoptioncenter.org

The Adoption Center of the MidSouth

Led by **AGAPE Child and Family Services** and its community partners presents

The 3rd Annual Conference

Family Focus 2008
Adoption:
From the Inside Out



Friday, November 7, 2008
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Memphis Marriott
2625 Thousand Oaks Boulevard
Memphis, Tennessee
901-362-6200

There are many aspects of adoption..

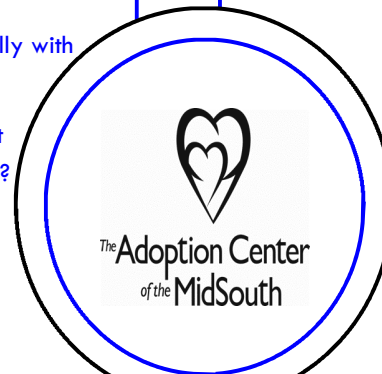
What questions do you have?

Do you want to work more successfully with adoptive families?

Do you wonder about how to parent your adopted child more effectively?

Do you have questions about adoption both before and after?

Do you want to learn more about attachment and bonding?



The Adoption Center
of the MidSouth

Family Focus 2008
Adoption:
From the Inside Out

Come learn from nationally known adoption experts and authors

Dr. David Cross
and
Debbie Riley

Family Focus 2008 is a one-day conference focusing on adoption and the family.

Bring your questions and be prepared for some answers!

Conference Information

Family Focus 2008

Adoption: From the Inside Out

Friday, November 7, 2008

Memphis Marriott
2625 Thousand Oaks Boulevard
Memphis, Tennessee
901-362-6200

Schedule

8:00 a.m.	Registration
9-10:30	Debbie Riley (K-1)
10:45-12	Choice of Workshops (W-1)
12:15-1:30 p.m.	Lunch & Table Topics
1:45-3:00	Choice of Workshops (W-2)
3:15-4:45	Dr. David Cross (K-2)
4:45-5	Closing remarks

W- Workshop K- Keynote
see conference topics for more information

CEUs are available for an additional fee.

Conference includes keynote sessions, workshops, and food.

- **Meals include lunch, and snacks.**
- **Community professionals and anyone interested in or touched by adoption are encouraged to attend.**
- **Books and resources will be available for purchase.**

The Adoption Center of the MidSouth is a collaborative effort with the following community partners:

- AGAPE Child and Family Services
- Catholic Charities
- Jewish Family Services
- Life Choices
- Bethany Christian Services of West TN
- TN Department of Children's Services
- Weaver and Craig
- TN ASAP -Led by Harmony Adoptions, Funded by TN DCS and in partnership with Catholic Charities of Middle Tennessee

Conference Topics

Dr. David Cross, Texas Christian University-Fort Worth, TX

- The Connected Child (K-2)
- Research and What is Working (W-1)
- Biological Changes that Occur from Abuse and Neglect and Why Raising an Adoptive Child is Different Sometimes (W-2)

Debbie Riley, Executive Director CASE-Burtonsville, MD

- Normal Behavior in Adolescence v. Adoption issues Beneath the Mask (K-1)
- SAFE program to Focus on School Issues and Adoption (W-1)
- Techniques and Skills for Adoptive Families (W-2)

Mark and Kristine Kohen, RN, Adoptive Parents- West Point, MS

- Pushing Through The Open/Closed Door-The adoption Search from a Parent Perspective (W-1)

Angelyn D. Sherrod, MS, LPE and Beverly Moore, MS- Memphis, TN

- Top 10 Things You Thought You Knew About Adoption But Really Didn't (W-2)

Dr. Christina M. Warner, University of Tennessee Boling Center for Developmental Disabilities-Memphis, TN

- An Introduction to Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT): An Evidence-Based Practice for the Real World. (W-2)

Dr. Marian Levy, Director of the Master of Public Health Program and Dr. Linda Bennett, Professor of Anthropology University of Memphis

- Improving Pre-adoptive and Post-adoptive Services; a Current Study in Shelby County (W-1)

Jason White, MS and Christie Kerschbaum, MMFT, Adoption Center of the MidSouth-Jackson and Memphis, TN

- Therapy? No! Theraplay!: Attachment-Based Play Therapy for Challenging Children (W-1)

Willie Holcomb, LCSW, Agape Child and Family Services- Memphis, TN

- Healthy Communication in the Family Setting (W-2)

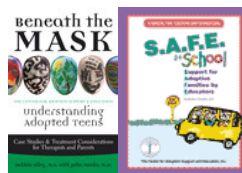
W-1 or W-2 -denotes workshop 1 or 2
K-1 or K-2 -denotes keynote 1st or 2nd keynote during the conference

Featured Conference Speakers

The Adoption Center of the MidSouth is thrilled to have two nationally recognized adoption experts participating in this year's event, along with other regional experts in the mental health and adoption fields. Each will speak in either a keynote presentation or workshop format.

Debbie B. Riley

Ms. Riley is the Executive Director of The Center for Adoption Support and Education, Inc. (CASE), an independent



post-adoption organization in the Baltimore-Washington area. She is the author of the newly published book, *Beneath the Mask: Understanding Adopted Teens*. Ms. Riley is a frequent guest writer for *Adoptive Family* magazine. She is also an adoptive parent and with her husband shares the joys of parenting their 15- year old son.



David Cross, Ph.D.

Dr. Cross is the Associate Director of the Institute of Child Development, Director of the Developmental Research Laboratory, and he is a Professor in the Psychology Department of Texas Christian University. He attended California State University Fresno and the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor where he received his Ph.D. in Education and Psychology. His current focus at the Institute of Child development is on the development of research-based interventions for vulnerable children. He and Dr. Karen Pervus co-authored the book *"The Connected Child."* Dr. Cross and Dr. Purvis have appeared on many different television news programs, radio programs and publication across the county including "Dateline NBC" and "Newsweek." Dr. Cross also works closely with adoptive families and their children through "The Hope Connection."

During lunch, we will have "Table Topics" which are a section of tables available for interested individuals to participate in discussions led by a professional in that topic area.

The Adoption Center of the MidSouth

The Vision

To become the recognized collaborative leader within the MidSouth region (defined initially as Shelby County and eventually West Tennessee, Mississippi and Arkansas) by providing quality and holistic services, resources, education, research, and advocacy to anyone touched by adoption.

The Mission

To annually provide quality and holistic services, support, education, and resources for up to 1,000 adoptive youth/adults, their families, and birth families placing or having placed a child/ren adoptively, and to professionals and other interested parties in the MidSouth.

History

We strive to see every home touched by adoption be happy and healthy. Harmony Adoptions of Tennessee initiated a program in May 2004 funded by TN Department of Children's Services (Adoption Support and Preservation -TN ASAP) that aimed to do just that. The ASAP model is a collaborative effort with Harmony Adoptions, Catholic Charities of Middle Tennessee and AGAPE designed for families who adopted from TN Department of Children's Services. TN ASAP was immediately a huge success and positioned AGAPE to launch the first and only collaborative adoption center within a 230-mile radius of Memphis. The Adoption Center of the MidSouth provides services for ANY adoptive family in Memphis and the MidSouth. From marriage enrichment classes to counseling for adoptive and birth family members, we assist any person whose life has been influenced by adoption.

For more information about The Adoption Center of the MidSouth or TN ASAP, please visit the websites: www.theadoptioncenter.org and www.tnasap.org.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Phone _____

*Hotel arrangements and payment are made through Marriott hotel directly. For reservations call: **1-800-228-9290**

I am unable to attend the conference, but I would like to donate \$_____ to the Adoption Center to further the work of the Center and continue the conference.

Registration fees:	Before Oct. 1 st	After Oct 1 st
Professionals	____ \$95	____ \$115
Foster & Adoptive Individuals & Students	____ \$40	____ \$50

Refunds will only be given if registration is canceled 45 days before the event.

Method of Payment

- Check
- MasterCard
- Visa
- American Express

Total _____

Credit Card # _____ Security Code _____ Exp. date _____

Name as it appears on card _____

Signature _____

Please make checks payable to:
Agape Child and Family Services

Send registration and payment to:

Family Focus 2008 Conference
Attn: Carolyn McKinney
3251 Poplar Ave. Suite 230
Memphis, TN 38111
Phone: (901)-327-6650

Or to register online using PayPal go to "Events" then "Registration" at www.theadoptioncenter.org