

Every Child, Every Family,
Every Step of the Way

ADOPTIONS TOGETHER

Family Connections Conference

17th Annual

“*The experience was beneficial to me as a parent. It gave me an opportunity to learn “in real time” some strategies for better communicating with my child, including how to effectively help him express his emotions and deal with his frustrations.*”



Talking About Adoption:

What to Say and When to Say It
Saturday, May 19, 2012 (9 am to 1 pm)

Why Attend the Adoptions Together 17th Annual Family Connections Conference?

Learn how and when to answer these critical questions:

- *What should I tell my child?*
- *What will my child understand about adoption at different ages and stages?*
- *What if I don't have the answers?*
- *How should I respond to intrusive questions from others?*
- *How can I empower my child to answer questions and tell his story?*

Conference Description

All adoptive parents struggle with how to talk to their children about adoption in a way that is positive and supportive. The conference this year will focus on helping parents and children talk about adoption issues openly and honestly, using positive adoption language. Parents will learn practical, concrete strategies for sharing information at different ages and stages of development, as well as techniques for helping their child share their adoption story with others.

Children will be empowered to tell their story and respond to questions and comments in healthy and positive ways. Both parents and children will leave the conference with a higher level of confidence and comfort in discussing adoption and the many ways that families are formed. *The annual Family Connection Conference is designed to educate and inform, forge connections, strengthen family bonds, and celebrate families.*



Find out more:

Visit us at www.adoptionstogether.org

Or call us at 410.869.0620

Silver Spring, Baltimore, Herndon and DC

HAGUE ACCREDITED



Schedule of Events

Talking About Adoption: *What to Say and When to Say It*

Colesville Presbyterian Church
12800 New Hampshire Ave
Silver Spring, MD 20904
Saturday, May 19, 2012
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Registration and Light Refreshments (8:30 – 9:00 am)

Welcome & Announcements (9:00 – 9:30 am)

Workshop for Parents (9:30 am – 12:00 noon)

Parents will participate in a workshop focusing on talking with children about adoption.

Children in Small Groups (9:30 am – 12:00 noon)

Groups divided according to grade and developmental level (typically the groups are: K-2nd, 3rd-5th, 6th-8th, 9th and up)

Children will participate in developmentally appropriate discussion, games, arts and crafts, and recreational activities related to the theme of family identity and talking about adoption.

Closing and Celebration (12:00 – 1:00 pm)

AT t-shirt and book sale
Face painting/temporary tattoos
Music
Refreshments
Games and prizes
Meet and greet with other adoptive families
And Much More



Mission:

Adoptions Together builds healthy lifelong connections for every child and advocates for continuous improvement of systems that promote the well being of children.

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