



Dear Adoption Professional,

This fall the Coalition of Adoptive Families (COFAF) is offering “*Charting the Course*,” a powerful eight-week therapeutic education series that has been presented in both Ohio and Florida for adoptive families who are struggling and want to better understand their children’s adoption-related issues. The series will be offered September 18, 2016 – November 6, 2016 from 2:30 – 4:30PM and will be conducted through separate groups for parents and their children:

- In the teen group: teens have an opportunity to talk with other teens and learn about trust and methods to manage their feelings and behaviors.
- In the grade and middle school group: children are often able to relieve their anger and fears and are helped to develop a sense of acceptance and belonging.
- In the parent group: parents learn the causes and effects of their children’s history and about the unique struggles faced by their children. Parents also gain support and assistance from adoption counselors and peers.

The cost for the eight week series is \$800.00 for parents and one child. The cost for a second child is an additional \$660.00. Many families have been eligible to receive Post Adoption Service Subsidies (PASSS) to largely offset the cost of the course. To be eligible for PASSS, a child 18 years or younger must be assessed by a counselor. Counselor assessments may be offset by PASSS. If your family does not currently have a counselor, we can provide the names of counselors that can assist.

To determine whether “*Charting the Course*” is right for a family the parents and child need to be interviewed by one of our team counselors. The family cost for parents and one child interviews are \$45.00. An additional child interview would be \$22.50. Interview costs are not eligible for a PASSS offset.

“Charting the Course” optimum group size is ten families. June is our signup month to ensure that families have enough time to go through the PASSS application process administered through the county of the families’ residence ((PASSS funding is on a July 1 through June 30 FY).

If you are aware of a family that you would like to refer to *“Charting the Course,”* please have them fill out the enclosed referral form and return to COFAF4u@gmail.com; include *“Charting the Course”* in the subject line.

In addition, to support families that may need help with the PASSS application process, we are conducting our *“PASSS Basics”* workshop on June 23, 2016 from 7:00 – 8:00PM in the Community Room at Panera Bread Clintonville 4519 N High St. Columbus OH 43214. Interested persons must signup by June 22, 2016 to let us know you are coming. To signup up just send an email to COFAF4u@gmail.com and write *“PASSS Basics”* in the subject line.

“Charting the Course” can give adoptive families a critical extra hand they may need along their way!

Sincerely,

Deborah

Deborah Miller-Gnann
Executive Director
Coalition of Adoptive Families

“