



Fostering Connections at the CWLA 2010 National Conference

January 25-27, 2010 * Marriott Wardman Park * Washington, DC

The most historic child welfare and foster care law passed in over 20 years, the Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-351) makes significant strides forward to help our nation's most vulnerable children and youth. As Representative Jim McDermott (D-WA) stated:

"This is landmark legislation, the most significant step forward on behalf of foster children in at least 10 years. It is bi-partisan and bi-cameral and a testament to our ability to work together for the common good. Children are America's future and today we are making an investment in their future and ours."

Some of the provisions of Fostering Connections are already in effect. Attend the CWLA 2010 National Conference to learn more about the law and to network with others around the country and discuss not only the law's multitude of opportunities—but also how to overcome barriers to implementation, despite the current economic climate. The CWLA 2010 National Conference is a critical chance for those at the state level to really see how the law can and should be implemented effectively to help children, youth, and families.

Attend Fostering Connections Workshops! Several workshops will discuss implementing key provisions of the law including: first-ever federal support for relative caregivers; federal financial support to youth in care after age 18 and more support and planning transitioning out of care; incentives for adopting children in foster care and children with special needs, and ensures health and education coordination for children in care; and better health oversight and coordination for children in care.

Visit Your Lawmakers on Capitol Hill! Attend CWLA's 2010 Advocacy Day and tell your U.S. Senators and Representative what your state needs to effectively implement vital provisions of the Fostering Connections Act. Advocacy Day is Tuesday, January 26 and buses will be provided to and from Capitol Hill. Read more about Advocacy Day online at <http://www.cwla.org/advocacyday/>.

To Register for the CWLA 2010 National Conference, "Children 2010: Leading a New Era," go to <http://www.cwla.org/conferences/conferences.htm>.

QUESTIONS? Contact Laura Weidner, CWLA Government Affairs at lweidner@cwla.org.