

EVENTS

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RESEARCH & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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6. Looking for Youth with LGBTQ Parents
7. Advice to New Parents about Navigating Pride Weekend – SURVEY
8. Hey! Don't forget to send us your Birth/Adoption Announcements for Pride and Joy! Proud Grandparents too!

1. LGBTQ Families in the School System – PAY WHAT YOU CAN

May 19, 2010, 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM

The Creative Preschool is pleased to host an evening with Rachel Epstein, Program Coordinator of the LGBTQ Parenting Network. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (LGBTQ) families are encouraged to come and talk with other LGBTQ parents about how we can best help our kids navigate the 14 years they spend in the school system. Come hear about the results of a research project which talked to young people in LGBTQ families about their school experiences.

Rachel Epstein has been a parenting activist, educator and researcher for close to 20 years and is recognized for her leadership and pivotal contributions towards the support, recognition and inclusion of queer parents and their children in Canada. Rachel's daughter just turned 18 and is in her final year of high school. Located within Eastern Commerce Collegiate at 16 Phin Ave. M4J 3T2, phone: 416-465-3865. One block east of Jones, south of Danforth Ave. Go directly into Eastern Commerce Parking Lot. Enter on West Side of Building from Parking Lot - through door # 8.

2. Queer Parenting Programs at The 519 - UPCOMING CALENDAR

Mum's The World!

Saturday, May 29, 10:30 AM - 1:30 PM

A monthly queer-positive gathering for all lesbian, bi, trans, queer mothers/caregivers and their children 0-6 years. 4th Saturday of each month

The Queer Family Mixer!

Saturday, June 5, 10:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Come join us for our monthly LGBTQ family mixer - toys, play spaces, LGBTQ children's books, music circle and snacks! 1st Saturday of each month

Daddy, Papa & Me!

Saturday, June 12, 10:30 AM - 1:30 PM

A monthly queer-positive gathering for fathers & their children (age 0 to 6). Meet

other daddies and their families from far and wide and find: support, snacks, music, toys, discussions & gay/bi/queer parenting resources. 2nd Saturday of each month.

Location: The 519, 519 Church Street, Toronto, Ontario

3. Panel Discussion: LGBTQ Parents and their Children in Child Care Centres and in Schools

Tuesday, June 1, 2010, 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM.

The aim of this session is to lend insight into the challenges frequently faced by LGBTQ families whose children are attending school or are in a daycare setting.

Panelists will:

- discuss indicators of early learning environments that are inclusive of LGBTQ issues and share strategies to ensure the inclusion of queer issues in the early childhood classroom

- provide insight into current and emerging strategies for assisting a child in the Toronto District School Board (TDSB)

- provide information and resources for working with programs in support of children reared in LGBTQ-headed households

Panelists:

Ryan Campbell is a supervisor at the UofT Early Learning Centre and he is the co-author of 'Building Bridges: Queer Families in Early Childhood Education'

Steven Solomon, MSW, RSW, PhD.(c) is a School Social Worker with the Human Sexuality Program, Triangle Program in the TDSB

Rosa Brooks is a co-op student in the TDSB and co-facilitates COLAGE

Location: Room 313, 214 College St., Koffler Student Services Centre, U of T
Register online at <www.familycare.utoronto.ca>. If you have any mobility challenges, please let us know so that we can accommodate your needs.

This event is organized by the U of T, Family Care Office, 214 College St., Main Floor; Tel: 416-978-0951; Email: family.care@utoronto.ca

4. Transracial Parenting Initiative Project Launch

Thursday, June 17, 2010, 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM

A launch for the Canadian based, education and training tools for prospective parents adopting and fostering transracially. Event highlights will include the DVD Premiere of "Ready. Willing. Able? Perspectives on Parenting Transracially in Canada," and Panel Discussion. A complete copy of all project materials will be available for Professionals and Agency representatives.

Families welcome! Refreshments served!

Location: 1151 Bronte Rd., Oakville, Ontario

RSVP by Monday, June 14, 2010 to Susan Crawford (905) 842-2486 ext 227
scrawford@halton-multicultural.org.

For more information, visit http://www.halton-multicultural.org/documents/TPI_-_PROJECT_LAUNCH.pdf

5. LAST CHANCE TO PARTICIPATE: Two studies on lesbian, bisexual, and queer parenting are recruiting new participants!

1. Are you a lesbian, bisexual or queer woman who is currently pregnant, 16 years of age or older, and living in Ontario? If so, we want to hear from you! We are conducting a study in order to compare different recruitment strategies for learning about postpartum depression (PPD) in lesbian, bisexual, and queer women and/or women who report same-sex partners in the past 5 years. The results of this study will be used to develop a larger study looking at the prevalence of PPD in this population, and the impact of experiences of discrimination on lesbian, bisexual and queer women's mental health in the postpartum period. The research is collaboration between the LGBTQ Parenting Network of the Sherbourne Health Centre and the Centre for Addiction & Mental Health.

Your participation would involve completing a set of questionnaires over the phone during pregnancy and at 4-6 weeks postpartum, asking about your social relationships and social networks, as well as your mental health and well being. All the information you provide will be kept strictly confidential.

We will be recruiting new participants until the end of May.

For more information please contact us:

Tel: 1-866-371-MOMS (6667) or (416) 260-4138

Email: kira_abelsohn@camh.net

2. Are you a lesbian, bisexual or queer co-parent/non-biological parent who is currently partnered with a pregnant woman? Are you 16 years of age or older, and currently living in the Greater Toronto Area? If so, we want to hear from you! The goal of this study is to learn more about lesbian, bisexual and queer co-parents/non-biological parents experiences of mental health and wellness during their partners' pregnancy. The results of this study will be used to develop new resources to promote mental health and wellness for lesbian, bisexual and queer co-parents and their families. This research is a collaboration between the LGBTQ Parenting Network of the Sherbourne Health Centre, and the Centre for Addiction & Mental Health.

Your participation would involve participating in a one-on-one interview with a member of the study team. All the information you provide will be kept strictly confidential.

For more information please contact us:

Tel: 1-866-371-MOMS (6667) or (416) 260-4138

Email: kira_abelsohn@camh.net

6. Looking for Youth with LGBTQ Parents

Are you...

- between the age of 16 and 25?
- do you have a parent who is LGBTQ?
- living in the GTA or Ottawa?

I am looking to interview youth with LGBTQ parents regarding the views of their identity. Interviews will be taking place between May and July 2010 in Ottawa and the Greater Toronto Region.

This research is being completed as part of the Master's of Social Work requirements at Ryerson University. This study has received approval from the Ryerson University Ethics Review Board.

There are two ways to participate in this research, you can either be interviewed and audio-recorded only, or your interview can be video-taped for use in a documentary that will be used by myself at conferences and that will be given to organizations in order to give a better idea of how youth with LGBTQ parents view their own identity.

If you are interested, please contact me, Danielle Sutherland at daniellejsutherland@gmail.com and if you know of anyone who might be interested please forward them this email, or give them a copy of the attached poster.

7. Advice to New Parents about Navigating Pride Weekend

As some of you have experienced, Pride Weekend in Toronto has grown to be a huge festival. Moving young children through the crowds to get to the Family Pride oasis on the weekend, let alone getting to other venues, can be a challenge to say the least.

In order to help new families, we want to create a short Parents Survival Guide to Pride Weekend and need your advice. Please take a minute to share your insights with other families by filling out our survey at:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NewParentsPrideWeekend>.

This online survey will close on May 31st.

Here's to making Pride Weekend the best ever for our families!

~ Chris Veldhoven, Queer Parenting Programs Coordinator at The 519, queerparenting@the519.org

On behalf of:

The Family Pride Committee - Pride Toronto

Queer Parenting Programs at The 519 Church Street Community Centre

The LGBTQ Parenting Network at Sherbourne Health Centre

8. LGBTQ Birth/Adoption Announcements for Pride & Joy – Due June 1, 2010

Well, it's that time of year again.

We are looking for LGBTQ BIRTH / ADOPTION ANNOUNCEMENTS for the online and print version Pride & Joy, the LGBTQ Parenting Network Newsletter.

If you have had a child join your family and would like to announce their arrival in Pride & Joy, please send an electronic photo and wording for an announcement to mtamaki@sherbourne.on.ca

The newsletter will be out for Toronto Pride, 2010.

Deadline: June 1, 2010

SPECIAL MESSAGE TO PROUD LGBTQ GRANDPARENTS: For the first time Pride & Joy will feature announcements from new LGBTQ grandparents...if you've become a grandparent in the last year (or even before) send a photo and wording for an announcement to mtamaki@sherbourne.on.ca.

To submit announcements and events to the eNewsletter, please send plain text wording to mtamaki@sherbourne.on.ca. This newsletter is sent out twice a month and is also available at www.lgbtqparentingconnection.ca.

