



## **2018 Ties That Bind: Parents & Children Strengthening the Bond Adoptive Family & Youth Training Seminar CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

The Ties That Bind: Parents and Children Strengthening the Bond, is Georgia's annual adoptive family and youth training seminar, which provides adoptive and foster-to-adopt parents training and information on some of today's most important adoption issues. As an important part of Georgia's post-adoption services program, the event focuses on supporting and strengthening adoptive families by bringing together adoptive families and adoption professionals to increase their knowledge and skills concerning adoption issues and the parenting of adopted children.

Over the years, the Ties That Bind Training has been a tremendous success and has quickly become a favorite event for many adoptive families in Georgia. It is designed to support adoptive families and most importantly provide them with an opportunity to network with one another

Each year featured speakers along with numerous workshop presenters provide quality training opportunities for over 200 parents and adoption professionals. The Ties That Bind is truly a family-centered event as adoptive parents are invited and encouraged to bring their children (including infants and medically fragile) with them to the seminar. Activities are provided for children of all ages free of charge. In addition, a teen seminar designed specifically for adopted teens and preteens provides structured activities designed to provide enrichment, support, and motivation for adopted youth.

The Ties That Bind is coordinated and organized by Family Matters Consulting and funded through contract with the Georgia Department of Family and Children Services, Social Services Administration Unit. This conference is open to adoptive families and their children; prospective adoptive parents (i.e. those seriously considering adopting, in the process of adopting, and foster-to-adopt parents.)

The seminar will be held May 18 – 20, 2018 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel and Conference Center in Peachtree City, GA. Located 20 minutes south of down town Atlanta, the Crowne Plaza Hotel is a perfect setting for a family conference.

### ***Call for Proposals***

Family Matters Consulting is seeking presenters to help parents gain skills and knowledge in adoption related topics at its 2018 conference. Family Matters Consulting encourages adoptive and foster parents, child welfare professionals, adoptees, birth parents, former foster youth, researchers, therapists, and other child advocates to submit workshop proposals for the conference that will be held May 19 & 20, 2018 in Peachtree City, Georgia. Workshops will be 1.5 hours; a VERY limited number of two-part workshops (may offer part 1 and part 2 for a total of 3 hours) will be considered. **We ask presenters to submit proposals for no more than two workshops. If you are interested in being a keynote speaker please email us separately at [chris\\_greer@familymatters-ga.com](mailto:chris_greer@familymatters-ga.com) or to [Doxeylaveda@gmail.com](mailto:Doxeylaveda@gmail.com)**

## Guidelines

Proposed presentations should address one of the topics listed below. Follow the provided format and **submit no later than January 26, 2018**. All proposals MUST be typed and emailed (no faxed proposals or proposals in a pdf format will be accepted.) Family Matters Consulting and the Georgia Department of Human Resources makes final selections after reviewing proposals. We will **notify prospective presenters February 16, 2018. If your Workshop is selected you will be contacted by Laveda Doxey by email. Once you are confirmed as a Workshop Presenter Laveda will be providing you with all details needed to be a part of Ties. Details will include date, time of your Workshop, and more. Thank you for your interest and your submission.**

## Presentation Information

Please use the following outline for your proposal(s):

- Topic (Choose topic from the list below).
- Workshop title
- Length-Indicate preferred length of workshop (1.5 or 3 hours).
- Description for conference brochure: Descriptions (including workshop title) should be 35 to 75 words in length and give conference attendees a good sense of what to expect from the presentation. Please submit proposals in **MicroSoft Word document with no special designs, bullets, diagrams, etc.** Family Matters Consulting will edit descriptions for length, content, and clarity for the brochure.
- Training method & content-Suggest your intended format (lecture, open discussion, panel presentation) and state the material you plan to present. Please include any handout(s) you plan to distribute. The handouts will be placed on a USB drive and given to the parents in their conference bags.

## Lead Presenter

- Name
- Title
- Affiliation
- Address, e-mail, day and evening phone numbers
- Experience/credentials/brief bio (*make sure you include this*)

## Other Presenters (no more than two)

- Name
- Title
- Affiliation
- Address, e-mail, day and evening phone numbers
- Experience/credentials/brief bio (*make sure you include this*)

Please list the audio/video equipment, supplies, and any other equipment that you will need. At this time, Family Matters Consulting will only be providing the following: LCD projectors, projection screen, projector cart, a microphone and free access to Wifi. Family Matters Consulting will not be able to provide Lap top computers so please plan on using your own.

**Please note:** All handouts from presenters will be given to participants on flash drives provided by Family Matters Consulting. Speakers can bring paper handouts if they choose. Family Matters Consulting is not responsible for verifying the originality of submissions, and cannot be held liable for presenters' copyright infringements or other ownership rights violations.

*Submit proposals by January 26, 2018*

**By e-mail ONLY** in (Word) format to [Doxeylaveda@gmail.com](mailto:Doxeylaveda@gmail.com) or [chris\\_greer@familymatters-ga.com](mailto:chris_greer@familymatters-ga.com)  
Please **DO NOT** submit any faxed proposals or any proposals in a pdf format. **Questions? Call 770-881-7789 during business hours or 470-777-2202 after 7:30 pm(EST).**

**Topics:**

- Post Adoption Services
  - Community Resources, Support, Support Groups
- Taking Care of the Caregiver
  - Parenting Challenging Children
- Attachment Disorder and Regulation Issues
- How to Select a Therapist
- Parenting Traumatized Children
  - Love and Logic
  - Models for Disciplining Children
- Therapies for Children (How they help Children Grow & Develop)
  - Music
  - Art
  - Dance
  - Equestrian
- Special Education Services: IDEA
  - Resources and Support
  - Developing an IEP
- Adoption Issues
  - Siblings
  - Kinship Care
  - Birth Family connections
  - Open Adoption & Reunions
  - Adoption & Family Culture
- Parenting Children with Special Needs
  - Technology
  - Resources, Services, Support
  - Programs
  - Medically Fragile
  - Techniques- What Works
  - Specific Disabilities/Disorders
- Older Adoptive Children and Youth Issues
  - Transitioning of Older Adopted Youth
  - Anger Management as it relates to early trauma
  - Communication
  - Bullying
  - After High School
    - Secondary Education
    - Vocational Rehabilitation Services
- Nutrition & Feeding Issues
- Disorders
  - Autism
  - Attention Deficit Disorder

- Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders
- Learning Differences/Disabilities
- Other Developmental Disorders
  - Evaluation and Testing
  - Available resources and support

We hope that your schedule will allow you to participate in this important training conference as a featured speaker to share your knowledge with adoptive and foster families in Georgia. If you have any more questions about this event or would like to discuss this further please feel free to contact Laveda Doxey, Adult Program Conference Coordinator at 470-777-2202 or email at [doxeylaveda@gmail.com](mailto:doxeylaveda@gmail.com). Family Matters Consulting will make final workshop selections after the conference committee participants review proposals. We will ***notify prospective presenters February 16, 2018.***

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to hearing from you.