

## **FAMILY RE-UNION 13: Faith, Families & Foster Care**

Thursday, October 18, 2007  
Nashville Downtown Public Library

### **Tentative Schedule**

#### **9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.**

Registration

#### **10:00 a.m. - 10:10 a.m.**

*Welcome and Introduction*

Debbie Miller, Director, Vanderbilt Child & Family Policy Center

Mayor Karl Dean, Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County

#### **10:10 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

*The Role of the Faith Community in Foster Care, National Perspective and Promising Practices*

Reverend Dr. Renita J. Weems, Something Within

#### **11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

*Panel – What's Love Got to Do With It? The role of the faith community in permanency, opening doors, supporting birth parents and foster families.*

Moderator: Daryl Chansusthus, Executive Director, Tennessee Center for Child Welfare (TCCW)

Simone Moore, Tennessee Youth Advisory Council

Nikki Williams, Youth 4 Youth

Abdelghani Barre, Nashville Immigrant Services

Reverend Clifford Barnett, Virginia One Church, One Child

Dr. Elizabeth Pritchett, Trinity Coalition, Clarksville

Mary Bissell, Childfocus™, Washington, DC

#### **1:00 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.**

Lunch and Presentation

*The Children's Sabbath*

Matt Rosen, Children's Defense Fund

#### **1:45 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

Break

#### **2:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.**

*Panel - Working in partnerships for foster youth.*

Elizabeth Black, Executive Director, DCS Office of Child Permanency

Servella Terry, Director of Community Partnerships & Support Services, DCS

The Honorable April Meldrum, Anderson County Juvenile Court Judge

Carla Kimble, Deputy Regional Administrator, East Region DCS

Vicki Syes, Director of Programs, South Memphis Alliance

Connie Booker, Co-Pastor, Cathedral of Faith, Memphis

Vanessa Coburn, Family to Family Coordinator, Shelby County DCS

Pastor Dennis Ford, First United Methodist Church, Oneida

**3:15 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.**

*Discussion Groups*

Faith community's role in Permanency

Faith community's role in opening doors for foster youth (health, education, employment, etc.)

Survey:

What can your region do?

What are the training/resource/other needs?

What are your next steps?

**4:30 p.m. - 4:50 p.m.**

*Reports from Discussion Groups*

**4:50 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.**

*Closing Session*

Elizabeth Black, Director of Child Permanency, Tennessee DCS

Pastor Dennis Ford, First United Methodist Church of Oneida Tennessee