

FAITH COMMUNITIES COALITION ON FOSTER CARE* REPORT

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Laura Garvey of Life Church – Canton, **Sarah Dubuc** of Brightmoor Christian Church – Novi, **Lynn Jarrett** of Northridge – Plymouth and **Lynda White** of Greater Grace Temple – Detroit all shared their enthusiasm and new ideas gathered at a recent Christian Alliance for Orphans Summit. Several thousand people gathered in Louisville in May to hear speakers and attend helpful workshops geared to mobilize and equip congregations to respond to the needs for adoptive and foster families.

Details about the workshops with web links are included as an attachment. Some workshops included:

1. **Wrapping Around Adoptive Families**--www.Icareaboutorphans.org A Focus on the Family initiative
2. **Supporting Families in the Post-Placement Journey**
www.tapestryministry.org ; www.empoweredtoconnect.org
3. **4Kids of South Florida in Independent Living:** www.4kidsofsfl.org ; <http://www.4kids-sosi.org/>
4. **Safe Families** www.safe-families.org
5. **Mentoring Project** www.mentoringproject.org
6. **"Attachment & Trauma"** presented by **Dr. Karyn Purvis**

They have organized their own alliance to serve the Detroit metro area. Please contact these leaders for times of their meetings and resource information on ways to activate congregations: Laura Garvey-- calgarvey@wowway.com; Sarah Dubuc-- sd3015@gmail.com; ; Lynn Jarrett -- liferequestcoach@yahoo.com, and Lynda White --- LawLynda@aol.com.

The next meeting of the Westside Faith Communities Coalition on Foster Care takes place Monday, August 1 at Faith community Church, 44400 West Ten Mile Road, Novi. Check for possible detours on Novi Road.

SOME WESTSIDE COALITION CONGREGATIONS RECENTLY IN ACTION

Oakpointe Church at Vista Maria



Laura Garvey (on right) with some donated suitcases from Life Church to Judson Center.



First Presbyterian Church of Northville held a CareKits for Kids going to camp campaign; **Faith Community Church** gathered diaper bags and baby items; **and, Holy Trinity Lutheran** Livonia collected ten camp kits for 10 specific foster children to attend our Lutheran Camp--Micha-Lu-Ca. They also collected several baby items and aging-out items. Their Empty Pockets collections on the first Sunday of the month continue to go to Foster Care with the culmination in September with a visit from Pastor Hemke of Lutheran Social Services.

These Westside congregations and so many more in our Faith Communities Coalition on Foster Care have made it a memorable May as Foster Care Month. Many thanks to all of you!!!

Note: Urge your congregations to check out the MICHIGAN ADOPTION RESOURCE EXCHANGE www.mare.org--Check out the kids awaiting adoption. See their pictures, read their stories. Invite members of your congregation, family or organization to pray for one of these kids for at least a month—and then see what happens...