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## FFTA Works to Strengthen its Members

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FFTA provides an array of resources to its members and the treatment foster care (TFC) community. We are proud to share with you our most recent accomplishments:

### **INFLUENCING AND PROMOTING PUBLIC POLICY AT THE NATIONAL AND STATE LEVELS**

- FFTA and its members are represented in Washington, DC by FFTA Public Policy & Government Relations Consultant, Laura Boyd, Ph.D. Our advocacy work both there and at home is supported by an active Public Policy Committee and a State Liaison Network of over 90 agency representatives who are located in 45 states.
- FFTA hosted its first “Hill Day,” this past May where TFC providers met with nearly 80 legislative staff members to gain support for the Medicaid Services Restoration Act of 2009 (S. 1217). This legislation, if passed, will maintain TFC as a Medicaid reimbursable service.
- With the help of various child welfare coalition partners, FFTA succeeded this Fall in having TFC-related amendments adopted in both the Senate Finance Committee and Tri-Committee House health care bills. These amendments will, for the first time, create a definition of treatment or therapeutic foster care in Federal legislation and a declaration that TFC services can be covered by Medicaid.

### **CONFERENCE SURPASSES PREVIOUS ATTENDANCE INCLUDING RECORD-BREAKING EXHIBITS**

Confirming the quality of the Annual Conference on Treatment Foster Care, attendance at this year’s conference surpassed last year’s attendance, despite a slow economy. Also, FFTA hosted the largest exhibit hall in its history, which demonstrates the Association’s leadership in the TFC arena.

### **FFTA FACILITATES THE EXPANSION OF THE TFC MODEL WORLDWIDE**

With foster care professionals attending the FFTA conference from as far away as Hong Kong, Australia, and New Zealand, we are helping to expand the use of the TFC model around the world.

### **TRANSLATING TFC RESEARCH INTO PRACTICE**

To help our members maintain their proficiency in the field, FFTA continues to publish research annotations on topics such as reunification, placement stability, permanency, and attachment.

### **REPORTS PROVIDE EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE RESOURCES**

Providing its members with evidence-based practice resources, FFTA and the Center for Advanced Studies in Child Welfare have published two new reports; one about foster parent training and support, and the other about permanency planning.

### **FFTA MEMBER PUBLICATIONS**

The quarterly *FOCUS* newsletter and monthly *TFC e-News* continue to keep members connected to the latest news, information, and resources within the field.

### **ACCESS TO PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE**

FFTA has endorsed a comprehensive insurance program whereby members can receive discounts on premiums for a full line of coverage from A+ rated insurance carriers. Coverage includes professional liability, physical and sexual abuse, directors and officers, and general liability. This is the newest in a number of FFTA-endorsed cost savings products and services for members.

### **UPCOMING...MEASURING CONSUMER SATISFACTION IN TREATMENT FOSTER CARE**

FFTA will soon release the *User’s Guide to Measuring Consumer Satisfaction in Treatment Foster Care*. Examine how agencies measure consumer satisfaction and use data to improve services.