

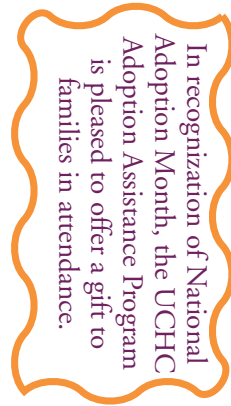
CONFERENCE PRESENTER



Ellen Singer, LCSW-C, is an adoption-competent therapist and adoption educator with the Center for Adoption Support and Education (CASE), in the D.C. metropolitan area. She provides counseling to prospective parents, adoptive parents, adult adopted persons and their families, and expectant/birth parents and their families. Singer also provides training in adoption issues to a wide variety of audiences, including parents, community groups, educators, and adoption professionals. She is a key writer of CASE materials and contributes articles to numerous parent and professional magazines.

Singer holds a master's degree in social work from the University of Illinois. For more than 30 years, she has specialized on infertility; adoption focusing on Jewish, transracial, and GLBT adoptive families; and concerns related to families formed through Assisted Reproductive Technology with third-party assistance. Singer has served on the board of directors and the professional advisory group for the Mid-Atlantic Region RESOLVE.

Singer and her husband are parents to two children by adoption and by birth.



Casey Family Services
127 Church Street
New Haven, CT 06510

The Connecticut Council on Adoption
presents:

The Second Most Important Thing about Adoption: *The Importance of Birth Parents in the Lives of Children*



Instructor:
Ellen Singer, LCSW-C

November 18, 2011
Fantasia
404 Washington Avenue
North Haven, CT 06473

PROGRAM

November 18, 2011

9 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.

Lunch provided

Parents often lack confidence when it comes to discussing adoption/birth parents with their children. However, adoptive parents' desire and ability to engage in open, age-appropriate communication with children about birth parents has great significance for children. Such dialogue impacts adopted children and teens' self-concept and identity formation, as it encourages children to turn to their parents for information instead of resources such as Facebook.

In this presentation, Ellen Singer will explore what adopted children comprehend, think and feel about adoption at different developmental stages, from the pre-school years through adolescence.

Parents and professionals will also learn how to talk with children including:

- 1) The common questions and concerns adopted children raise about birth parents
- 2) Sharing difficult information
- 3) Addressing adopted children's interest in searching for or reuniting with birth parents
- 4) Common challenges in open adoption relationships

SPONSOR

The Connecticut Council on Adoption (CCA) is a voluntary organization whose main purpose is to promote good, effective adoption practices throughout the state. CCA provides training and information on adoption issues to DCF, child-placing agencies, adoptive families, adult adoptees, birth parents, therapists and court personnel

COSPONSORS

University of Connecticut Health Center Adoption Assistance Program
Casey Family Services
Connecticut Association of Foster and Adoptive Parents
Connecticut Department of Children and Families

DIRECTIONS TO FANTASIA

404 Washington Avenue
North Haven, CT 06473

From I-91 (from North and South)

From I-91 to Exit 12; right onto Route 5 North; one mile on right at second traffic light.

From Route 15 (from New Haven and South)

Route 15 North (Wilbur Cross Parkway) to Exit 63; right onto Route 22 (Clintonville Road); left onto Route 5 North (Washington Avenue); 1.5 miles on right past fire station.

From Route 15 (from Meriden and Hartford)

Route 15 South (Wilbur Cross Parkway) to Exit 63; left off ramp; left onto Route 22 North (Clintonville Road); left onto Route 5 North (Washington Avenue); 1.5 miles on right past fire station.

SITE ACCESSIBLE TO PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

CEUs

This program is pending approval by the National Association of Social Workers for 5.25 continuing education contact hours. There is a no-fee certificate.

REGISTRATION FORM

Please print clearly and submit before November 10, 2011.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Organization: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Check here if you are a foster/adoptive parent.

PARENTS PLEASE NOTE:

Foster or adoptive parents may apply for scholarships by calling the phone number below.

CONFERENCE FEES

(Buffet lunch included)

<input type="checkbox"/> CCA Members	\$25
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-CCA Members	\$32
<input type="checkbox"/> Registration & New or Renewing Membership	\$40

Please make checks payable to the **Connecticut Council on Adoption**, and send with registration form to:

Susan Gervais, MSW, LCSW
University of CT Health Center
Adoption Assistance Program
270 Farmington Avenue
The Exchange, Suite 262
Farmington, CT 06032-6210

QUESTIONS: 860.679.4006