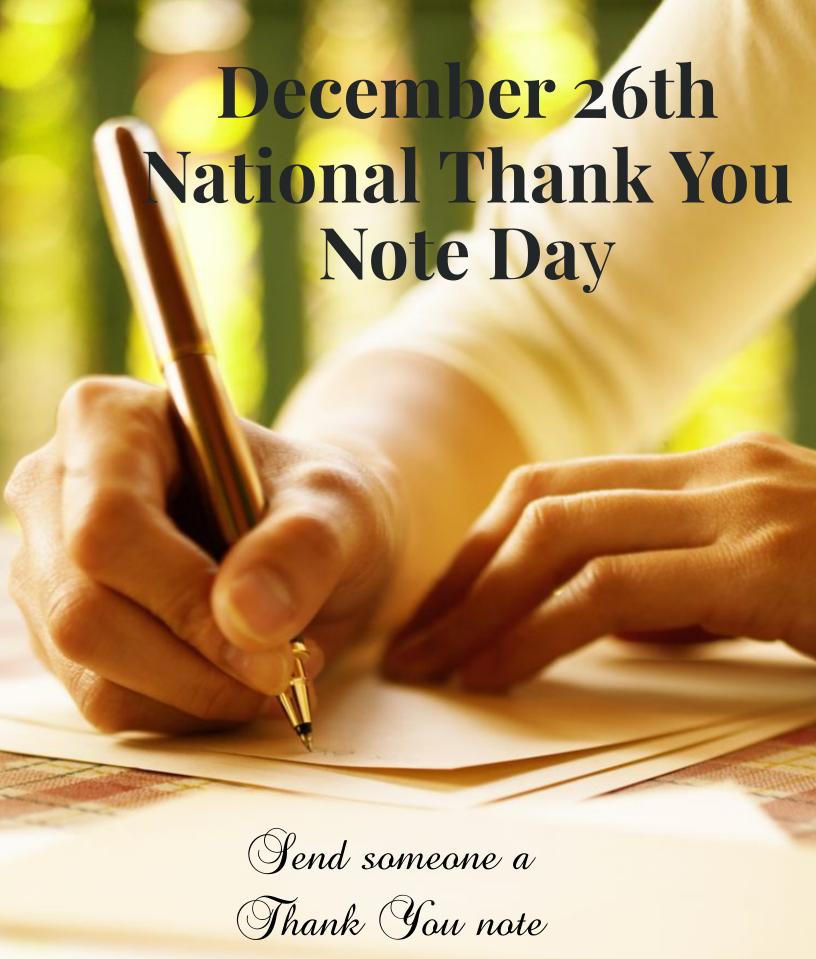


Educational, Motivational, & Inspirational Stories - Foster! Adopt! Mentor!



From city-to-city, coast-to-coast, and nation-to-nation, our focus is FAMILY:

Foster Adopt Mentor Investing in Lives of Youth





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CA Budgets \$8 Million Dollars for Youth

Movie Review

Suicide Prevention Lifeline

National Awareness Month

Model Call

Holiday Magic

Frozen Foods Recall

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CASA Volunteer Opportunity

Youth Praise Awards

Youth Spotlight

Foster Youth Stats

Ask Lillie



Youth News is an online magazine developed by teens, adults and senior citizens working together to bring readers Educational, Motivational, & Inspirational Stories for Adults and teens.

To volunteer please contact our editor at: admin@whalers-creation.us or call (702) 235-5490

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send resume to: admin@whalers-creation.us



Happy Holidays to you and your family. Last month was a time to be "thankful". I hope you were able to spend Thanksgiving with people you love. For many youth in care that was not their reality. Let us be mindful during the holidays that this is a very difficult time for lots of people: children, youth, young adults and our beloved seniors. Please make some time during your busy Holiday Season to spend time with people you care about.

Ask me how you can become a foster/adoptive parent or mentors. You never know, you may help raise the next VIP admin@whalers-creation.us or (702) 235-5490.

One of our team members may call you to ask for support. Please "Answer the Call." From city-to-city, coast-to-coast, and nation-to-nation our focus is FAMILY:

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"I Support Youth."

La' Toria



FAM ersations

YouTube, Facebook, Twitter, Linkedin & Tumblr WHALER's Creation - Talk Show for Teens & Young Adults

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Mosted by: La Toria

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Love to write? Join us and have your work published (14-Retirees)



California Put \$8 Million into its Budget To Bring Youth Home from Out of State Facilities

California will spend more than \$8 million to find safer homes for children returning from troubled out-of-state residential programs, in response to a Chronicle and Imprint investigation into rampant reports of abuse at the facilities.

Officials in counties across the state are now spending the money, approved by the state Legislature in December, to recruit foster families and bolster mental health and behavioral support services for the 131 young people California is calling back from treatment programs across the country.

But despite a fast-approaching deadline of Jan. 23 to bring the children home, 64 youth remain in these far away programs that officials deemed unsafe more than a month ago. County child welfare and probation officials say they are working as fast as possible to bring the children back to California, but some have challenging mental and behavioral health needs that make treatment difficult. Arranging travel during the pandemic has also posed logistical challenges.

"I have my fingers crossed, because we have placements lined up for these youth," said Ron Miller, chief probation officer in Riverside County, which has three youths still at out-of-state programs and is trying to figureout how toget them home by next week.

California leaders moved to cut ties with out-of-state treatment facilities in early December, when reporters for The Chronicle and The Imprint shared the findings of their investigation with state officials. That report, "Far from Home, Far from Safe," detailed how California had for years sent children to treatment centers run by a for-profit company, Sequel Youth & Family Services, despite state laws that forbid sending youth to for-profit residential programs. DaeJah Seward: The \$8 million for relocating out-of-state youth amounts to "putting a Band-Aid on a bullet wound,"

Children at these facilities — many of whom had been charged with crimes, abused or abandoned —suffered bruises and broken bones at the hands of staff. There porter noted that the California Department of Social Services had known about the abuse for some time. Since 2017, according to records, child protection authorities in California and other states have filed complaints, including complaints, that staff punched, kicked, sexually assaulted, or held unlicensed and dangerous restraints on residents., has investigated hundreds of alleged violations and deficiencies at Sequel facilities.

Still, California continued to send children to sequel programs, sending more than 1,240 young peopletoinstitutions in Michigan, Iowa, Wyoming, Arizona, and Utah as of 2015.

Officials for the sequel told reporters in November thatthey were taking allegations of abuse seriously.Inastatement, they said they would increase staff trainingand end the practice of restraining children. in article ranking. Child protection officials, juvenile lawyers and former residents have applauded the funding California isnowproviding to local governments, but one-off funds are notenough to care for the state's most vulnerable children. Some

say enough is enough. Many boys and girls deployed abroad suffer from drug addiction, trauma and mental illness, in addition to the abuse they may have experienced or witnessed in treatment programs.

Chris Stoner Mertz, CEO of the California Alliance for Child and Family Services, which represents treatment programs and youth service providers, said, "Additional funding helps, but there are bigger issues that need to be addressed. "It's a temporary solution to the problem,"he said.





By Lisa Mayer

The Santa Claus (starring Tim Allen, circa 1994) tells the story of Scott Calvin, a divorced father who is in a custody battle with his ex-wife and her new husband over six-year-old Charlie. Things take a dark twist when none other than Santa Claus falls off Scott's roof and bites the big one. Scott puts on the Santa suit, which magically turns him into The Big Guy himself. Chalking it up to a dream, Scott moves on with his life. But the Santa magic isn't done with him.

Over the course of the next year, Scott magically transforms into Santa Claus, jeopardizing not only his career but also his chances of having custody of Charlie. The Santa Claus, in my opinion, is underrated. People need to keep in mind that it was a 1994 kids' movie, when acting and special effects were often subpar compared to today. I found this movie an accurate portrayal of real-life events (as much as possible for a movie where a guy turns into Santa Claus). It was a far cry from Disney's feel-good-because-life-is-all-sunshine-and rainbows movies that I was used to watching, and that was refreshing to me, even as a then 8-year-old.

The movie was silly, but it was heartfelt too. There were fun moments that made me laugh and other moments that gave me the feels, even rewatching as an adult. It was entertaining to watch the struggles of no-nonsense Scott Calvin turning into the Jolly Red Elf, experiencing empathy for him as he watched his life fall apart, and cheering for him when everything started to get better. I liked that the resolution of the movie wasn't a magical kumbaya moment, but rather a more realistic conclusion to a messy custody battle. Tim Allen was at the height of his career during this time, and it was fun to see him in another roll besides Tim-the-Tool-Man Taylor on Home Improvement. The other actors were forgettable (and I think they were forgotten...) but overall the movie was silly fun with some heart-warming moments that prompted me to rewatch it again when it came to Disney +. I gave it a solid 6/10 stars. Movie was released in 1994, directed by John Pasquin



NATIONAL

PREVENTO LIFELINE

I-800-273-TALK www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Crisis Text Line allows teens to access free emotional support for any issue. It can be reached by texting "HOME" to 741741.

National Awareness Days

December

- National Impaired Driving Prevention Month
- Read a New Book Month
- Seasonal Depression Awareness Month
- Safe Toys and Gifts Month
- 1st World AIDS Day
- 2nd Special Education Day
- 4th National Cookie Day
- 7th National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- 10th Human Rights Day
- 18th-26th Hanukkah
- 21st Crossword Puzzle Day
- 25th Christmas
- 26th National Thank You Note Day
- 26th-Jan 1st Kwanzaa
- 31st New Year's Eve
- Plan Ahead for Health Awareness Month



Youth Praise Awards

Dinner & Fashion Show

World

Saturday, Feb 11, 2023

Dinner, Awards & Fashion Show

Door open at 6:00pm

Dinner 6:30pm

\$25.00 online \$30.00 at the door





Sunday, December 18, 2022 3:00 - 5:00PM

910 W. Owens Ave

Las Vegas, NV 89106



Holiday Magic

By Lisa Mayer

Growing up, holiday movies gave me the impression that if my holiday wasn't magical there was something wrong with my life. The holidays were supposed to be a time where hearts were changed, where broken families suddenly mended, and where every problem was solved just in time to open Presents. But that never happened for me. I didn't grow up in the foster system. But I did grow up in a broken home with court battles, frequent screaming, and a constant unfulfilled wish that, somehow, things would magically get better. And when they didn't, though I didn't know it, I became more and more angry, depressed, and what holiday movies would call "bah-humbug."

But life is not a holiday movie. We can do everything right, and it can still blow up in our face.

And that can make us hopeless, and feel like we are powerless. At least, it did for me.

Until I realized something that changed my life forever, gave me hope, and helped me

understand that I do have power. What I wish I had known then—is that life gets better. That I was experiencing trauma, and that trauma can make me feel like I'll never become anything, that I'll never be happy, that I'll never be good enough. And that these thoughts that was I thinking, that were making me more depressed and angry, were just that—thoughts. That these are common side effects of trauma, and that just because that was my present moment... it wasn't going to be like that forever. But there was no one where to tell me that. And so I'm telling you. In this moment of hardship—whatever it is—you have more power than you think. You have the power to change your thoughts, your response to what is going on in your life, and yourself.

The second thing I wish someone had told me, and so I am telling you, is that everyone is

special. Everyone has a purpose that only they can fulfill in this life. Going through trauma can make you feel like you're worthless. I promise you this—you have more worth than you will ever understand. This holiday season, I hope you find

magic. But not magic in external events, which are hard to control. Instead, I hope you discover the magic that is within you.



Wishing you and your family a very
Happy Holiday

Feed
Our
Children





Scholarship Solutions

By: Rhea, The Scholarship Doctor

There are five easy steps to a free degree and the first step is very easy to achieve with proper planning, preparation, and dedication. So, you may be wondering what it takes for students who are in kindergarten and beyond to secure 1000s of dollars in college scholarships. Well, let's break down the first important yet easy and highly effective step:

Step 1: Earn A and A grades. No this is not a typo. A & A grades are important for students of all ages. From day one, express the importance of strong grades/marks. We should encourage our children to earn As and compliment and celebrate their accomplishments in this regard. Setting this precedence is not a pressure point but rather an expectation that can be met and exceeded when proper planning and consistent academic support is in place. To get the necessary support use an academic coaching service like mine, contact your local library, chat with teachers and professors during their prep time and office hours, participate in before or after school support programs, or take advantage of clubs and organizations at school or in the community that may provide academic assistance. Now, "A" grades are surely not the only variable in

achieving scholarships but strong grades must not be ignored, especially if you want to win big at scholarships and eliminate the need for student loan debt.

Start applying for scholarships today. Here are a few resources to get you started immediately in the scholarship game.

<u>bold.org/#ref=99</u> One of the best databases for scholarships in the world.

https://myscholarshipsolutions.com/books My book - The Scholarship Doctor is in! 5 Easy Steps to a FREE DEGREE.

https://thescholarshipdr.kartra.com/page/ssmen

My Scholarship Solutions Membership is an amazing community of people applying for and winning scholarships. It's open to anyone 0 - 99+.

Rhea M Watson, The Scholarship Doctor is the Founder/CEO of Scholarship Solutions a premier Scholarship and College consulting firm located in the beautiful city of Las Vegas. Rhea and her team of expert scholarship coaches help students of all ages 0 - 99 to attend college debt free. She has helped 100s of students to earn a free degree to the tune of \$200 million dollars in scholarships. Rhea is a two time #1 best selling author, a highly sought after speaker, and expert in financial aid and scholarships.

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Youth Spotlight



Do you know a young person who should be spotlighted?

Send your spotlight info to: admin@whalers-creation.us

Valley International Cold Storage Acquisition, LLC, Recalls Frozen Beef Products Due To Misbranding And Undeclared Allergens

VICS ACQUISITION, LLC

FSIS Announcement

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17, 2022 – Today, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced that Valley International Cold Storage Acquisition, LLC, a Harlingen, Texas establishment, is recalling approximately 22,061 pounds of frozen beef products due to misbranding and undeclared allergens. The product contains milk, a known allergen, which is not declared on the product label.

The frozen products are labeled as Korean-Style Beef, but contain a chicken sausage and pepper product, which contain milk. These items were produced on July 22, 2022. The 9.25-oz. cartons labeled as "Healthy Choice POWER BOWLS Korean-Style Beef" with lot code "5246220320" and a "best if used by" date of 04-18-2023 are being recalled [view labels].

The products subject to recall bear establishment number "34622" on the end flap of the carton. These items were shipped to retail locations nationwide. The problem was discovered when the producing establishment notified FSIS that it had received consumer complaints that the Korean-Style Beef cartons contained a chicken-based product. There have been no confirmed reports of adverse reactions due to consumption of these products. Anyone concerned about an injury or illness should contact a healthcare provider. FSIS is concerned that some products may be in consumers' freezers. Consumers who have purchased these products are urged not to consume them. These products should be thrown away or returned to

the place of purchase.

FSIS routinely conducts recall effectiveness checks to verify recalling firms notify their customers of the recall and that steps are taken to make certain that the product is no longer available to consumers. When available, the retail distribution lists will be posted on the FSIS website at www.fsis.usda.gov/recalls. Consumers with questions about the recall can contact the Conagra Consumer Care line at 800-672-8152. Members of the media with questions about the recall can contact Daniel Hare, Senior Director of Communications for Conagra Brands, Inc., at 312-549-5355 or Daniel.Hare@conagra.com.

Consumers with food safety questions can call the toll-free USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline at 888-MPHotline (888-674-6854) or live chat via Ask USDA from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. (Eastern Time) Monday through Friday. Consumers can also browse food safety messages at Ask USDA or send a question via email to MPHotline@usda.gov. For consumers that need to report a problem with a meat, poultry, or egg product, the online Electronic Consumer Complaint Monitoring System can be accessed 24 hours a day at https://foodcomplaint.fsis.usda.gov/eCCF/.



Youth Praise Awards



Tickets \$25.00 www.whalers-creation.us

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Henderson, NV 89014
Dinner at 6:30

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"An event to honor all youth 14-24"



Youth Praise Awards Nominate Form



Youth's Name			Age
Adult nominating youth		What category	
Phone	Email		

Why nominated?

More than 23,000 kids age out of U.S. foster care every year.

70% of foster kids would like to go to college.

Only

3 Body text

of kids who age out will earn a college degree

and

1 in 4

won't graduate from high school or get a GED.

60%

of boys who age out or are legally emancipated have been convicted of a crime. 7 in 10

out will become pregnant before age 21.

1 in 2

kids who age out will develop a substance dependence. 32%

of children who reached 18 in foster care were waiting in the system for more than

3 years

You can change their future. Adopt teens from foster care.

chlss.org/fostercareadoption







120,000 children and teens are waiting to be adopted. The number of children in foster care nationwide increased 2.3% this year to 437,465. Making it a figure that has risen every year since 2012. Studies indicate that one out of every four youth who age-out of foster care will end up in a homeless shelter within three years.

Do you want to help a youth?

Foster! Adopt! Mentor!

Together we can make a youth strong community

For state-to-state information visit: www.childwelfare.gov 1.800.394.3366 (9:30 am - 5:30 pm) (EST)

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ONEGARING ADJUTAMAN A SUCCESS STOPY - Josh Shipp



Foster! Adopt! Mentor!

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'Unsafe In Foster Care' Investigates How A System To Keep Kids Safe Can Harm Them

July 20, 2014 AILSA CHANG

ASHLEY BROWN
Twitter

MIGUEL MACIAS
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LISTEN·8:07

NPR's Ailsa Chang speaks with journalist Deepa Fernandes about her two-part investigation for *Latino USA* into domestic violence survivors who lose their children to the foster care system.





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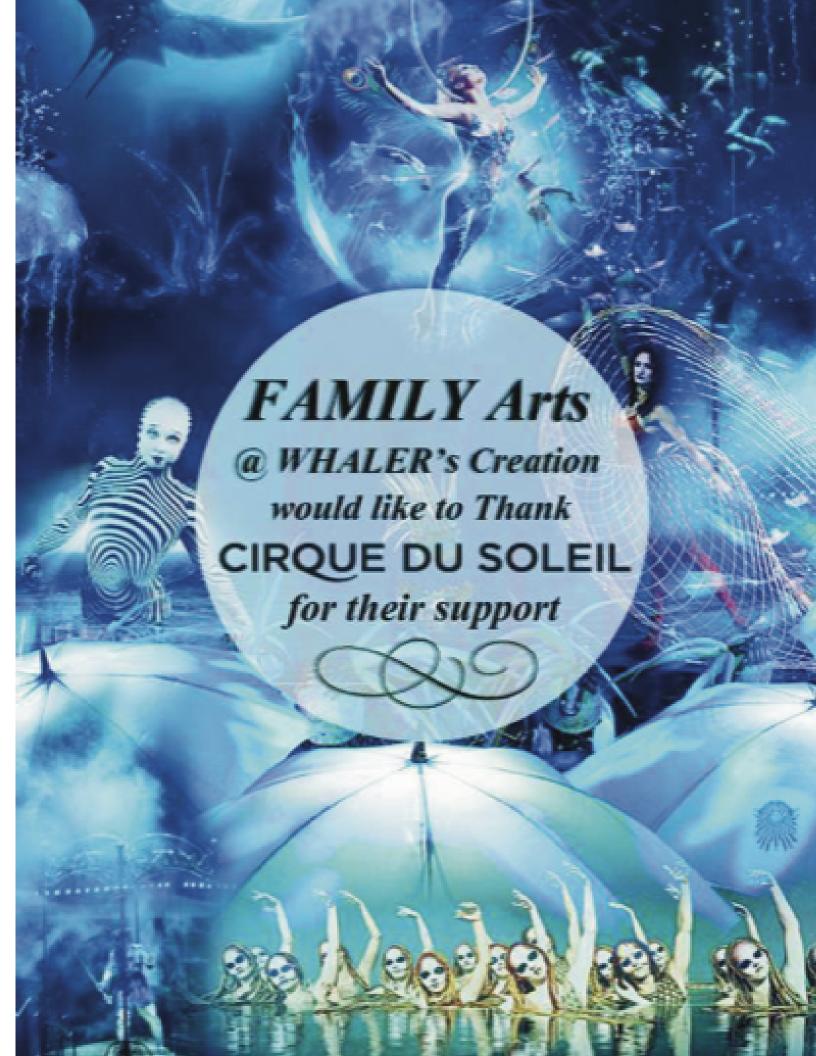
Maryland (410)8286761 https://marylandcasa.org/

Washington DC (425)5429594 https://washingtoncasa.org/

South Carolina (803) 576-1735 https://www.rccasa.org/

Texas (844) 230-6467 (512) 473-2627 https://texascasa.org/

For national helpline in USA, (800) 628-3233 https://nationalcasagal.org/contact-us/





When it's time to say goodnight to your little ones, turn on:

KFAM Youth Radio

(www.whalers-creation.us)

and let our storytellers read a bedtime story to your loved ones.

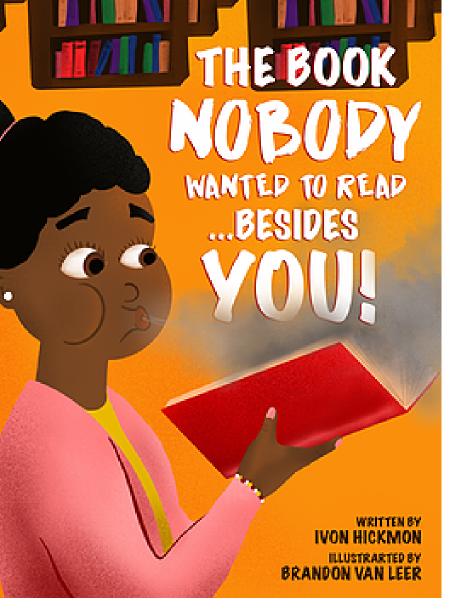


US Adoption Resources

- Centers for Disease Control International Adoption Health Guidance
- U.S. Department of State Bureau of Consular Affairs Adoption Process
- AdoptUSKids.org
- Child Welfare information Gateway
- Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute (CCAI)

Additional Resources

- Adoptive Families Magazine
- Adoptive Parents Committee
- American Academy of Adoption Attorneys (AAAA)
- Child Welfare League of America
- The Center for Adoption Support and Education
- Dave Thomas Foundation
- Evan B. Donaldson Adoption Institute
- International Social Services
- National Adoption Center
- National Council for Adoption (NCFA)
- North American Council on Adoptable Children (NACAC)



This beautiful story captures the need for inclusivity and emotional intelligence. Readers are introduced to the protagonist, as she shows empathy and compassion towards our book character. By definition, inclusion is the action or state of including or being included within a group. Inclusion must be taught and fought for. Equipping children is essential for this life's journey. Emotional intelligence is a set of emotional and social skills that influence the way we perceive and express ourselves, develop and maintain social relationships, cope with challenges, and use emotional information in an effective and meaningful way. This dynamic story teaches your children a proven, practical tactic to develop emotional intelligence skills. After reading this story, children will be empowered to love and embrace themselves fully and gain awareness of their emotional state.

About the Author: The youngest son out of three boys to military parents, Ivon found his dreams of playing among the NFL greats were closer than he'd ever imagine. Ivon's football career journeyed from "last man" on the roster to earning his football scholarship with honors and being selected as team captain and MVP.

A true "girl dad," Ivon spends hours visiting both his daughters' schools, cultivating children through the power of reading. These visits propelled Ivon to release his debut children's book, *The Book Nobody Wanted to Read...Besides You*, a fun and silly book that introduces children to emotional intelligence and inclusion.

Inclusion Diversity Unity The Hickmon Helper

To book Ivon for speaking engagement or fitness training: https://www.thehickmonhelper.com

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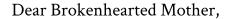


Ask Lillie Wise Words

Dear Lillie,

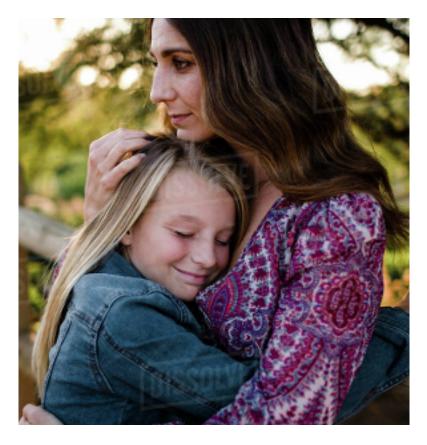
My pre-teen daughter has been running away from home a lot. Everytime she is located she says she want to live with her Dad. She knows her dad but he does not hardly anything for her. If he pick her her he will drop her off to his mother's house. He spends very little time with her, but that's where she want to go. I am so frustrated with her I don't know what to do. I have asked her Dad to spend more time with her but he says he does not have the time. He is highly successful professional who only thinks about himself. Which is why we broke up. Lillie please help me. I don't know what to do.

Brokenhearted Mother,



Spend quality time with her. Make her feel special in your life. She may feel you spend too much time with your new boyfriend. Have a weekly mommy and daughter day and make the day all about her. Find some constantly quality time with her. Make her feel she has your full attention. Breathe in and out. Take some time off just for you as well. Maybe the two of you can join a Yoga class.

Good Luck, Lillie



Loving from the inside out



The views and opinions of *Ask Lillie* may not be the views and opinion of Youth News.

Submit your question to, Ask Lillie at: admin@whalers-creation.us







Use your Youth News CARES Black Card





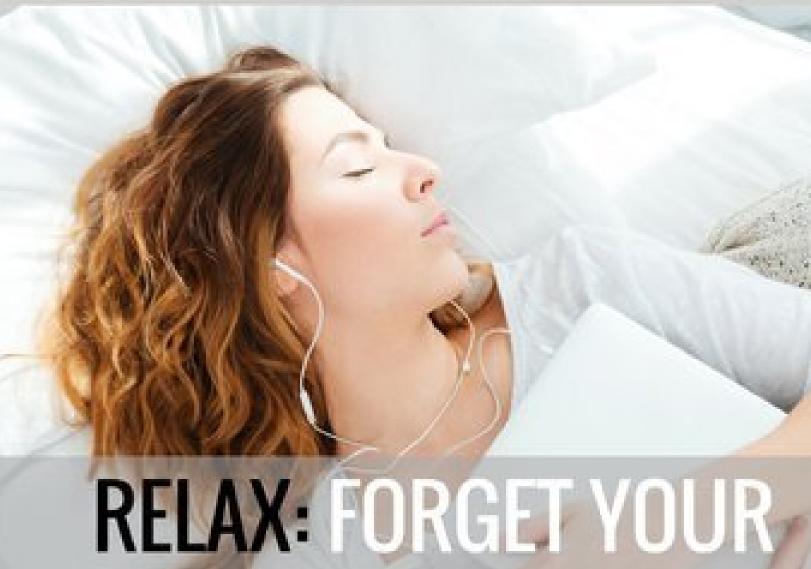
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