



## **Rescue 100 foster parent training scheduled July 28-30 in Wesson**

July 12, 2017

Rescue 100, three days of intense training for new foster parents, is scheduled for July 28-30 at Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Wesson.

A one-hour orientation program for metro Jackson area residents interested in becoming foster parents is scheduled for Thursday, July 13, at 6 p.m. at Meadow Grove Baptist Church, 3221 Louis Wilson Drive in Brandon. Persons interested in participating in Rescue 100 Training Weekend must first attend an orientation program.

Other one-hour orientation sessions are scheduled for July 17 at 6 p.m. at the Copiah County Courthouse, 100 Caldwell Drive in Hazlehurst, and July 18 at 6 p.m. at the Adams County Chancery Courthouse, 115 South Wall Street in Natchez.

Registration information is available online at [www.rescue100.org](http://www.rescue100.org).

The July 28-30 program will be the sixth Rescue 100 training conducted in the past 15 months. The goal of the program is to provide more licensed foster homes to meet the needs of abused and neglected children.

Mississippi Supreme Court Justice Dawn Beam, co-chair of the Commission on Children's Justice, is spearheading efforts to increase the number of licensed foster homes. "It's just imperative that we have good quality foster homes for our children and I know that there are lots of families out there that are willing to help take a child in," Justice Beam said. "The whole idea behind Rescue 100 is to expedite the licensing of foster homes so that children can be placed there and the court can be assured that the children will be placed in a safe home."

Foster parent training used to take months, with required classes spread out over five to six weeks. Rescue 100 provides all of the classes within a weekend. After completing the training weekend, prospective resource families will be scheduled for home studies before licensing can be finalized.

The training schedule for July 28-30 is:

- Friday, July 28, 6 to 9 p.m. with check-in starting at 5:15 p.m.;
- Saturday, July 29, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.;
- Sunday, July 30, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Rescue 100 is a collaborative effort of the Mississippi Department of Child Protection Services, the Mississippi Commission on Children's Justice, adoption agency 200 Million Flowers and area churches. The Rescue 100 program began at Michael Memorial Baptist Church in Gulfport.

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