



**THE FAMILY TREE**  
INFORMATION, EDUCATION & COUNSELING CENTER

Fall 2009

# Leaves from

THE FAMILY TREE

## “GO TO BAT FOR THE FAMILY TREE”

### 1ST ANNUAL SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT!

The Family Tree with the help of Pelican Park and other sponsors is hosting our First Annual “Go to Bat for The Family Tree” Softball Tournament.

**Saturday, November 14** will be a double elimination OPEN Tournament.

To register please call Pelican Park at (337) 896-5000.

**Sunday, November 15** will be a double elimination Restaurant Tournament. This tournament is for amateur players and offers co-ed, friendly competition between local restaurants and other businesses.

To register please call Pelican Park at (337) 896-5000.

Please join us at Pelican Park in Carencro, LA November 14-15, 2009 for fun, support, and friendly competition!

This event will feature a raffle items, a fun jump, face painters, and fun for the whole family!

**Find out how you can help The Family Tree with this event!  
Please call Sarah Perkins at (337) 981-2180 for more information.**

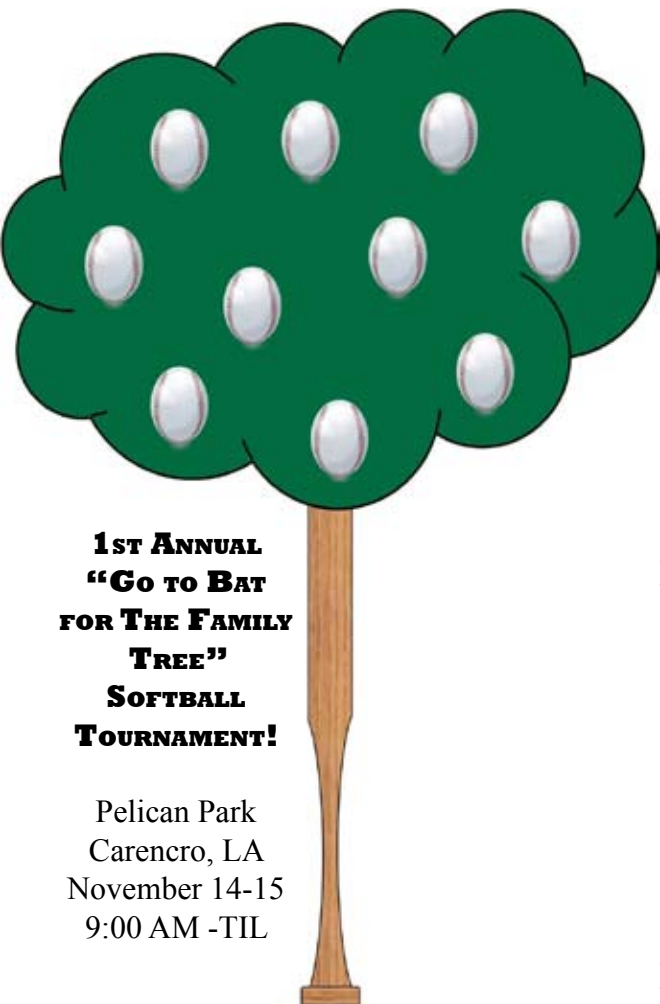
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**Visit our web site for the latest news  
on activities and events at The Family Tree!**

**[www.acadianafamilytree.org](http://www.acadianafamilytree.org)**

**Also, join us on MySpace:**

**[www.myspace.com/thefamilytreelafayettela](http://www.myspace.com/thefamilytreelafayettela)**



**1ST ANNUAL  
“GO TO BAT  
FOR THE FAMILY  
TREE”  
SOFTBALL  
TOURNAMENT!**

Pelican Park  
Carencro, LA  
November 14-15  
9:00 AM -TIL

# September is National Infant Mortality Awareness Month

## DEDICATION EVENT SEPTEMBER 16



The Guardian Angel Memorial Site and it's dedication have been made possible by:

Chastant Bros., Inc., Rotary Clubs of Lafayette, Bayou Vermilion District, The Acadiana FIMR Community Action Team, The Family Tree

The dedication event will take place:

**Wednesday, September 16  
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM  
at Rotary Point in Lafayette,  
Louisiana.**

When a family loses a child, it is a loss for the entire community. There is now a special place that acknowledges our lost children and offers a site for reflection and consolation. You are invited to visit anytime on any day.

The Acadiana region of Louisiana continues to have the highest infant death rate in the state. Recognizing the importance of women's health over the life span and its impact on pregnancy outcomes, it is particularly relevant to raise awareness regarding health issues and provide education to parents in our community.

For more information, please call 337-295-7021 or 337-981-2180.

## MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Greetings from The Family Tree Information, Education, and Counseling Center!

I hope you've taken the time to read this month's "Leaves" newsletter. If so, you probably noticed that we have a lot going on here at the agency! We have a statue dedication in September, are undertaking a new fundraising initiative in November, and we continue to look for ways to provide parent education and counseling services for little or no cost to people in Acadiana without the means to pay for these services.

In the last newsletter, I spoke about change. In my day-to-day work and personal life, I meet a number of people who tell me that they want to change something about their lives. Often these same folks have been thinking and talking for quite some time about those things that need to change in their lives. What's missing from this equation is the actual doing of change. Change of any kind always involves some kind of movement. Talking and thinking about change, including all the reasons for not changing, does not involve movement. Here at The Family Tree we are not just talking about change, we are moving in numerous ways to make it happen. One of those changes involves our sliding fee scale. After I came onboard as CEO, we reviewed our fee scale and realized that families comprised of two or more people making less than \$40,000 a year would have a tough time paying for counseling services, even at the reduced fee. And so we moved. We reduced our fees, in a time of economic downturn, in order to be more responsive to people in our community. Of course we thought and talked about it - but then we had to actually do something in order to make it happen. We developed a plan for the direction we would take, and we moved.

Think about your own life. How long have you been talking and thinking about changing something? What one thing can you do today to make that happen? What one thing can you do today to implement your plan to move?

Please stay tuned for more exciting news from The Family Tree!

Dena L. Moore, Ph.D., LPC, NCC

## STAFF

Dena Moore, PhD, LPC  
Anne LeBlanc  
Sarah G. Perkins  
Dee Atkinson  
Tina LeBlanc  
Abby LeBlanc  
Genny Perron  
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Katy Bajat, MSW  
Allison Prince  
Daria Damon  
Joan Conway, RN  
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Lisa LaRochelle, LCSW

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## HEALTHY START NEWS BRIEFS

In August the Healthy Start Program embarked on a new initiative aimed at improving women's health in our community. Program Director Glynis DeRoche and Case Managers Allison Prince, Shannon Bernard, and Katy Bajat, along with Consortium member Tahanna Francis of University Medical Center, attended the First Interconceptional Care Learning Community Conference in Washington, D.C. The purpose of the conference was to introduce the concept of the learning community and to begin implementing evidence-based practices and innovative interventions to improve the health and well-being of women served by Healthy Start programs throughout the country.

The interconceptional time period, the interval between pregnancies, is a critical time for women and their medical care providers to become aware of and modify health risks that could impact a future pregnancy, including diseases, health behaviors, emotional well-being, and environmental hazards. The Healthy Start Program addresses these and other issues by providing education and resources for expectant and new parents throughout Lafayette Parish.

Contact the Healthy Start office for more information on prenatal and interconceptional health education at (337)295-7021.

### STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Our quarterly newsletter will spotlight an employee to show the different aspects of our agency. This month's employee spotlight is on Daria Damon. Daria is to be congratulated on her move to the Healthy Start program. She was a support staff member of our agency for almost a year when she was given the chance to make a greater impact on the community as an Outreach Specialist on the Healthy Start Team. As an Outreach Specialist she visits first time moms in their homes to educate them on their child from pregnancy until the child is two years old. Congratulations Daria! Thank you for all that you do!

### NEW LOCATION REMINDER

The Family Tree has moved! We are now located on the campus of Women's & Children's Hospital in Building D.

**New Physical Address:** 4540 Ambassador Caffery Parkway  
Building D, Suite B220  
Lafayette, LA 70508

**Phone Number:** 337-981-2180  
**Fax Number:** 337-981-2391

### NEW IBERIA LOCATION

1003 E. Admiral Doyle, New Iberia, 70560 (Goodwill Store)