

#### Upcoming Virtual Trainings/Meetings:

#### Contact your therapist or Ken Summers at <u>Ksummers@thebabyfold.org</u> for more information about... Parent Support Groups:

- Wednesday Noon group: Provides education and support related to parenting, trauma, and selfcare within the context of adoption and foster care. Meets 2x a month.
- Dads Sharpen Dads: A safe place for dads to share their unique challenges, as well as education and support for each other to be their very best. Meets 2x a month.

#### Coming soon!:

TBRI Caregiver Training evening group (Fall 2023)

TBRI Tip of the Month

"We're called to see the preciousness of our children even when they are covered in their own 'mess.'" -- Dr. Karyn Purvis

#### **Sensory Processing**

**Sensory processing** is the neurology of how we feel. In this process, we receive information through the body's eight senses -- sight, tactile (touch), auditory (hearing), gustatory (taste), olfactory (smell), vestibular (balance/posture), proprioception (body awareness), interoception (sense of what's going on inside of the body) -- organize it, and use it to make sense of and interact with the world around us.

All of us have sensory preferences and sensitivities, but these can be amplified for children with a trauma history and/or diagnoses such as Sensory Processing Disorder (SPD), Autism, and ADHD. This may look like extreme sensitivities to light, sound, or certain clothing and/or food textures, poor balance, clumsiness, not being able to sit still, spinning without feeling dizzy, chewing on clothing/other objects, and sleep issues.

Understanding sensory processing is critical in understanding children and their behavior! Occupational therapy and creating a "sensory diet" are helpful in supporting children and their sensory needs.

#### Additional Resources:

- What is Your Child's Sensory Profile (And Why It's Critical to Know) Sensory processing disorder (SPD) can impact the brain's ability to receive, organize, or respond to sensory input via any of the eight senses. In children, SPD can impact behavior, learning, and everyday happiness. If your child experiences sensory issues (even if they don't have diagnosable SPD), create a sensory profile to match their needs to appropriate supports. Click on the article title above to learn how!
- Understanding Sensory Processing In this brief video, Dr. Karyn Purvis explains what sensory processing is and why an understanding of it is vital for parents of children from early childhood trauma.

Candace Peterson. (2022, November 7). What is your child's sensory profile? (and why it's critical to know). ADDitude. https://www.additudemag.com/sensory-processing-problems-profileadhd/?utm\_source=eletter&utm\_medium=email&utm\_campaign=parent\_july\_2022&utm\_content=070222&goal=0\_d9446392d6-5450932f24-302574253

For any questions about Adoption Support and Preservation, please contact Melissa Legendre at (309) 557-1149 or email her at mlegendre@thebabyfold.org. For any questions about TBRI, please contact Kathleen Bush at (309) 531-9262 or email her at kbush@thebabyfold.org.



# THE BABY FOLD VIRTUAL PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

### 1<sup>ST</sup> AND 3<sup>RD</sup> WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH 12:00-1:00 PM

SUPPORT AND EDUCATION FOR FAMILIES FORMED THROUGH ADOPTION AND GUARDIANSHIP

EMAIL MELISSA AT <u>MLEGENDRE</u> THEBABYFOLD.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION & LINK TO MEETINGS

"You cannot lead a child to a place of healing if you do not know the way yourself." – Dr. Karyn Purvis



<sup>"</sup>"As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another."

# The Baby Fold Dad's Support Group 1st & 3rd Monday evenings 7:15 pm-8:15 pm

Email Ken Summers at ksummers@thebabyfold.org

to sign up!

" If we can communicate to our children,

# It's you and me against your history,

We have a strong place to begin."

Dr. Karyn Purvis