

Parents Who Need Parents

~An adoptive, foster and Kindship family support group~



The pain is real, scary and loud. It's almost impossible to see the sun behind the clouds. Don't lose hope; every day is a new day. We have each other and together, we'll find a way.

Parent Perspective



Contents

Upcoming Dates	1
What PWNP Means to Me	2
Thank You	2
My forever child	3

PWNP is a family focused support group and resource provider designed and committed to educate and support families, professionals and our community dealing with children with RAD or any other difficult diagnosis.

PWNP meets twice a month. Families share a meal and then the kiddos go do a craft/activity with our activity director while the adults have a chance to share their experiences, stories and resources.

Meetings are held at the Milliken Presbyterian church located at 201 S, Olive Ave, Milliken, CO

Volunteers are welcome to assist with craft time!

Upcoming Meeting Dates

January 2018

Sunday, January 14th @ 5pm
*Sunday, January 28th @ 5pm

February 2018

Sunday, February 11th @ 5pm
*Sunday, February 25th @ 5pm

March 2018

Sunday, March 11th @ 5pm
*Sunday, March 25th @ 5pm

*Denotes Pot Luck and Key Stakeholder Meeting (4p.m)



When he said, “She might be your forever child”

My husband and I just thought that our adopted daughter, adopted at age 2, was blamelessly “behind” in her development due to neglect from age 0-2 and would eventually catch up.

We had her held back in Kindergarten thinking that might do the trick. However, academically and behaviorally, she still acted as if she was 3-4 years younger than her actual age.

A couple of years went by and nothing had changed. Bad grades, constant calls from the school and daycares of inappropriate behavior and acting out. All of her actions appeared to be intentional. We continually asked our daughter, “When are you going to grow up?”, “When are you going to act your age?” We took her to numerous therapists, psychologists and doctors. Although she had been and still has a diagnosis of RAD, (Reactive Attachment Disorder), they said it was probably Defiant Disorder; ADHD; “Let’s put her on this medication, or that medication”; maybe it was her age and she will grow out of it. We knew; however, it was much more than that.

Then at age 11, we had our daughter tested by a Neuro Psychologist, a known expert in his field, where he found her to be borderline mentally retarded with an aggressive TBI (Traumatic Brain Injury). This was apparently due to her Bio parents either shaking her, dropping her or she had had been beaten. At that moment when the Dr. was telling me this, I only heard him mumble, my heart was breaking for her. How could anyone do that to an infant? Why us? Why her?

After extensive conversations with my husband, her dad, we were actually relieved in a strange way. It explained so much and now we finally had a true diagnosis. I was able to write an accurate and concise IEP for her. The teachers, all of a sudden, understood and altered the way they taught and treated our daughter.

The general public, of course, does not understand our daughter’s actions. She appears to be “normal”, tall and cute. We hesitate to tell her coaches or her friends parents of her TBI, worried that they will then look for her imperfections.

Still to this day, 8 months after our daughter’s diagnosis, we still are processing the thought that she might be our “forever child”. Under advice, we take her to Occupational Therapy, Speech and Language therapy once a week. Our goal is that our daughter will one day understand the concept of time and money, and obtain any necessary life skills that will help her succeed in the future.

While our hearts hurt for her, our daughter’s optimistic attitude about life is such a blessing. Ignorance is such bliss. Blind to many of the copious issues our world faces, she lifts us up with her humor, watching her track Santa on Christmas Eve, the belief that mermaids are real and the Easter Bunny lives on Easter Island.

The Neuro Psychologist recommended that our daughter does not have children of her own. Her low IQ and her ability to care for a child may be too inadequate. We will cross that bridge when we come to it.

I urge anyone that is diagnosed with a TBI or has a loved one that is, please build the mental ramp and advocate for that is where hope lives.

Kami and Rob



www.facebook.com/ParentsWhoNeedParents

PWNP (Mailing Address Only)
117 W. Hawthorne
Milliken, CO 80543

Winter 2018 Calendar PWNP Meetings

January 14 & *28
February 11 & *25
March 11 & *25

*Denotes Pot Luck and Key Stakeholder Meeting dates (4p.m)

Parents Who Need Parents Key Stakeholders

Kami Chase	President
Vacant	Vice-President
Rob Chase	Treasurer
Bill Greene	Secretary
John Benjamin	Member At Large



Email: PWNPRAD@gmail.com

Facebook: [ParentsWhoNeedParents](https://www.facebook.com/ParentsWhoNeedParents)

(970) 587-2588 to leave a message

OR

(269) 317-3040 for a quick call back