

The Lynne Witkin/CPFA Scholarship
Concerned Persons for Adoption www.cpfanjersey.org

Lynne Witkin was a social worker, adoptive parent, and volunteer advocate for adoption. She saw the need for an annual gathering of professionals and parents and, in 1979, pioneered New Jersey's first "Let's Talk Adoption" Conference. She also served as president of Concerned Persons for Adoption, the adoptive parent support group which has continued to coordinate this conference since her death.

This scholarship is offered in the hope of helping & encouraging qualified social work majors who are interested in pursuing a career in the area of adoption or child welfare. There are currently over a half million children in the US in foster care. More than 100,000 of these are waiting for adoptive parents. There is a critical need for caring, capable social workers to enter the field of child welfare – protective services, foster care, adoption, post-adoption services, etc., especially at this time in New Jersey.

The Winner will be invited to attend and receive their check at the November 7, 2009 "Let's Talk Adoption"sm Conference held at Rutgers University in Piscataway, NJ.

We are offering one \$1500 Scholarship
Deadline for submission of application is July 31, 2009

ELIGIBILITY: Current undergraduate OR graduate social work major in a NJ BSW or MSW program. Student must be in good standing and planning to enter the human services field in the area of adoption or child welfare.

CRITERIA: Meets eligibility requirements and has demonstrated interest and/or accomplishments in the above-mentioned areas.

Name of applicant _____ Date _____

Current address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Telephone _____

Home address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Telephone _____

Email address_____

Currently a student at which college_____

By the fall of 2009 which college will you be attending_____

Freshman____Sophomore____Junior____Senior____Graduate Student_____

Expected Year of Graduation_____ Degree_____

Major_____

Scholarship Guidelines

Please submit a) this **application form**, b) **two letters of reference**, at least one from a teacher/advisor at your current school and a second from a teacher/ advisor or an employer/supervisor in the field, and c) a **short essay** with the following information:

1. Career Goals
2. Describe any volunteer or paid positions you have held in which you have gained experience in the field of child welfare or adoption related area (e.g., any work with children, teaching, mentoring, foster care, etc.) Also state if you have any personal experience (e.g., you were in the foster care system, are an adoptee, or have adopted or relinquished a child for adoption) or knowledge in this area.
3. Explain any additional reasons why you feel you can especially contribute to the field of adoption/child welfare (e.g., bilingual, experience, interest, etc.)

Signature of applicant_____ Date _____

All applications must be returned by **July 31, 2009** to:

CPFA c/o Barbara Podstawski

60 Marion Avenue

Butler, NJ 07405

Decisions will be made during the summer of 2008.