



ADOPTION CONNECTION
JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES OF GREENWICH
One Holly Hill Lane ~ Greenwich, CT 06830
203-622-1881 ~ (Fax) 203-622-1885 ~ dschwartz@jfsgreenwich.org

For more information:
Debbie Schwartz
(203) 622-1881

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Forever Families Weekend – for Jewish Families Touched by Adoption

The *Adoption Connection* at Jewish Family Services of Greenwich in conjunction with the NJ Y Camps has opened registration for the fourth annual **Forever Families Weekend**, a family weekend experience for Jewish families touched by adoption. The program will run from June 8-10, 2012.

Families will have the opportunity to think consciously about their roles in both the Jewish community and the adoption community while enjoying a weekend at one of the largest Jewish summer camps in North America. Since 1960, the Center for Jewish Family Life at the NJ Y Camps has provided top-rated programs for people looking for family fun and the chance to meet new people.

Parents will have the option to participate in workshops such as *Children's Books and Stories of Adoption*, *Identity Issues for Adoptees Approaching Bar/Bat Mitzvah*, *Acceptance of Transracial Families in the Jewish Community*, and *Jewish, LGBT, and Parenting by Adoption* while their children participate in age-appropriate activities such as a teen-adoptee spoken word workshop or skill-building workshops aimed at teaching children them how to respond to

comments and questions about adoption. Adoption-specific workshops will be facilitated by Adoption Connection Director Steve Baranowski and Program Coordinator Debbie Schwartz, along with other adoption professionals who will share their experiences as Jewish parents by adoption, including Lisa Schuman, LCSW, director of Adoption Cooperative Consultants and staff psychotherapist for Reproductive Medicine Associates of New York and Maris Blechner, LCSW, Executive Director of Family Focus Adoption Services in Little Neck, NY. Rabbi Lina Zerbarini, Director of the Weinberger Center for Jewish Life and Learning at Si Jacobson Jewish Community Center, will also be participating in the weekend program.

NJ Y Camps, which has been running Jewish summer camps for more than 90 years, will provide space and programming support. Participants will be able to take full advantage of the NJY facilities, including the high and low ropes adventure courses, boating, swimming, arts and crafts, athletics, and much more. All meals at the camp are kosher and optional Shabbat services will be offered on both Friday evening and Saturday morning. The all-inclusive program costs \$250 per adult. Children attend free of charge. Limited camperships are available for families who require financial assistance to attend. Forever Families Weekend will take place at Camps Cedar Lake and Nah-Jee-Wah in Milford, Pennsylvania.

For more information about this program, or to receive Forever Families literature, please contact Debbie Schwartz at (203) 622-1881 or dschwartz@jfsgrgreenwich.org. A downloadable flyer describing the program is attached. The camp webpage is located at http://njycamps.org/families/html/forever_families.html.