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A Renewed Day for Family Preservation

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A Renewed Day for Family Preservation

The journal in your hands represents eight rewarding years for me as Editor of the Family Preservation Journal. Years of reviewing new research, ideas and challenges in the form of manuscripts. Years of wonderful friendships with the most knowledgeable authors and leaders in the field of family preservation. Years of working with Eddie, and Sandy Bowers and Sharon Lloyd as publisher and staff. Years of editing and formatting with Barbara Myers and the FPI staff. And years of hearing from readers regarding the usefulness of the articles in their work with families and programs.

Now I am very pleased that Dr. Marrienne Berry of the School of Social Work at the University of Kansas will become the Journal's Editor. Dr. Berry served as guest Editor for Volume 6 of the Journal, producing an excellent set of articles on Child Welfare. Beginning with the next Volume, we will have a number of new Editorial Board members. I will continue to work with the Journal as a Co-Editor.

This Volume also marks our new format of one large issue per year. By using this publishing approach, we are able to keep production costs lower.

The philosophy and principles of family preservation have emerged in new forms over the past eight years. From the Family Preservation and Support Act of 1993 to the Adoption and Safe Families Act (ASFA) of today, the value of the family to individuals and society is clear. While family preservation "programs" per se may not be as plentiful, the principals are founding almost every array of services from children, corrections, D.D. to mental health and work with the elderly. The Administration's priorities of healthy marriage, fatherhood, incarcerated parents, and faith-based programs reflect a family-centered approach to social issues. This redefining of the village will require our renewed efforts to articulate the importance of family centered practice and policy.

For example, ASFA in the field of Child Welfare has not only increased funding for family preservation but also provided a great opportunity to speak up for maintaining the family unit, if possible, in the push for shorter timeliness and adoptions. The in-depth review and planning each state Child Welfare system has undergone reveals the increased need for those of us with expertise in Family Preservation to contribute to *strengthening family services.*

Editorial

Toward this goal, I know the Family Preservation Institute will be an even more effective resource for practitioners and program designers and administrators. My never-ending thanks to all of the people who have helped (and will help) make the Journal a success. And most of all thank you for all you do for families.

Alvin L. Sallee, ACSW, LISW