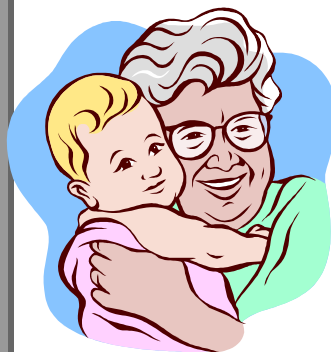


A GRANDMOTHER'S STORY



Dear Folks in FASD,

It is so nice that people out in this wide open world cares. I am a Grandmother of a beautiful grandson with FASD. Now this little fellow we all love aunty, uncles, cousins, friends he is a very loving and caring boy. We all realized that he has a very high hill to climb. But with all our help he can do it. Mason has a very nice smile and most of the time good spirits. But as a grandmother he calls grandma. At times he gets out of hand but I have never had to give him time out. But I learned that instead of corners have a pleasant place for him to get over his little troubles very good. I always take him Saturday night until Sunday afternoon. This is so the parents will have a little time of their own. When they adopted this little fellow at 11 months the doctor

never told them what to expect. Which I think is very wrong. His parents would have taken him anyways. He is such a loving boy if you happen to hurt your self he will always come and say are you OK. He has such loving parents and prayers, he will be someone someday. I only thank God you all got into doing something for those children. It is hard work I do know. Mason is very good on computers but we have put him into other things. But they just say we can't handle him. But my daughter always stays near by in case. What I am trying to say is there any books out there that says what to do from the time they are young until the time they get into their teens. I still blame the doctors for not looking into those things when the mother is going to have them. Like how much drinking went on. I am sure if this

was known when they were born it would be a big help for the child and the parents. We had him in a school when he was 3, day care and the teachers said he could not go there anymore they could not handle him. This school got closed down because my daughter went after the school board and teachers. All I can say thank God they did that because he is doing much better now. He has a 1 on 1 teacher, a very good one. But now he has to change schools it has me worried how he will make out with a new teacher. Mason goes to a new school which I know upset him. Well I must close but on doing it I must say the Government should give more money to teachers and people like you all.

I remain as
Mary Bittorf
Grandmother of
Mason Powers.

Ask Joanne

If you have any questions or stories to tell, let us know and we will add them to our newsletter. Send to: pwfascen@telusplanet.net through e-mail, fax or send them to us in a letter. We appreciate hearing from our readers.



Lakeland Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Society

The next Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held May 25, 2005 at 7:00 pm at the Lakeview Church in Bonnyville. The church is at 4801-54 St. Presentations: For further information please call our office.



Yahoo!! Spring is here!

Supporting Parents who are FASD!

In St. Paul on Tuesday June 14, 2005 from 9:00 am—4:00 pm there will be a one day workshop with Donna Debolt, for people working to support parents who are FASD. Topics will be: - What are the best approaches? - What helps? - What hinders? Please contact the centre to register or check out our website for further information. www.lakelandfas.com

A Unique invitation to share your life story.....

The Alberta Association for Community Living (AACL) has come up with a unique opportunity of putting together a book which will include stories of people that have developmental disabilities who their lifetimes were institutionalized for a years and yet survived and prospered to live meaningful lives after moving into their individual communities.

The AACL would like to share these stories with the others they are looking for people who have faced these kinds of adversities and been able to overcome them and have moved on. If you have a story to share or if you know of someone who has a story and is willing to share it please contact: Deanna Schwanke, Operations Manager by May 16, 2005

questions in regards to the production of this book please contact the AACL at (780) 451-3055. To mail please send to the following address: Alberta Association for Community Living 11724 Kingsway Ave. Edmonton, AB T5G 0X5 Or to email please send to: dschwanke@aacl.org The deadline has been extended for any further stories so please do not hesitate to send them in.

"When you reach for the stars, you may not get one, but you won't come up with a handful of mud either."
Leo Burnett



"My name was David, but that sounded old fashioned. So I shortened it to DVD!"