

Call for Papers

Family Care Solutions, Inc., a nonprofit organization located in Philadelphia, PA, is seeking short stories from single parents in college or who have graduated from college to include in a new book titled, *"Professor, Can I Bring My Baby to Class?"* These short stories should be true testimonials about a mother's experience as a student-parent attending a postsecondary institution.

Book Overview:

"Professor, Can I Bring My Baby to Class?" is a book to inspire and motivate teen mothers, single mothers and women with young children to pursue higher education and improve their quality of life. The reader will celebrate the journey of her personal story as she travels from high school to college enrollment to graduation. In addition, the journal lists national resources that offer on-campus child care programs, child care grants, housing for student-parents and their children, financial aid and other support services. To persuade women with young children to attend college, the journal includes short stories written by courageous women from around the country who have persevered through college with baby in tow.

Eligibility Guidelines:

- Single mothers currently enrolled in an accredited postsecondary institution pursuing an associates, bachelor's degree, or professional certificate with at least one child under the age-of-six.
- Women who have already graduated from an accredited degree granting postsecondary institution with at least an associates, bachelor's degree or professional certificate and who cared for at least one child under the age-of-six.

Submission Guidelines:

- A Publishing Agreement must be signed by the author submitting the short story. The original copy must be mailed to FCS. Information is available at www.familycaresolutions.org
- An Information Form Cover Page must accompany the short story. Forms are available at www.familycaresolutions.org.
- Submission does not automatically mean inclusion in the book, however the story may be included in other forms of media including the internet.
- Submissions will be accepted electronically or by mail to the address below. Stories must be no more than three pages long, type written on 8 1/2" x 11" paper, double-spaced, 12 pt font, and 1" margins. The deadline is November 16, 2007. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Family Care Solutions, Inc.
Attn: Call for Papers
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www.familycaresolutions.org
info@familycaresolutions.org
215-228-0200 (office)
215-228-0285 (fax)

Topic Suggestions:

You may write about any issue that is or was important to you as a single parent in college. Share stories, circumstances, and experiences so that when others read your story they may become motivated to go to college.

Here are some suggestions:

1. Who or what motivated you to go to college?
2. What support, if any, did you receive while in school from family and/or friends? If you did/did not receive support, what was the reason?
3. Did you attend college out of state? Did you bring your child? Why or why not?
4. How did you manage your stress, study time, and family time?
5. As a mother in school, did you have to cope with family crises?
6. Did you experience going to college while in an unhealthy relationship? How did you manage?
7. Did you have to live off school loans, Pell grants, scholarships, and/or welfare while going to college? How did you manage your money?
8. What is/was it like to go:
 - To college with more than one child?
 - To college as a full-time student-parent?
 - To college with a special needs child?
 - Back to school as a nontraditional student (older adult) with young children?
 - To college after a period of being homeless?
9. Was there a time when you were on academic probation? Why? Did you consider dropping out? How did you make a comeback?
10. Have you been in school for four years but haven't graduated? What motivates you to keep going? What does a college degree mean to you?
11. Were you able to find affordable childcare? Was your family able to help provide care for your child(ren)? What did that mean to you? How did that empower you to pursue your education and degree?

For more information about Family Care Solutions, Inc. visit www.familycaresolutions.org.

Questions about this project can be directed to:

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