

# Amaris Ministries



"God sets the lonely in families." Psalm 68:6a

God's promises fulfilled for families.



A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling. God sets the lonely in families.

Psalm 68:5-6a

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Spring

March 2017

BRINGING HOPE AND HEALING TO FAMILIES

# EMPOWERED TO CONNECT CONFERENCE

PRESENTED BY SHOW HOPE

LIVE SIMULCAST! | APRIL 7 -8, 2017

EQUIPPING FAMILIES, CHURCHES, AND PROFESSIONALS  
TO BETTER SERVE CHILDREN IMPACTED BY  
ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE



Featuring Trust-Based Relational Intervention® methods developed by Dr. Karyn Purvis and Dr. David Cross from the TCU Institute of Child Development to help bring attachment and connection in families.



**WHEN:** Friday & Saturday: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

**WHERE:** Calvary Chapel 1923 Austin Road, El Centro, CA 92243

**COST:** \$25/person for materials, light breakfast, and lunch

**New:** Continuing Education Hours accepted by Imperial County Children & Family Services for foster and adopt parents.

**Contact:** Aloma Harris at 760.337.9444

or email Aloma@AmarisMinistries.com

Online sign-up at Eventbrite or call the office to reserve your spot ASAP!

[www.AmarisMinistries.com](http://www.AmarisMinistries.com)

CEU credits may be available to profession



## Sanctity of Life Month Celebrated Around the Valley in January



AM Board Director Annette Rea, TBRI Educator, and husband Sam Rea share their adoption story and look on as daughter Carrie shares from the adoptee's perspective via video.

Various churches in the Imperial Valley commemorated Sanctity of Human Life Sunday by promoting foster care and adoption. AM Board Director Annette Rea and her husband Sam spoke at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Holtville. AM Board Director and CASA Executive Director (and Mayor of El Centro!) Alex Cardenas spoke at Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church in El Centro, and then the Reas, Pastor Walter Colace, and Nicole Rothfleisch all shared at Christ Community Church in El Centro.

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Amaris Ministries Board of Directors:  
Nicole Rothfleisch, Alex Cardenas, Walter Colace, Lupe McManaway and Annette Rea



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**Sanctity...** The Reas shared part of their personal story about having 3 biological children, then adopting a sibling set of 4 sisters through foster care, then later adopting a baby through foster care, and now going through the process of adopting 3 of their young grandchildren. Their oldest adopted daughter Carrie shared her perspective through a video testimony about what it was like to end up in foster care and then be adopted by a family who was willing to keep the siblings together. This family has been through a lot, but they have an amazing and inspiring story. If your church or group would be interested in having someone from Amaris Ministries share about adoption and foster care, please contact us.

## Orientation and TBRI Caregiver Training

January 26th, we held an Orientation for people interested in foster care, adoption, and wrap-around family services. 45 people attended and heard presentations from Amaris Ministries, CASA, Charlee Homes, and the Imperial County Department of Children and Family Services.

The following week we started a 12-week course of TBRI classes facilitated by Annette Rea. TBRI stands for Trust-Based Relational Intervention and is an absolute MUST when it comes to parenting or working with “kids from hard places.” It works really well on biological kids and spouses too ;-). We are particularly excited because 4 people on staff at New Creations are going through the classes with the goal of getting certified to be able to facilitate them later for people in New Creations and others who are court-ordered to attend parenting classes or trying to reunify with their children. In addition to teaching these classes, these skills are excellent for the staff to learn because they gain an understanding of how trauma impacts the brain and behavior, and pretty much everyone in programs like New Creations of been through some kind of trauma. Trust-based, connecting methods are much more affective at bringing about healing and building relationships than punitive, non-connecting methods. These 4 staff are a wonderful addition to our class of about 20 people that meets every Thursday evening in the Christ Community Church Fellowship Hall.



**April 7-8, 2017 @ 9:00 am – Empowered to Connect Simulcast at Calvary Chapel in El Centro.** This is an outstanding conference put on by Show Hope (the adoption ministry founded by Stephen Curtis Chapman and his wife) that is great for anyone who works with children and especially for foster and adoptive parents. We host the simulcast to make it more accessible for Imperial valley parents to attend. \$25/person includes light breakfast / lunch besides workbook. *CEU's available for professionals. Hours count toward foster parent license renewal. Sign up - see Amaris Ministries' website.*

**May 2017 National Foster Care Month** – What can your church or group do to reach out and serve the foster kids in your school, church or community?

**May 4-5, 2017 CAFO Summit in Nashville, TN** – Christian Alliance for Orphans Annual Summit – this is an international summit focusing on everything you can imagine regarding local and international “orphan care,” featuring world-renown speakers, countless resources and break-out sessions. *CEU's available for professionals.* <https://cafo.org/summit>

**July 2017 – Hope Connection, AM Pilot Camp for Kids** from Hard Places, will need volunteers, more info to come.

**October 20-21, 2017 – 3rd Annual “Helping Kids from Hard Places”** – Details to come.



**Thank you for your prayers and financial support!**

Office Hours: Tue-Thurs- Fri 9am-2pm 760.337.9444 or contact Aloma Harris cell 626.390.9792