Our Mission Statement
“Family Service & Children’s Aid Society will be a leader in the provision of comprehensive human services for our community through our commitment to excellence, accountability, and adaptability.”

Governing Board Approved
April 25, 2006

Our Vision Statement
“To provide individuals and families opportunities to reach their full potential in a community that embraces differences.”

Our Values

Respect:
We provide an environment where open communication is supported, diversity is appreciated, and positive regard is displayed towards everyone.

Confidentiality:
We hold an individual’s right to privacy in the highest regard, protecting this right in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and ethical standards.

Integrity:
We are committed to the highest standards of ethical, legal, and moral conduct. We believe integrity is the basis for community trust.

Leadership:
We recognize our responsibility to provide information, guidance, and direction. We will make informed decisions, creating an atmosphere that inspires effective communication, fosters partnerships, and models

Teamwork:
We work together in a cooperative effort toward common goals to produce outcomes stronger than could be achieved by individuals.
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**Featured Programs...**

School-Based Programs are provided in three schools in the Oil City Area School District: Hasson Heights Elementary, the Middle School and the Senior High School.

Family Foundations provides funds for therapeutic activities and family household needs in addition to comprehensive family therapy.

PPC has a large presence in the community with their prevention/education programs and receives much support with raising awareness of domestic violence.
Our Programs and Services...

Adoption Program
Adoptions, Local and International • Crisis Pregnancy Counseling • Homestudies • Placements • Searches

Big Brothers Big Sisters
Community Based Matches in Venango, Forest, & Clarion Counties

Drug & Alcohol Program
Adolescent Outpatient Program • Certified in Gambling Addictions Treatment • Community Education/Prevention • Case Coordination • Outpatient/Intensive Outpatient Program • Recovery Support Program • Student Assistance Program • Tobacco Prevention • VisionQuest & Pathways Adolescent Outpatient Services

Family Foundations Program
Ecosystemic Structural Family Therapy • Individual, Sibling, and Couples Therapy • Live Supervision and Consultation • 24-Hour Crisis On-Call Availability

General Counseling
Individual, Family, Marital, Grief, Gambling, and Other Life Adjustment Problems

School-Based Programs:
HEIGHTS
A behavioral health intervention model which provides services to identified students in grades K-12 who attend Hasson Heights Elementary School, Oil City Middle School, and the Oil City Senior High School.

Oil City PREP
An integrated classroom model which provides behavioral health interventions that promote strength-based therapy, identifying the positive abilities of students enrolled in grades 9-12 who attend Oil City Senior High School.

Home & Community Habilitation
Assisting Consumers with Mental Health or Developmental Disabilities.

PPC Violence Free Network & Shelter
24-Hour Hotline • Advocacy and Accompaniment • Alternatives To Violence • Anger Management Groups • Community and School Based Prevention and Education Programs • Emergency Shelter for Victims • First Response Team • Protection From Abuse Orders (PFA’s) • Psycoeducational Groups • Relocation Program • Sexual Assault Response Team Member • Supervised Visitation • Supportive Counseling for Victims of Domestic & Sexual Violence and Other Serious Crime

Venango Fatherhood Initiative
24/7 Dad: Fatherhood Program • Family Groups • Donuts With Dad • Inside Out Dad (Jail Groups) • P.A.P.A. (Parenting and Paternity Awareness) • Annual Soapbox Derbies • Special Interest Workshops: Fun with Father Day, Family Fishing Day, Family Movie Night, Family Sled Riding Party
Not many Venango County non-profit organizations can say they’ve been hard at work for the benefit of the families and children living within Venango County since 1887, but Family Service & Children’s Aid Society can, and have been. We are an exception.

The Agency’s roots can be traced back to the parlor of the newly-renovated National Hotel on Railroad Street, Rouseville, PA on St. Patrick’s Day, March 17, 1887. That’s where, 125 years ago, about twenty “ladies” in the true Victorian sense of the word, members of the upper echelons of Oil City society along with two representatives of the Pittsburgh branch of the Children’s Aid Society of PA met for the purpose of organizing an auxiliary society in Venango County. The first regular meeting of the society was held the following Monday - beginning a social service movement that has expanded, evolved, and grown to be one of the hallmark Agencies in Venango County.

125 years STRONG. Family Service & Children’s Aid Society (FSCAS), and the invaluable staff have been providing community services and developing strategies for new programs, all while listening to the needs of our County affiliations and consumers. Also, we have worked creatively with our colleagues, neighboring agencies, and businesses to maximize consumer resources. This has enabled the Agency to apply our strengths, step to the forefront of services as they have evolved, take calculated risks, provide community leadership, and to earn a reputation of professionalism. We are able to better serve the families and children residing in the communities in which they live, and to help them lead lives of purpose, character, and well-being.

The sustained support of the community has contributed to our success for the past 125 years. This year we salute FSCAS, its proud history, its strong presence, its bright future, and its legacy of leadership not only of providing service, but actively seeking to define service in every way possible.

Although the Agency has evolved and many things have changed in 125 years, one thing has not... Families and Children in our communities still need support.

Mary K Serafin
1887
Five ladies from the upper echelons of Oil City organized the Children’s Aid Society of Venango County, run entirely by volunteers, which was initially formed to find homes for children who had been placed in the Venango County Home.

1888-1890
The original ledgers indicate the first adoptions were completed as early as April 1888. Children’s Aid Society became an auxiliary of the Children’s Aid Society (CAS) of Western PA in 1889. First employee hired in 1890 as a visitor to perform home visits.

1897
An increase of placement in foster homes caused a decrease in the population in the Children’s Home, therefore the home was sold and the Children’s Home became a part of Oil City’s history.

1898
An influenza epidemic increased the caseload of children in the home due to fatalities of their parents.

1913
A home at 55 Pearl Ave was purchased and became the Venango County Children’s Home. The home provided temporary refuge for young girls until positions in private households could be found.

1914
The Hukill property at 15 Harriott Avenue was purchased for $6,500 which became the new children’s home in 1915.

1918
FSCAS sponsored the opening of Decision House, a non-hospital, detoxification center located in Oil City, serving four counties. After about ten years, Decision House became an independent agency.

1944
Still resisting the urging to hire a salaried caseworker, the Board of Directors eventually reversed their position and hired Mrs. Floretta Van Dyke as both Executive Secretary and Case Worker.

1945
An increase of placement in foster homes caused a decrease in the population in the Children’s Home, therefore the home was sold and the Children’s Home became a part of Oil City’s history.

1950
After 60 years of close association, The CAS of Venango County tendered its resignation from the CAS of Western Pennsylvania. The society felt it no longer needed the funds and guidance from the Pittsburgh headquarters. It was now ready to “go it alone”. In 1951 CAS moved into the National Transit Building.

1957
Mrs. Josephine Walker was hired primarily to handle the agency’s adoption procedures.

1969
Venango County Child Welfare Service opened its office in Franklin. This meant referrals handled by CAS would have to be channeled to the new State Agency.

1970
CAS of Venango County became Family Service & Children’s Aid Society of Venango County maintaining the adoption service and counseling of unwed parents. Adding counseling for families, aging, and drug and alcohol problems. Robert Carone was hired to be the first Executive Director of the new Agency.

1973
The Homemaker Service was established on a permanent basis. (Currently this is the Home & Community Habilitation Program.)

1975
The Rape Crisis Hotline was implemented.

1980
The agency became the Base Service Unit for Mental Retardation until the early 90’s when it was transferred back to the county.
1980’s
Other county contracts included the Family Driven and Family Support Services with Children & Youth Services.
Private funding and grants were obtained from PCAR and PCADV to aid victims of sexual abuse and domestic violence.

1984
A shelter for domestic violence victims became a reality.

1985
The office on East Second St. was purchased and is the current location for administrative staff.

1990’s
Private and public monies to fund agency programs came from the Samuel Justus Trust, the Phillips Trust, the United Ways of Venango County and Titusville, and fees for service.

1994
Big Brothers Big Sisters was implemented and received full accreditation from the National Big Brothers Big Sisters organization in 1997. Another county contract implemented was an In-Home Family Based Mental Health Program.

1996
The Drug & Alcohol Program received full licensure status to provide outpatient counseling in Oil City. Prevention services, D&A SAP services were also provided to the county school districts.

1997
The Crisis Center became a comprehensive program providing services to victims of domestic/sexual violence and other serious crimes. Also implemented the First Response Team in collaboration with law enforcement, OC/Fkln hospitals, and Victim’s Resource Center.

1998
Two new programs are offered: Venango Fatherhood Initiative and Alternatives to Violence. D&A Licensure received to provide outpatient services in Franklin.

1999
The Crisis Center Shelter moved into its new home on Bissell Avenue, donated by George Shaw.
The former St. Joseph’s Convent on Pearl Avenue was purchased to accommodate for the growth of the Agency.

2000
Fiscal year 2000-2001 reflected a projected budget of $1,500,000, compared to 1971 when the budget was $40,000. Flexibility of programming and funding under the leadership of a Governing Board of Directors and Advisory Committees brought the Agency to this position.

2002
BBBS opened a satellite office in Clarion.

2006
The convent was renamed the Carone Center after the retirement of Bob Carone as Executive Director. Mary K Serafin was appointed Executive Director.
The Victim’s Resource Center was merged with The Crisis Center and acquired a satellite office in Titusville. The program was renamed PPC Violence Free Network.
In 2007 the Supervised Visitation Program was implemented.

2008-2010
To fill a need for mental health services in the Oil City School District the Agency was awarded a contract from Northwest Behavioral Health Partnership to implement School-Based Behavioral Health Intervention Models. OC PREP Program and the HEIGHTS Program.

2010-2012
The D&A Program obtained licensure to provide outpatient treatment at three additional locations: VisionQuest (VQ)/South Penn, Pathways Adolescent Center, and VQ/Hudmont. Also the Peer-Based Recovery Support Program was implemented as well as Anger Management.
# Statement of Revenue and Expense

For Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVENUES:</th>
<th>Current Year 2011-12</th>
<th>Prior Year 2010-11</th>
<th>$ Inc/Dec</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>$31,354</td>
<td>31,542</td>
<td>(188)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Giving Campaign</td>
<td>7,605</td>
<td>8,195</td>
<td>(590)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Events (Gross)</td>
<td>63,597</td>
<td>63,274</td>
<td>323</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trusts and Bequests</td>
<td>131,922</td>
<td>138,181</td>
<td>(6,259)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Way Allocations</td>
<td>41,691</td>
<td>44,517</td>
<td>(2,826)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Income</td>
<td>2,304,771</td>
<td>2,284,517</td>
<td>20,254</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating Grants</td>
<td>488,460</td>
<td>509,628</td>
<td>(21,168)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Realized &amp; Unrealized gains/(losses)</td>
<td>(27,485)</td>
<td>93,718</td>
<td>(121,203)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest/Dividend Income</td>
<td>25,676</td>
<td>27,032</td>
<td>(1,356)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>10,687</td>
<td>4,986</td>
<td>5,701</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL REVENUES</strong></td>
<td>3,078,279</td>
<td>3,205,591</td>
<td>(127,312)</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENSES:</th>
<th>Current Year 2011-12</th>
<th>Prior Year 2010-11</th>
<th>$ Inc/Dec</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries</td>
<td>$1,798,135</td>
<td>1,778,331</td>
<td>19,803</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payroll Taxes</td>
<td>171,555</td>
<td>171,214</td>
<td>341</td>
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<tr>
<td>Employee Benefits</td>
<td>275,143</td>
<td>257,707</td>
<td>17,435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conferences/Trainings</td>
<td>39,493</td>
<td>30,952</td>
<td>8,542</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Fees</td>
<td>55,018</td>
<td>56,495</td>
<td>(1,477)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Support Services</td>
<td>30,441</td>
<td>21,056</td>
<td>9,385</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent/Mortgage</td>
<td>38,252</td>
<td>31,463</td>
<td>6,789</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>24,936</td>
<td>28,134</td>
<td>(3,198)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporate Insurances</td>
<td>27,364</td>
<td>31,736</td>
<td>(4,372)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Maintenance</td>
<td>19,311</td>
<td>21,805</td>
<td>(2,495)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone/Cells &amp; Pagers</td>
<td>40,938</td>
<td>40,516</td>
<td>423</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet Services</td>
<td>4,273</td>
<td>4,407</td>
<td>(134)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing</td>
<td>6,554</td>
<td>11,929</td>
<td>(5,375)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage</td>
<td>5,632</td>
<td>4,964</td>
<td>668</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR/Advertising</td>
<td>8,502</td>
<td>14,785</td>
<td>(6,283)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Supplies</td>
<td>23,504</td>
<td>34,681</td>
<td>(11,177)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consumables/Vol Training Supplies</td>
<td>1,225</td>
<td>5,351</td>
<td>(4,126)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rehab Supplies/Activities</td>
<td>29,539</td>
<td>28,558</td>
<td>981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel/Consumer Transportation</td>
<td>44,081</td>
<td>38,832</td>
<td>5,249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subscription/Library</td>
<td>4,110</td>
<td>4,152</td>
<td>(42)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agency dues/Memberships</td>
<td>12,052</td>
<td>12,052</td>
<td>(0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund Raising Expenses</td>
<td>19,825</td>
<td>18,390</td>
<td>1,434</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Match Support/Contributions</td>
<td>17,000</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>13,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>10,711</td>
<td>6,811</td>
<td>3,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equip Rental/Maintenance</td>
<td>43,083</td>
<td>35,406</td>
<td>7,677</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment Purchases</td>
<td>927</td>
<td>3,423</td>
<td>(2,496)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Improvements</td>
<td>70,207</td>
<td>70,625</td>
<td>(418)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td>2,821,811</td>
<td>2,767,776</td>
<td>54,035</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Net Profit/(Loss)**: $256,469

Footnote:

2011-12 Figures Are Pending Final Audit
2010-11 Figures Are Audited & Final
**Statement of Financial Position**

**June 30, 2012**

### ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Assets:</th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash &amp; Checking</td>
<td>$832,110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Receivable</td>
<td>374,187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid Expense</td>
<td>10,628</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1,216,925</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fixed Assets:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Real Estate</td>
<td>589,992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renovations</td>
<td>553,578</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture &amp; Equipment</td>
<td>763,934</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accumulated Depreciation</td>
<td>(1,178,108)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>729,397</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other Assets:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Investments - Mutual Funds, Stocks &amp; Bonds</td>
<td>527,334</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments - CD’s</td>
<td>802,187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assets Held In Trust By Others</td>
<td>368,380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1,697,900</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

|                                      |       |
|                                      | **TOTAL ASSETS** | **$3,644,222** |

### LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Liabilities:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable</td>
<td>$20,213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued Payroll</td>
<td>37,351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued Compensated Absences</td>
<td>24,329</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment Compensation Reserve</td>
<td>89,875</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred Revenue</td>
<td>75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>246,769</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Long-Term Liabilities:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Renovation Loan - Carone Center</td>
<td>57,292</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>57,292</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Net Assets:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Retained Earnings</td>
<td>3,083,693</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Profit/(Loss)</td>
<td>256,469</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>3,340,161</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

|                                      |       |
|                                      | **TOTAL LIAB & NET ASSETS** | **3,644,222** |

**Footnote:**

*Figures Are Pending Final Audit*
Minutes of Annual Meeting

Governing Board of Directors
Cross Creek Resort in Titusville, PA
September 27, 2011  12:00 p.m.

Seventy-seven people were in attendance including Governing Board members Denise Jones, Bob Carone, Jennifer Cisek, Charl Kapp, Linda Mackintosh, Matt Parson, Major Smith, Bob Stubler, and Tom Ward; six Advisory Committee members; three guests; four consumers; and fifty-five staff members.

Welcome
Executive Director Mary K Serafin welcomed staff, Governing Board members, Advisory Committee members, and guests.

Annual Meeting
President Denise Jones called the meeting to order at 12:25 pm.

Nominating Committee
Linda Mackintosh presented the slate of nominees which consisted of the following three-year term renewals: Bob Stubler for a fourth term, Courtney Cox for a third term, Jennifer Cisek for a third term, Matt Parson for a second term, and the following new member nominees: Dr. Joseph Carrico and Ronnie Beith. The slate of nominees was approved with a motion from Bob Stubler, seconded by Jennifer Cisek. All others were in favor, none opposed.

The slate of officers for a one-year term is: Denise Jones, President; Courtney Cox, Vice-President; and Bob Stubler, Secretary/Treasurer. The slate of officers was approved with a motion from Tom Ward, seconded by Bob Carone. All others were in favor, none opposed.

Advisory Committee resolutions for a one-year term were presented: Craig Westover, PPC; Linda Mackintosh, BBBS; and Major Smith, VFI.

Adjourn Meeting
The meeting was adjourned at 12:28 pm.

Service Awards
The following staff was recognized for their years of service: 5 years - Stacy Herrell, Nicole Morris, and Ashley Nichols; 10 years - Andree Plowman and Nichole Sloss; 15 years - Vicki Confer and Jane Johnson.

Invocation
The Reverend Holly Davis

Lunch
12:40 – 1:20 pm

Guest Speakers
Jewell W. was introduced by Janet Schwabenbauer from the Adoption Program. In the last 24 years Jewell and her husband have adopted five children through the Agency bringing their family total to nine. Because of her long history with the Adoption Program, Jewell's story was one of courage, commitment, and most of all, love.

Renee K. was introduced by Jane Johnson from the Drug & Alcohol Program. Renee struggled with addiction for many years but with the encouragement of the D&A Program, she has overcome and is now on her way to a successful future. Debbie M. was introduced by Ashley Nichols from the Family Foundations Program. Debbie's life was a constant struggle as her son became increasingly out of control. With the help of her Family Foundations team, she is becoming stronger in the parental role and is gaining control in the family.

Bob P. was introduced by Stan Benvin from the Home & Community Habilitation Program. Bob has always been active in the community, but as his parents are aging he desires to become more independent. He appreciates the help he receives from his Home & Community Habilitation aide.

Keynote Speaker
Mary K introduced the Reverend Holly Davis of St. John’s Episcopal Church in Franklin. Reverend Davis spoke of the talents, hope, and compassion that the Agency provides to those who are suffering. Many times the work is difficult, challenging, and uncomfortable, but the community needs the skills and the heart required to create a fundamental change for the better.

Closing Remarks
Denise Jones thanked staff for their time, commitment, and passion and all the consumers for their willingness to tell their stories.

Benediction
The Reverend Holly Davis

Respectfully Submitted By:
Jennifer M. Swartz, Administrative Secretary
**Special Recognition**

Amber Baughman received her Certified Advanced Alcohol and Drug Counselor (CAADC) certification in July 2011. Congratulations Amber!

Patricia (Trish) Klock received her Pennsylvania Certification as a Certified Recovery Specialist in September 2011. Great job Trish!

Nate Custer was certified through the Department of Public Welfare’s Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS) as a Mental Health Family-Based Worker after successful completion of the Bureau of Children’s Behavioral Health Services Family-Based Mental Health Competency Examination in October 2011. Way to go Nate!

Kelly Kossman has obtained her Master of Science Degree from Clarion University in February 2012. Well done Kelly!

**New Hire Orientation**

As Family Service & Children’s Aid Society has continued to grow and expand we have decided that not only is it important for our employees to be knowledgeable of the specific programs in which they work, but also to have a familiarity with the other programs throughout the Agency. A New Hire Orientation process was developed to give all newly hired employees an opportunity to hear first-hand about the different programs offered at FSCAS.

The orientation is a full day event for our new hires. The group travels together to four different locations to tour and meet staff members. Presentations are given on the different Agency programs by the Program Directors and other staff members.

Participants are encouraged to ask questions as the day is meant to be an interactive learning process. Opportunities are discussed for referring consumers within and outside the Agency and services are highlighted for each program. The new hires finish their day with a better understanding of the Agency and the many services that we offer.

**Staff Meeting In-Services**

- Brenda Manno - Project Point of Light
- HEIGHTS, PREP Staff
- Jim Eck - AFLAC
- United Way of Venango County Annual Campaign
- Seneca Med. Center - Flu & Hepatitis B shots
- Elaine Surma - D&A Div. of the Office of State Atty. General
- Michelle Hilliard - Parent Mentor Network
- John Amato - Family Links
- Helen Bullman - DPW
- Ashley Nichols - Family Foundations Program
- Rita Silvis - Wells Fargo
- Stan Benvin - Home & Community Habilitation
- Bob Carone - FSCAS History
- Vicki Confer & Nichole Sloss - Mandated Child Reporting

**Annual Giving Campaign**

This year's campaign was held in December 2011 with 599 letters mailed to various corporations, businesses, and loyal individuals. The appeal generated a significant response of $7,625! These monies were used to assist with providing much needed services in the following programs:
- General Counseling
- Adoption
- Big Brothers Big Sisters
- Venango Fatherhood Initiative
- PPC Violence Free Network & Shelter
What if every child stayed in school, gave back to the community, or went to college? It could be the start of something Big. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Venango, Forest, and Clarion Counties (BBBS) provides a quality one-to-one mentoring relationship for children, which change their lives for the better, forever. We make meaningful, monitored matches between adult volunteers (“Bigs”) and children (“Littles”), ages 6 through 15, in our community.

This past year, Big Brothers Big Sisters encouraged “Littles” and their families to submit nominations explaining why their Big should be honored as “Big of the Year”. This year Joel Alex earned the honor of “Big of the Year” for his dedication to be an outstanding role model and mentor for his “Little” Zach.

In part, Zach’s mom Mickey’s nomination read, “We have seen such a huge change in our young son.” “He went from internalizing his feelings to being able to share them with his Big Brother.” Mickey noted that since they have been matched, Zach’s grades have improved greatly. She noticed changes in his attitude and sees him becoming more confident and outgoing, which she contributes to Joel’s positive influence.

Last fall, Zach was facing a lot of issues, more than any 12 year old boy should have to. Mickey points out that her son does not do well with change and experienced several heartbreaks in just a few weeks time; his beloved dog passed away, his family lost everything in a house fire, and he found out that his Mom’s cancer had returned. She credits the relationship with Joel as the primary reason Zach was able to get through these difficulties. She went on to say “Joel has given of his heart to volunteer for Big Brothers Big Sisters and he has truly changed a child’s life for the better”.

To celebrate “Big of the Year” Joel and Zach kicked off the 16th Annual Bowl For Kids’ Sake held on March 31, 2012 at Seneca Lanes by bowling the first frame.

Little Julianna and Big Amy have been matched for over five years. Amy is happy she had the opportunity to Start Something with Julianna to watch her mature and experience new adventures and achievements. Amy has seen Julianna develop into a very social, confident, young woman as compared to the quiet, timid girl Julianna was when they were first matched.

Amy and Julianna share numerous interests together and have formed a very strong friendship as a result of being matched. Their favorite activities are ones that involve the outdoors such as walking the dog, going to the river to skip stones, and enjoying the bike trail. This summer they are planning to take the kayak out on the river for the first time. Julianna is currently enrolled in horseback riding lessons where Amy enjoys watching Julianna interact with the horse. Amy mentioned she most appreciates Julianna’s sense of humor and sharing their time together.
Calendar Sales

For the 6th year, Big Brothers Big Sisters sold lottery calendars. Each calendar is assigned a three digit number. If that number matches the PA daily number, it’s a winner and the payout is determined by the dollar amount printed on that day. Winners will receive a check for $20-$100. This year, 564 calendars were sold, raising over $11,000 before payouts.

Big Brothers Big Sisters Benefit Dance

In conjunction with National Mentoring Month and the Bowl For Kids’ Sake, the 7th Annual Benefit Dance was held on January 21 at the Oil City Eagles Club. Numerous supporters of Big Brothers Big Sisters enjoyed an evening of music by the Southern Knights and helped raise over $1,100.

Bowl For Kids’ Sake

The Good Times rolled on March 31 at our 16th Annual Bowl For Kids’ Sake. Lorraine Harkless was the top individual fundraiser at $1,400 and for the 15th year in a row Monday Night Madness was the highest fundraising team with a total of $2,740.

Over 135 bowlers, local event sponsors, local businesses, 50/50 raffles, the Big Raffle, Chinese Auctions, and Corporate Matching Funds helped us secure over $23,500. This money will stay in the area to help with the process of matching local children with appropriate mentors.

Pinewood Derby

On June 9, Allegheny Toyota Scion, Venango Fatherhood Initiative, and BBBS hosted the 5th Annual Pinewood Derby. Our “Littles” did really well, winning first place in three out of four races!

Monthly Match Activities

Big Brothers Big Sisters holds Monthly Match Activities. These are opportunities for our “Bigs” and “Littles” to meet other matches and socialize while trying something new and getting involved with the community.

Here are a few events held by Big Brothers Big Sisters this year:

- Pinewood Derby sponsored by Allegheny Toyota Scion
- Picnic at Morrison Park
- Family Fishing Day sponsored by VFI at Two Mile Run County Park
- A Halloween Spooktacular at Camp Coffman
- Christmas Party held at Seneca Lanes
- Sled Riding sponsored by VFI at Two Mile Run County Park
- Bowl For Kids’ Sake held at Seneca Lances
- Planted a garden plot at the First Presbyterian Church in Oil City

Statistics

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Venango-Forest</th>
<th>Clarion</th>
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<tr>
<td>Matches:</td>
<td>37</td>
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<td>Children on waiting list:</td>
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<td>Clarion Matches:</td>
<td>17</td>
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<td>Children on waiting list:</td>
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Jessica D. Walters, MA, Program Director
James S. Katzin, MS Ed, Match Support Worker
General Counseling can be either a stand-alone service, or a gateway to the many other services offered by our umbrella agency.

For example, G was referred by staff from the Drug & Alcohol Program. The mother entered General Counseling still abusing substances with symptoms of depression and anxiety, marital problems and unresolved grief over the death of a close relative. Eventually she and her husband got sober and G remains active with AA. The family accepted a referral to Family Foundations and completed that program. G is attending college to finish a degree she started years ago. Today she continues with General Counseling on an as-needed basis for support in her sobriety and dealing with some on-going family issues.

Other times, General Counseling is all that is needed to address the needs of the client. A local industry used their Employee Assistance Program to refer one of their employees who was exhibiting temper outbursts on the job and had made some veiled threats toward a co-worker. H entered counseling voluntarily although he had difficulty appreciating the seriousness of some of his behavior. He cooperated with counseling and was found to have a long history of mental health treatment going back to adolescence. Our service was coordinated with his psychiatrist and the Human Resources Department at work. Some changes were made in the work place to take some pressure off H and he was able to return to his full-time employment.

Statistics
Unduplicated individuals served: 116
Unduplicated families served: 514
Appointments: 808

A local industry used their Employee Assistance Program to refer one of their employees who was exhibiting temper outbursts on the job and had made some veiled threats toward a co-worker. H entered counseling voluntarily although he had difficulty appreciating the seriousness of some of his behavior. He cooperated with counseling and was found to have a long history of mental health treatment going back to adolescence. Our service was coordinated with his psychiatrist and the Human Resources Department at work. Some changes were made in the work place to take some pressure off H and he was able to return to his full-time employment.

This year, Don and Karen Cramer of Franklin brought home their second daughter from China, a five year old girl named Calla. She brings the Cramer family to four, including their 11 year old daughter Alea Mei, also from China. Just as labor pains arrive unannounced, so did the Cramer’s travel notification. Instead of taking care of last minute preparations for Christmas, they found themselves boarding a plane for China on December 23rd. Twenty hours later, they met their new little girl and life hasn’t been the same.

Don and Karen now look at snow with awe and delight as they witnessed Calla’s reaction to the chest-high levels of fluff that surrounded her new home. She learned to love her pastel snow suit and would have willingly spent hours in the snow if saner heads hadn’t prevailed. Swing sets, summer swimming holes, seeing deer in the woods, reading while sitting on the lap of a doting parent were all new events for Calla, and her parents have come to appreciate them for the simple wonders and cherished experiences that they truly are. The family was humbled by her appreciation of all that we take for granted; the produce aisle at the grocery store, the arrival of gifts at birthdays and holidays, the size of their extended family and the effort expended by them all to be present at family gatherings.

Calla settled into her new home in short order. She is now six and like all six-year olds, she’s a chatterbox. She loves Dora the Explorer, being read to and drawing, coloring and using scissors. Like all six-year olds, she gets the occasional obsession and her most recent one was tape. Transparent tape. She likes to cut things up and tape them together. Mom and Dad oblige her by having several rolls on hand at all times, until the next interest catches her fancy. They look forward to all of the interests and adventures that she’ll bring to their family.

Calla has parents who can’t imagine what they ever did without her. They stand in her bedroom doorway, watching her sleep and feel more deeply grateful than they ever thought possible. Family Service has been providing adoption services for 125-years and we feel fortunate to play a role in bringing families together.

Statistics
Unduplicated consumers served: 2
Home Studies completed: 2
Adoption searches completed: 1

Robert A. Carone, MSW, LCSW, Therapist
Janet T. Schwabenbauer, MA, LPC, Therapist, Adoption Specialist
COMMUNITY AWARENESS

GAMBLING: The Family Service & Children’s Aid Society (FSCAS) Drug & Alcohol Program was contracted by the Venango County Substance Abuse Program (VCSAP) to provide education and information dissemination. The purpose of the grant is to educate the community on problem and compulsive gambling. The Problem Gambling Grant was through the Bureau of Drug & Alcohol Program (BDAP). Eight participants enjoyed *A Dolphin’s Tale* during movie night. Snacks, drinks, and door prizes were provided along with information on gambling. In addition to the movie night, power point presentations were presented to the following groups:

- **Intensive Outpatient Program**
  - 15 people were served, 3 presentations
- **Adolescent Outpatient Program**
  - 20 students were served, 3 presentations
- **Youth Alternatives**
  - 5 students were served, 1 presentation
- **PPC Shelter**
  - 5 people were served 3 presentations

FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDER (FASD) AWARENESS DAY: Every year on September 9th, International FASD Awareness Day is observed. This day was chosen so that on the ninth day of the ninth month of the year, the world will remember that during the nine months of pregnancy a woman should abstain from alcohol. We collaborated with the Venango County Substance Abuse Program and other community agencies to do projects for this awareness day.

- Members of the FASD committee distributed 2,500 napkins to local bars and restaurants.
- FASD power point presentations were presented at three locations, including the South Side Neighborhood Association & PPC Violence Free Network’s Shelter. There were nine participants.

SCHOOL PREVENTION

ON APPLEBEE POND: “On Applebee Pond” is a program which offers a creative approach to drug and alcohol prevention for pre-school and early elementary school age children. It is designed to provide an exciting, factual and innovative media which reaches children ages 4 through 9. “On Applebee Pond” consists of 12 puppet scripts that focus on self-esteem, drug and alcohol information, and social skills.

- Ten student mentors from Rocky Grove High School representing grades nine through eleven were trained to present “On Applebee Pond” to kindergarten, first and second grades at Valley Grove Elementary School. Approximately 228 youth were served.
- Thirteen Oil City High School Stand Tall Members were trained to present “On Applebee Pond” to kindergarten, first and second grade at Hasson and Oakland Schools. Approximately 400 students were served.

TOO GOOD FOR DRUGS (TGFD): TGFD was once again offered to the fifth grade students at the Oil City and Valley Grove Elementary Schools. TGFD is an evidence-based prevention education program which consists of ten lessons on goal-setting, decision-making, how to say “no”, and other topics that are related.

- **Franklin School District**
  - 60 students served, 30 sessions
- **Valley Grove School District**
  - 54 students served, 40 sessions

PROJECT ALERT: Project Alert was taught in seventh grade at the Rocky Grove Jr./Sr. High School. Project ALERT is an evidence-based substance abuse program that gives students insight, understanding, and actual skills for resisting substance. The curriculum consists of 11 core lessons that should be taught once per week over 11 weeks and 3 booster lessons that should be taught the following year once per week over 3 weeks.

- **Valley Grove School District**
  - 17 eighth grade students were served, 3 booster sessions
  - 70 sixth grade students were served, 33 sessions
- **Franklin School District**
  - 51 seventh grade students served, 27 sessions

COMMUNITY EDUCATION/PREVENTION

LEAD & SEED: Lead & Seed is a youth empowered, environmental approach to preventing and reducing alcohol, tobacco, and illicit drugs in a community. Lead & Seed follows the 5-step Substance Abuse and Mental
Health Service Administration’s (SAMHSA), Strategic Prevention Framework planning process. There are currently 25 Franklin High School students and 4 Franklin Middle School students who are members. Lead & Seed members have been involved in several prevention activities which included:

- Franklin’s Light Up Parade - 500 safety messages were given out for a safe holiday
- DUI Simulator
- Grim Ripper
- Extreme Bowling at Masterson’s Family Bowling - Lead & Seed, VCSAP and FSCAS teamed up to serve 100 family members
- Children’s Day - Over 300 individuals participated in the DUI Memorial Wall and in a Field Sobriety Test. Families also signed a wrecked car to promise safe driving
- Prom Promise - 58 promises were signed
- Red Ribbon Week
- Cranberry Health Fair - 536 third grade students were presented Tobacco Risk Presentation by six youth members.

**OUTREACH**

We continue to promote awareness about the relationship between injection drugs and communicable diseases, such as HIV and Hepatitis C by providing information on use or abuse of alcohol and/or other drugs, hazards of IV drug use and needle sharing, sexually transmitted diseases, the availability of drug and alcohol services in Venango County, and the methods by which individuals and their families can obtain drug and alcohol services in Venango County. Continuous contact and follow-up is an important part of outreach. This year, outreach was conducted at the following locations:

- Various locations in Venango County
- Adagio
- PPC Violence Network
- ABC Pregnancy Center
- Cranberry, Franklin, Oil City, and Valley Grove School districts
- Youth Alternatives

**SUMMER PROGRAMS:** The goal of our prevention program is to help participants realize that mind and mood altering substances are not needed to have a good time, and to encourage participants to live a healthy, drug-free lifestyle. Summer activities included:

- AC Valley Fun Fair, 100 served
- Evergreen Arbors, 20 youth served daily
- Weed & Seed’s Hot Spot in Silverly, 7 youth served daily
- Church of God in Cooperstown, 20 youth served daily
- Pinoak, 8 youth served daily
- Cherry Hills, 10 served daily
- Oak Hill Apartments, 4 served daily
- Century Terrace, 15 served daily
- Dale Avenue, 8 youth served daily
- Partnered with Youth Alternatives for crafts and fishing at a pond near White Tail Golf Course
- Agriculture Health Fair, 250 second grade students participated in an Alcohol, Tobacco & Other Drugs (ATOD) presentation

Several power point presentations were conducted this year to high-risk program participants and organizations. Some of the agencies and organizations that this service was provided to included:

- PPC Violence Network’s Shelter
- Area Agency Senior Centers
- Adagio
- The Pointe
- South Side Hot Spot

**TOBACCO EDUCATION GROUP (TEG):** TEG is a program for students who have been caught violating school policy for tobacco use on school grounds. TEG provides a positive alternative to suspension or citation. The program gives students knowledge, motivation and action steps to make good decisions about tobacco use.
**Youth Philanthropy Project:** The Youth Philanthropy Project is a grant that is awarded to nonprofit organizations that will empower youth and their families in family bonding activities. Youth are able to choose what organization will receive the grant, and organizations are also required to have youth involved in the completion of the proposed program. Family Service & Children’s Aid Society was pleased to have two area youth participating. The $1,600 grant was used to provide crafts and giveaways to the community. An Extreme Bowling activity was held to promote family bonding at various locations in Venango County.

**Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP) and Outpatient Program (OP)**

This program provides group, family, and individual therapy to consumers who are experiencing difficulties relating to alcohol and other drugs. Consumers receive 6 hours of group and 1-2 hours of individual therapy sessions per week for 4 weeks. Following completion of the intensive outpatient program, clients have an opportunity to continue to receive outpatient treatment with individual therapy sessions 1-2 times per week.

**Student Assistance Program (SAP)**

The Student Assistance Program is designed to assist school personnel and parents in identifying issues including alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs, as well as mental health issues which may obstruct a student’s success.

**DUI Awareness:** The PA DUI Association Safety Bug was held on April 12, 2012 at Rocky Grove and Oil City High Schools. Law enforcement assisted the Venango County Substance Abuse Program and the SAP Liaisons by providing field sobriety test demonstrations. Educational components were also provided. Approximately 200 students participated. The SAP Liaisons participated in school orientations again this year. The SAP process was explained to parents, faculty and new students.

**Grief Counseling:** There were, sadly, several students in area schools who died over the past year. We saw the community and the schools working together to meet the needs of the students and the faculty. The SAP Liaisons in all school districts joined together to help with grief counseling.

**Anti-Bullying Effort:** An increase in the number of bullying-related and relationship incidents was noted this year. A brief screening of the students involved led to adding more groups for at least two of the school districts. The SAP Liaisons worked diligently with the faculty and staff to address this issue. Also, the number of crisis interventions was high this year. The SAP Liaisons worked closely with the county crisis intervention team as well as with the schools and area agencies.

**Case Coordination**

This is available to assist individuals who may not meet the criteria for ICM and who only need limited assistance. Case Coordination helps individuals maintain recovery and become more self-sufficient in one or more areas. Case Coordination may address needs in twelve domains including housing, education/vocational training, employment, transportation, alcohol and other drug treatment, childcare, legal needs, mental health, physical health, family and social relationships, life skills, and basic needs. Individuals in Case Coordination are involved in identifying the needs that they have and the areas they would like to focus on. The most common needs addressed in Case Coordination are housing,
transportation, employment, and basic needs such as health insurance, food, and clothing.

"I’ve been involved with the Case Coordination Program for four months. I’ve been able to accomplish many of the goals that I’ve set for myself with the help of Sara. I am so thankful for all the services that Family Service & Children’s Aid Society has provided to me. Thank you to all the staff for seeing the potential in me that at one time I didn’t see in myself. I would recommend Family Service & Children’s Aid Society to anybody that needed some assistance.” Ashley G.

**ADOLESCENT OUTPATIENT PROGRAM (AOP)**

This is an evidence-based adolescent substance abuse treatment model designed for youth between the ages of 13 to 17. It offers emotional support for both the adolescent and the family, and provides educational and skill building groups in a safe and structured environment. Referrals are received from community organizations, various agencies, and from concerned parents.

**ALARMING TRENDS**

**PRESCRIPTION DRUGS:** The drugs that individuals abuse come in cycles. Cocaine and methamphetamine use was high in prior years. For the past few years, we have had an increase in individuals coming in for abuse or addiction to prescription medication such as Vicodin, Percocet, and Oxycontin. These narcotic painkillers are popular with both the adolescent and adult populations. The risk of overdose is high. In addition, the tendency is for individuals to inject these drugs. This can lead to possibly contracting life-threatening viruses such as Hepatitis and HIV.

**SYNTHETIC DRUGS:** We are experiencing the rebirth of so-called “designer drugs” in the schools and in the office. One such drug is referred to as “K2”. This synthetic marijuana copy-cat is not like marijuana in its effects or its composition. It is more dangerous for the user. "K2", also referred to as “Spice”, is a natural herb sprayed with synthetic chemicals. Studies suggest that synthetic cannabinoid intoxication is associated with acute psychosis, worsening of previously stable psychotic disorders and also may have the ability to trigger a chronic psychotic disorder among vulnerable individuals such as those who have a family history of mental illness.

“Bath salts”, also known as “ivory wave”, “monkey dust”, and “vanilla sky”, are names for designer drugs containing synthetic cathinones which have effects similar to amphetamine and cocaine. The white crystals resemble legal bathing products like Epsom salts. They can be snorted, smoked or injected. Users of bath salts have experienced health issues including hallucinations, paranoia and violent behavior, heart attacks, kidney failure, suicide, and an increased tolerance for pain.

**CERTIFIED RECOVERY SPECIALIST (CRS)**

Peer-based recovery support is the process of giving and receiving non-professional, non-clinical assistance to achieve long term recovery from alcohol and/or other drug related problems. These services are free to adults eligible for Medical Assistance (MA) who are struggling with addiction issues or co-occurring substance abuse and mental health issues.

Congratulations to Trish Waddington for passing the Certified Recovery Specialist exam on September 1, 2011. She is the only CRS in Venango County.

**VISIONQUEST**

The Drug & Alcohol Program was successful in obtaining full licensure status from the Pennsylvania Department of Health, Drug & Alcohol Division, for the VisionQuest, Inc., Hudmont site, in March of 2012. Community Behavioral Health approved our initial credentialing status to allow us to provide an outpatient drug & alcohol program on site. Youth are provided with a 1-1/2 hour group weekly and an individual session every 2-3 weeks. A specialized approach is used to address the needs of this specific inner city population.

**PATHWAYS ADOLESCENT CENTER**

We became licensed to provide drug & alcohol outpatient services at the Pathways Adolescent Center, in Oil City, PA in April 2011. The Drug & Alcohol Program has an office in the newly remodeled building formerly occupied by Buyers Fair, and we share a group room with other community agencies who also reside in the building. The Adolescent Outpatient Program is provided to the residents who meet qualifications for the program. The individuals receive two (2) groups and 1-2 individual sessions per week. We are currently working on adding the family component and an aftercare group for those ready to discharge successfully from the program.
Those interested in any of the services the Drug & Alcohol Program provides should contact Family Service & Children’s Aid Society at (814) 432-3466.

Statistics

**Outpatient**
- Unduplicated consumers served: 356
- Duplicated consumers served: 1,925
- Individual treatment hours: 2,212.5
- DUI Group treatment hours: 0
- Jail Group hours: 29

**Intensive Outpatient**
- Unduplicated consumers served: 59
- Duplicated consumers served: 738
- Individual treatment hours: 373
- Group treatment hours: 1,471.5

**Adolescent Outpatient**
- Duplicated consumers served: 650
- Individual treatment hours: 262.5
- Group treatment hours: 738

**Vision Quest**
- Unduplicated consumers served: 71
- Duplicated consumers served: 862
- Individual treatment hours: 338.5
- Group treatment hours: 890

**Pathways Adolescent Center**
- Unduplicated consumers served: 39
- Duplicated consumers served: 286
- Individual treatment hours: 514.5
- Group treatment hours: 748

**Intensive Case Management**
- Unduplicated consumers served: 22
- Duplicated consumers served: 194
- Individual treatment hours: 686.75

**Student Assistance Program**
- MH assessment consumers served: 486
- MH consultation consumers served: 2,276
- MH intervention group hours: 545.5
- D&A intervention group hours: 300.5

**Prevention**
- Underage drinking (UAD) treatment hours: 28.5
- Unduplicated UAD consumers served: 6
- Alcohol, Tobacco & Other Drugs (ATOD) education hours: 998.25
- ATOD consumers served: 6,310
- ATOD information dissemination hours: 71
- Info dissemination consumers served: 2,578
- ATOD alternative activities hours: 352.25
- Alternative activities consumers served: 3,116

“A financial statement of the Drug and Alcohol Program's income and expenses is available at Family Service & Children’s Aid Society to any interested parties. Please call (814) 432-3466 for further information.”
This year, the HEIGHTS program provided service to a total of 26 students in grades one through eight. Thirteen students will be returning to the program for the 2012-2013 school year. Five students left the program due to placement or their families relocating.

This year, seven students were successfully discharged from the program for meeting their treatment plan goals. These students worked hard to understand their emotions, recognize events, feelings and people that triggered them to act out, and to identify their “coping skills” that enabled them to rise above the triggers, to control their emotions and to get through the day successfully.

We’ve been gratified to hear from parents accounts of how their children discuss “coping skills” at home, and offer to share their “stress balls” with family members. Families have been tremendously involved and supportive. Most of our Family Night Activities have had over 80% attendance.

Garrison Keilor has said, “Nothing you do for a child is ever wasted.” The school programs are proof that our involvement, care, concern, and expertise are put to good use by these children and their families and we look forward to continuing to serve these children.

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<td>Unduplicated served: 15</td>
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<td>Duplicated served: 87</td>
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Nothing you do for a child is ever wasted.
~Garrison Keilor
This year the PREP program provided service to 14 students (though never to more than 12 at a time) and saw four seniors successfully graduate high school.

For the seniors who graduated, earning a diploma was not an easy task. In the beginning of their high school careers, they were not on anyone’s short list to graduate. Before the PREP program, they were known to some as students with poor grades, poor attendance, and poor attitudes.

The PREP program provided these students with safety, support, encouragement, and guidance. They were able to overcome obstacles in their lives one day at a time by learning self-control and academic skills, celebrating successes, and ultimately becoming resilient. The students began to see themselves differently because the PREP staff and Oil City High School staff saw them differently. They were not seen as problems, troublemakers, and underperformers, but as promising students with potential. They came to believe that they were good students, good friends, and individuals with much to offer.

Three of the four graduates have planned careers and are planning to enroll in colleges and vocational training. The other plans to become a welder. They will go on to do great things and we who have come to know them and care about them are as proud as the parents and family members who have supported them. For staff, the greatest reward is watching the students walk across the stage, receive their diploma, and take the first steps toward being successful, capable adults.

Janet T. Schwabenbauer, MA, LPC, Program Director
Jessica M. Eisenman, MA, Mental Health Worker
Benjamin L. Riley, MA, Mental Health Professional
The mission of the Family Foundations Program is to strengthen and maintain the family unit by increasing the life skills and coping capacity of each family member and by promoting competency and hope for long lasting success.

This In-Home Family Based program offers a very special type of comprehensive Family therapy. Our model promotes the four pillars of eco systemic structural family therapy: strengthening executive functioning, supporting co-caregiver alliance, promoting attachment amongst family members and encouraging self-regulation.

In addition to therapeutic sessions and case management services our program offers Family Support Service (FSS) Funds which can be utilized for therapeutic activities and family household needs. One family approached the team with a desire to use the two teenage boys’ T-shirts to make memory quilts for their family. FSS funds were utilized to commission four memory quilts for the mother and the three surviving siblings. The mother wrote this about her family’s experience:

“...I would like to tell Family Foundations Thank You for their services. My family has been through a lot in the past year. With deaths of my sister in law then my two teenage sons and then my father. The services have greatly helped our family be successful and to stay together and work as a team. Family Foundations helped tremendously and I cannot thank them enough. The staff is so generous, compassionate and overall understanding. They are like our own family. They have helped us [deal] with my sons/ their brothers and by getting their quilts made was a true blessing. I would refer anyone to Family Foundations for their outstanding services. Angels in disguise.”

Our team of therapists take great pride in working collaboratively within our community with local agencies such as Children, Youth and Family Services, Juvenile Probation, Visiting Nurses Association, Family Group Decision Making and our local schools. This year we placed special focus on working in partnership with the Venango County Base Service Unit in educating staff on the mental health recovery model.

Each year our teams accompany families to the summer equestrian program VARHA. This is one of our greatest community treasures. Youth and families are invited to work together, building relationships by learning new skills.

We devote considerable time and expense to training and see great value in continuous growth and development. This year Jennifer Godinich finished the mandatory three-year training through Philadelphia Child and Family Therapy Training. Her submitted video-taped session was chosen by Marion Lindblad-Goldberg, Ph.D the director of our training center, to be used as a training tape; highlighting strength-based collaboration with family members.

Below are responses from our end of service questionnaires. “What do you feel was the most helpful part of your contact with our program?”

“Having a more intensive program than we had before helped and the therapist[s] they really put things into perspective and opened my eyes on a lot of things”  Parent

“Learning how to deal with situations more effectively and how to communicate more with the family and as a family” Parent

“Learning to communicate better with my husband so we can handle situations together” Parent
In 2001/2002 the average age of the thirty-five consumers served by the Home Maker program was 46.6 years. In 2011/2012 the average age of the forty-seven consumers served by the Home & Community Habilitation program was 50 years. Of the thirty-five Home Maker consumers in 2001/2002, six continued to receive services from Home & Community Habilitation in 2011/2012.

Barb is a 56-year old female who lives with her husband. I am sure that many of Barb’s needs and wants are very similar to those of the consumers who received services in 2002. Both Barb and her husband receive services from us, and as is the case with most of our consumers, have asked for assistance in the main areas of medication management, medical appointment assistance, community integration, and menu planning and meal preparation. The Home & Community Habilitation Program is very much directed by the desires of our consumers. This means that our consumers look at their lives and figure out what they need to best live an ‘Everyday Life’.

Barb is like a little over 52% of our consumers in that she has a pet. Her one-year old black lab Bootsy is an important part of her family and well-being, just as it is for most people who live with a pet. Barb cares for Bootsy at home as well as getting her to the vet for regular checkups. Oh, did I mention that Bootsy is a lab puppy who is very friendly, loving and likes to run, chew, jump and pull when out for a walk. This was of concern for Barb as she began to feel that Bootsy was taking her for walks instead of the other way around. This even got to the point where Bootsy had pulled Barb down. What to do?

Barb, with the assistance of her Community Support Aide, enrolled Bootsy in obedience school. Barb and Bootsy attended training classes one evening per week for two hours and then practiced what they learned throughout the week. This went on for seven weeks with both of them getting more comfortable and learning different techniques to enhance Bootsy’s response to Barb’s commands. Congratulations to both Barb and Bootsy for graduating from the class.

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Statistics
Unduplicated MH consumers served: 14
Duplicated MH consumers served: 459
Unduplicated ID consumers served: 35
Duplicated ID consumers served: 2,123

Stanley A. Benvin, BS, Program Director
Sharon T. Barr, Community Support Aide
Raymond E. Hawke, Community Support Aide
Anne M. Lee, Community Support Aide
Abbie M. Sherbine, Community Support Aide
Community Support

Trooper Paul Richey Memorial Run  The 3rd Annual Trooper Paul Richey Memorial Run was held in June 2012. Area running and walking enthusiasts participate in this event to raise awareness with regard to domestic violence. Trooper Richey was killed on January 14, 2010 while responding to a domestic violence incident in Venango County. The perpetrator also killed his wife, Nancy Frey-Smith, before killing himself. The proceeds from the run benefit PPC Violence Free Network; this event raised over $10,000.

We Will Ride  The 5th Annual We Will Ride benefit motorcycle race was held in August, 2011. Oil City Community Alliance Church coordinates this benefit on a yearly basis with the proceeds benefitting PPC. The ride begins and ends at the church; motorcyclists travel a distance of approximately 100 miles.

Fundraiser

PPC’s 12th Annual Golf Scramble was held on August 13, 2011, at Hi Level Golf Course in Kossuth. A total of 25 teams participated in the scramble. Prizes were awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places (half cash and half Pro Shop credits). A total of $15,680.03 was raised.

ESQ Implementation

This year PPC staff have implemented a new program evaluation tool developed by the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape (PCAR). This tool, called the Empowerment and Satisfaction Questionnaire (ESQ), is an outcome measurement tool designed specifically for victim service providers to track the changes occurring in the lives of consumers as they receive services provided by PPC staff members. PPC consumers are asked to complete a 37-question survey inquiring about their satisfaction with services received, their development of positive...
coping skills, and their improved feelings of empowerment. By implementing the ESQ, staff is now able to identify the quality of services provided as well as the impact these services have in the lives of our consumers. Basically, the ESQ is a measurement tool that helps us to document on paper what we already know as we work closely with our consumers - that our services have a positive and often life changing impact. While the implementation process has been a struggle at times the validation provided by the responses has been well worth the effort.

Prevention/Education

**Early Childhood Learning Center (ECLC)** Over the course of the last five years, the prevention department's educational programming at the Early Childhood Learning Center in Titusville has expanded rapidly. The ECLC is part of the Titusville Area School District. The building houses all of the kindergarten classes. Titusville has a half day and a full day kindergarten program. In all there are 14 classes of 4 and 5-year-olds at the ECLC.

PPC began by presenting one program annually to the kindergarten children called CAPP. CAPP stands for Child Assault Prevention Program. This program focuses on getting children to stand up for themselves in situations that may bring them risk.

From this one program we have grown to presenting 12 different programs to all the classrooms at the ECLC. We currently present the Too Good for Violence curriculum to the full day kindergartens. With the half day kindergartens our focus is getting them to stand up for themselves assertively but not aggressively.

By starting at a young age we will in fact teach these youngsters that they are Too Good for Violence and that standing up for oneself in an assertive manner is always a good choice.

**Domestic Violence Walk** On October 1, 2011 the first Domestic Violence Walk was held for Domestic Violence Awareness Month. This event was organized by Ms. Joyce Moore, an employee of Sugar Creek Station/UPMC. The event was small but several employees of both UPMC and Sugar Creek Station participated and raised funds for PPC. Ms. Moore did several resource events leading up to the walk and sold her jewelry to help raise funds. The walk was held at Two Mile Run Park.

We recently discharged a 28-year-old female sexual assault victim after working with her for nearly two years in dealing with the aftereffects of the assault. She initially came to the program because the First Response Team that was dispatched by UPMC Northwest had requested an advocate for this woman in order to provide support to her while she went through the process of a forensic rape examination. The assault occurred after a party at a friend’s house. The perpetrator had come back to the house asking to pick something up he had forgotten. She let him in “even though it felt funny”.

The next morning she went to the hospital with a friend to report that she had been raped. She has expressed her appreciation to all the First Responders (Kate Knapp, Oil City Police Department, and the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner) for their team approach, support, and the fact that she was believed. This incident was the second time she had been raped, but she had never told anyone about the prior assault because she thought no one would believe her.

Together, we worked on healthy relationships, self-esteem, and the criminal justice system; it took approximately eighteen months for this case to go to trial. She has learned a lot about her strengths which helped her get through the process. She is currently in a healthy relationship and expresses that this is possible due to dealing with her victimization issues and from the other things she learned while in counseling. The perpetrator plead guilty to sexual assault and is scheduled to be sentenced in the near future.
Children's Day  PPC participated in the annual Children's Day at the Cranberry Mall on March 25, 2012. The event takes place from 12 - 5 PM and the mall is always busy with children and their families. Approximately 500 children participated in activities to promote healthy relationships at home. It is always a very busy day but well worth all our time and effort to promote healthy lifestyles to children and their families.

Lisa came to PPC Violence Free Network looking for help. She had tried to leave her abusive husband but even after getting her own residence her husband continued to abuse her, using anything at his disposal to control her. After obtaining a Protection From Abuse (PFA) order for herself, she tried to make plans to relocate with her children because her husband began stalking and harassing her. He would constantly file paperwork with the court which meant she had to pay large sums of money for representation by an attorney. A year later, Lisa had to obtain a PFA on behalf of her children because her husband began abusing them as well. Thirteen months after first coming to us, she filed with the court to relocate and the court granted her permission to leave the area. Lisa and her two children are preparing to start their new life in an undisclosed location away from their abuser.

Row 1: Cynthia L. Curran, MSSA, Program Director - Vicki L. Confer, Prevention/Outreach Supervisor - Brittany J. Donato, BA, Counselor/Advocate - James L. Fair, Law Enforcement Liaison - Steven T. Herrell, BA, Children’s Advocate - Sheri F. Kaufman, Counselor/Advocate - Kathleen S. Knapp. BA, Legal Advocate

Row 2: Kelly R. Kossman, MS, Counselor/Advocate - Megan J. O’Neil, BA, Direct Service Supervisor - Brian L. Palm, BA, Offender Services Counselor - Andree S. Plowman, BS, Prevention/Outreach - Dee A. Reed, Clerk Typist - Gretchen D. Skiba, BS, Counselor/Advocate - Nichole M. Sloss, AS, Prevention/Outreach

### STATISTICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shelter</th>
<th></th>
<th>Sexual Assault Services</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unduplicated consumers served:</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>Unduplicated consumers served:</td>
<td>259</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Days of shelter provided:</td>
<td>2,650</td>
<td>Individual counseling hours:</td>
<td>442.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meals served:</td>
<td>7,950</td>
<td>Group counseling hours:</td>
<td>221.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Volunteer hours:</td>
<td>1,114</td>
<td><strong>Victims of Serious Crime</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Domestic Violence Services</td>
<td></td>
<td>Unduplicated consumers served:</td>
<td>184</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unduplicated consumers served:</td>
<td>856</td>
<td>Individual counseling hours:</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duplicated consumers served:</td>
<td>481</td>
<td>Crisis hotline calls:</td>
<td>458</td>
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<tr>
<td>Individual counseling hours:</td>
<td>2,239.75</td>
<td><strong>First Response Team</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group counseling hours:</td>
<td>371</td>
<td>Duplicated consumers served:</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevention</td>
<td></td>
<td>Group Sessions:</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SA/DV Community programs:</td>
<td>98</td>
<td><strong>Alternatives to Violence</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SA/DV number in attendance:</td>
<td>2,340</td>
<td>Duplicated consumers served:</td>
<td>179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School programs conducted:</td>
<td>463</td>
<td>Group Sessions:</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number in attendance:</td>
<td>8,312</td>
<td><strong>Supervised Visitation</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Protection From Abuse</td>
<td></td>
<td>Duplicated consumers served:</td>
<td>158</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unduplicated consumers served:</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>Direct service hours:</td>
<td>143.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PFA’s granted:</td>
<td>239</td>
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</table>
VFI continues to benefit from all of the help and support they receive from many of the employees of Family Service & Children’s Aid Society. Again, we would like to extend a special thank you to Susan Huffman with the Drug & Alcohol Program for all of her time, dedication, and hard work in assisting VFI with many of its events and programs. VFI would also like to thank Brittany Donato of PPC for her continuing assistance with the 24/7 Dad: Women’s Group.

This year, Program Director Josh Botts completed the 80 hours of training, portfolio, and exam required to receive the Family Development Credentialing and is now the first FDC credentialed worker for FSCAS. Josh also received training to be on the Quality Service Review Team and assisted Venango County CYFS with completing their QSR requirements.

Thanks to partnerships with key referral sources such as Early Head Start, CYFS, FOOF, Two Mile Run County Park, and the Probation Office, the attendance for our core programs and events have been increasing.

The “24/7 Dad: Fatherhood Program” offered quarterly to fathers, father-figures, their partners and children. This 8-week program focuses on the five concepts that cover the essential knowledge, attitudes, beliefs, and practices that fathers need to be the best dads they can be 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

“Inside-Out Dad” provides groups inside the Venango County Prison. The groups focus on how men can improve their fathering skills and remain connected with their children while incarcerated.

VFI conducts bi-monthly Fatherhood Support Groups at Turning Point Drug Rehabilitation Center attended by all of the long term residents.

“Donuts with Dad” provides parents with an opportunity to spend some extra time with their children, make memories, and encourages them to be more involved with their child’s schooling.

P.A.P.A. (Parenting and Paternity Awareness). This program for teens focuses on demonstrating the realities and difficulties associated with teen parenting. The key message is that becoming a parent is more than giving birth; the responsibilities of parenting impact all areas of an individual’s life, regardless of how old they are when they become a parent.

Annual VFI calendar featuring drawings from area elementary school students.

Activities and special interest workshops: Soapbox Derby, “Fun with Father” picnic, “Family Fishing Days”, “Family Movie Nights”, a Geocaching event, and “Family Sled Riding Parties”.

This year we had a father who attended our 24/7 Dad: Fatherhood Groups with his girlfriend and their children. This father had had a pretty rough childhood and did not have a healthy relationship with his father. He had spent the last several years in prison and because of this, was not able to be the father he wanted his own children to have. While attending our groups, he had been making efforts to reconnect with a son who was now in his 20’s and lived in another state. Eventually, he was able to connect with his son and made arrangements for him to come and spend some time with him. This man’s son, who is now a father himself, also began to attend the 24/7 Dad groups. Having these men in our group and watching them rebuild their relationship as well as working on their fathering skills for their young children was very encouraging for the other participants and facilitators. It was a chance for us all to see the skills and attitudes that we had been discussing put into practice and gave us all a unique perspective into what exactly was at stake for each of us and our families.

Annual Soapbox Derby: VFI held its 9th Annual Soapbox Derby on Central Ave. in Oil City on July 9th, 2011. The 6th Annual Soapbox Derby on Rocky Grove Ave. was held on July 30th, 2011. There were approximately 25 racers and 150 spectators at each event.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VFI Statistics</th>
<th>Donuts With Dad</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>24/7 Dad (Men’s Group)</strong></td>
<td>Programs held: 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unduplicated consumers served:</td>
<td>Attendance at all schools: 2,674</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groups held: 24</td>
<td><strong>Agency Presentations</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number graduated: 11</td>
<td>Community presentation: 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Family Groups (Women, Children)</strong></td>
<td>Attendance: 133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unduplicated consumers served:</td>
<td><strong>Soapbox Derby</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groups held: 48</td>
<td>Participants: 43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number graduated: 19</td>
<td>Spectators: 310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Turning Point</strong></td>
<td><strong>Special Interest Workshops</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programs held: 23</td>
<td>Events held: 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Inside-Out Dad (Jail Program)</strong></td>
<td>Total Participants: 895</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unduplicated consumers served:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groups held: 33</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number graduated: 64</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Joshua P. Botts, Program Director