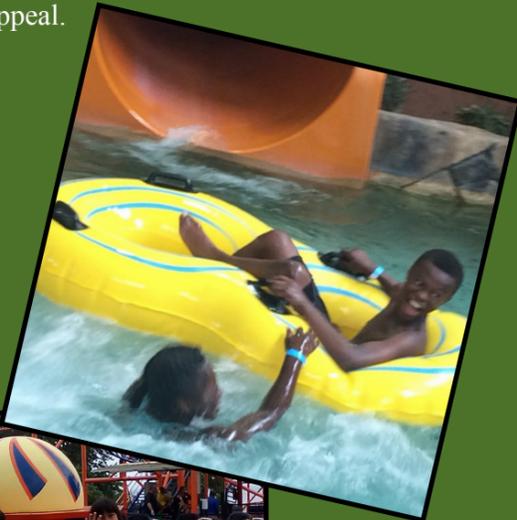


Summertime Fun for PEACE, Inc. Youth

Youth across the County had an active and exciting summer thanks to our summer camp and field trips initiative at the PEACE, Inc. Family Resource Centers. Over the summer, 141 children attended 490 weeks of summer camp and got to try new experiences, build leadership skills and meet new people outside their own neighborhood. Thanks to all of our generous donors who provided support through our Annual Appeal.



Left: Volunteers from Upstate Medical University serving lunch at one of our Senior Nutrition Sites.



Right: PEACE, Inc. Executive Directors Joe O'Hara gives Assemblywoman Pam Hunter a tour of our newly renovated Eastside Family Resource Center.



Left: Seniors swing to a performance by the Stan Collela All-Star Band at the PEACE, Inc. DeFrancisco Eastwood Community Center.

OUT & ABOUT WITH PEACE, INC.

Below: Everyone enjoyed some downhome fun and a little exercise while raising money for PEACE, Inc. Big Brothers Big Sisters at the Corner Store Country Run. See more photos at cornerstorerun.com/photos/syracuse-2016.



Ready For School

Thanks to funding from the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Back to School Initiative, PEACE, Inc. Family Resource Centers provided back to school supplies for students and families throughout the county.



Honoring a Foster Grandparent

Foster Grandparent Barbara Lefler received the Distinguished Service Award from the Board of Education of Liverpool Central School District on August 24, 2016. Grandma Barbara has served at Long Branch Elementary School in Liverpool for 16 years. According to the 32 nomination forms the BoE received from the staff at Long Branch, Grandma goes above and beyond her FGP duties and has obviously made a positive impact on hundreds of students at her school. Barbara joined FGP in 1998 and is our second longest serving volunteer!



Making a Difference at Lafayette Head Start

Families and staff at the PEACE, Inc. Lafayette Head Start Site arrived for the first day of school and saw a whole new look at their building thanks to the hard work of many Haylor, Freyer & Coon employees. After months of planning, volunteers crews from HF&C arrived on July 19th and for three days in a row teams of between 15 and 18 people cleaned, prepped, repaired, and painted until the site was in top notch shape. When the hard working volunteers were finished the entire interior of the school had received a new paint job in addition to important extras like custom made book shelves and new bathroom fixtures.

Head Start/Early Head Start is a comprehensive, family focused child development program that serves pregnant women and children birth to five years of age. Through these highly successful early childhood programs, PEACE, Inc. has been promoting the healthy development and school readiness of young children from low income families since 1968 and infants, toddlers and pregnant mothers since 1995 throughout Onondaga County. To learn more go to peace-caa.org.



PEACE, Inc.'s Mission: Helping people in the community realize their potential for becoming self-sufficient

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**A letter from the
Executive Director**

Dear Friends,

As we finish up a busy summer at PEACE, Inc., I want to thank each of you who donated so generously to our summer camp initiative. Through your support we were able to provide more than 140 youth with an enriching summer camp experience.

And as summer comes to an end, we turn our attention to the beginning of a new school year. Our Head Start, and Foster Grandparent programs are excited to be back in the classroom, ready to help children succeed in school and beyond.

Please consider joining us on Wednesday, September 28th at the Marriott Syracuse Downtown (The Hotel Syracuse) for the 15th Annual PEACE, Inc. Champions of Diversity Event. For information on tickets contact Sharon Thompson at 315.634.3719 or sthompson@peace-caa.org.

Thanks very much to all of our dedicated volunteers, staff, donors and board members for your hard work and support - we appreciate each and every one of you.

Every Kind Wish,

Joe

Joseph E. O'Hara
Executive Director



**The Meaning
of Being a "Big"**



Christina, a "Big Sister" with PEACE, Inc.'s Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) program, recognizes the impact that dependable and trustworthy adults had on her life. Although she didn't have a good childhood, Christina had individuals like her coach at the Boys & Girls Club and her teachers to show her that they cared about her. "Think about when you were a child. Who were those important figures in your life?" Christina says. "Do you think you could be an important figure for someone else?" Being a "Big" gives Christina the chance to provide the same support she had while growing up to another person, her "Little", Semaj.

BBBS is a national organization that matches children facing adversity with a volunteer mentor, who guides the child and acts as a positive role model. Before they were matched, nearly three years ago, Christina hoped for someone "vivacious, outgoing, and talkative," which is similar to how she describes herself. When she went to Semaj's home to meet her and her family for the first time, it was quickly clear that they would make a good pair. Semaj was so happy she started doing cartwheels.

BBBS asks "Bigs" to commit to at least two hours per week or eight hours per month with their "Little". Sometimes Christina and Semaj spend twice that amount of time together. They like to go to the park, sledding and ice skating, or dancing. They also go to events coordinated by BBBS, which include trips to places like the State Fair, bowling alley, and movie theatre. But Christina's favorite memories are the several times that Semaj has just paused, looked at her, and said "I'm so glad you're my big sister." When that happens, "I crumble like a little cookie," Christina says.

**JOIN US AT THE MARRIOTT SYRACUSE DOWNTOWN (HOTEL SYRACUSE) FOR FUN,
FUNDRAISING AND COMMUNITY BUILDING AT THE**

15TH ANNUAL CHAMPIONS OF DIVERSITY

Please join us on Wednesday, September 28th in the Grand Ballroom of the Hotel Syracuse (Marriott Syracuse Downtown) for the 15th Annual PEACE, Inc. Champions of Diversity. Our sponsors Haylor, Freyer & Coon, Washington St. Partners, Bonadio Group, Wegmans and National Grid join us in honoring Evelyn Carter, Director of Community Relations for Wegmans with the Community Service Award; CXtec/TERACAI with the Corporate Commitment Award and Mary Beth Basha, Senior Consumer Advocate for National Grid with the Unsung Hero Award. Buy tickets online at peace-caa.org/events/2016cod or contact Sharon Thompson at 315.634.3719 or sthompson@peace-caa.org.