

Family & Community Development

- County East FRC
- County South FRC
- County West FRC
- Eastside FRC & Project Connection
- Emma L. Johnston SSFRC
- Westside FRC

Family Resource Center Monthly Report

February 2016

County East Family Resource Center Date: **March 10, 2016**

# Total Volunteers	8
# New Volunteers	2
# Clients served	384
# Clients set up in Cap60	96
# Emergency Food donations	2
# New collaborations <u>List names of collaborations below:</u>	0

Center Highlights:

PEACE Inc. County East Family Resource Center received five (5) cases of oranges from the Food Bank of Central New York to distribute to low-income families in the community in February.

County East Family Resource Center hosted our Annual Black History Luncheon on site on February 18th at noon. There was historical information shared as well as informational facts, along with discussion of well-known inventors and inventions. The event was well received and participants feasted on a menu of Fried Chicken, Collard Greens, Dirty Rice, Potato Salad, Black Eye Peas, and much more all of the traditional Soul Food. Thirty (30) plus individuals attended the event. A great time was had by all who attended.

Thrive By Five Toddler group began on February 23, 2016. The space which was remodeled and designed as a normal classroom is equipped with Teachers, Speech Therapist, Recreational/Occupational Therapist a Spanish speaking teacher and operates three days a week on site Tuesday- Thursday 9 AM til noon. Thrive By Five donated paint and supplies to County East Family Resource Center allowing for a complete paint renovation for the center with the gracious help of Stanley Fish senior volunteer. "Kudos Stanley."

Upcoming Events:

2016 Bicycle Raffle Spring 2016

The Konosioni Lodge of Fayetteville New York raises money annually and at the end of each year; they purchase bicycles for kids between two and fourteen years old who are entered into a raffle. The tickets are free to all kids entered into the raffle will have a chance to win a bike. Each winner will also receive a lock from the Konosionis' to keep their new bike safe.

On-Point for College Trip March 16, 2016

Konosioni Lodge Easter Basket Program March 25, 2015

Kawanis Club of Eastwood-East Syracuse 2016 Mother's Day Rose Sale: Please contact Denise Vanderpool for More information @ 315 437-7071

Mother's Day Raffle -Spring 2016

Success Story☺

Two individuals gained full time employment in the month of February giving both a significant increase of income and after the probationary period will allow for these individual to obtain health insurance.

One individual attended a Job fair from the job fair obtained the appointment for the six week training opportunity and received the Certification as a personal caregiver with the assistance of County East staff, who provided the individual with resume assistance and transportation to the Job Fair and employment appointments.

This report was respectfully submitted by
Denise Vanderpool
Coordinator

Family Resource Center Monthly Report

Center County South Family Resource Center

Date February 2016

# Total Volunteers	17
# New Volunteers	1
# Clients served	45
# Clients set up in Cap60	2
# Emergency Food donations	0
# New collaborations <u>List names of collaborations below:</u>	0

Center Highlights: Family Advocate, **Eva Heaney** did an excellent job running the center while Coordinator, Barb Kohberger, was on jury duty for 6 days. Ralph Lyke did 6 tax returns this month at CSFRC as part of the **EITC program**. The **Care and Share** Program ended and then re-opened on February 29th. Only 7 families have been assisted through CSFRC so far this year. The **“Food for the Parent’s Soul”** parenting classes have been learning about Discipline and Emotional Intelligence this month. The **4th – 6th grade afterschool program** took a trip to the Ship Wreck Mini Golf Course in Cortland on the Wednesday of their winter break. The **7th and 8th graders** have been going to the Fresh Food Giveaway at St. Leo’s Food Pantry on the first Tuesday of the month to volunteer by bringing out heavy boxes to cars and packing food for customers. A **Rural Outreach Meeting** was held but had low attendance in February. Phone calls will be made before the next meeting in April. A new flat screen TV was ordered to be used in the conference room for the parenting classes.

Upcoming Events: The afterschool kids will be walking in the St. Patrick’s Day Parade in Syracuse on March 12th. Executive, Joe O’Hara is the Grand Marshall.

Success Story A family that has received services for many years at CSFRC is finally completing their long term goal of moving to Florida in March. This family has gone through crisis with poverty, employment, addiction and mental health issues. They were able to get back on their feet by living in the transitional apartment; participating in Family Development; completing a GED program; attending parenting education classes; and receiving therapy from CSFRC’s tenant, Arise Family Services. There have been many financial, legal, and emotional hurdles along the way but with continued reminders of their strengths, this family has been able to get beyond them and fulfill their dream of living in the south.

Family Resource Center Monthly Report

Center _____ County West Family Resource Center Date February 2016__

# Total Volunteers	26
# New Volunteers	4
# Clients served	306
# Clients set up in Cap60	3
# Emergency Food donations	165 served/1,485 meals
# New collaborations <u>List names of collaborations below:</u>	0

Center Highlights:

The Upward Bound Youth Basketball program from NorthSide Baptist Church held a canned food drive for the pantry. They collected 1,820 cans of food! I will be attending the awards celebration on 3/20 at the Church. It will be an honor to attend and express our gratitude for the kids efforts. We had Beth Seeley here from the FoodBank on 2/12 for Just say Yes to fruits and vegetables. Beth prepared a fresh salsa and folks received a free colander, potholders and cutting boards. Ralph Lyke was here to assist folks with free tax preparation. Thank you Ralph!!

Upcoming Events:

The Easter Basket program will begin on 3/16. We have 17 families (47 children) signed up so far. We anticipate up to 80 baskets will be filled for children this Easter. Volunteer Jessica St. Almand has done a fantastic job organizing and preparing. We will have Just Say Yes to Fruits and Vegetables food demonstration 3/9 and 4/12. The Youth fellowship from NorthSide Baptist will be sending 8-10 members for a Spring clean –up day here at The Center on Saturday 4/9. Our volunteers have offered to come in and help with Spring cleaning! Onondaga Physical Therapy is holding a food drive at 5 locations including Baldwinsville. We anticipate receiving this at the end of March.

Success Story:

One of our Mom's in Family Development has successfully worked at Childtime here in Baldwinsville for 6 months. We assisted her with the application and interview process, support and also with CPR class . We will continue to be a support as needed to ensure her success.

Family Resource Center Monthly Report

Center: Eastside Family Resource Center/ Project Connection_ (ESFRC)

Date:_ February 2016

# Total Volunteers	6
# New Volunteers	0
# Clients served	574
# Clients set up in Cap60	3
# Emergency Food donations	1569.83
# New collaborations <u>List names of collaborations below:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Building Men-Syracuse City School District• SEFCU• Fidelis• Healthy Families• Real Moms of Syracuse• Syracuse University Art Program• Cooking Classes/Syracuse University Professor• Syracuse Academy of Science	

Center Highlights:

In February, as part of Eastside FRC efforts to promoting healthy living, a synergy with Fidelis was established. Fidelis visited our center throughout the month and agreed to continue visiting our at least once a week to help families enroll in healthcare coverage.

In collaboration with SEFCU and SCSD we co-hosted a financial literacy workshop at HW Smith School. This event was a 3 day workshop that presented financial planning to the youth from the Building Men. The youth actively engaged in age appropriate exercises that were fun as well as educational. At the end the youth were presented with certificate, gift card and free movie pass.

The Eastside FRC Senior Nutritional Program presented a Black History Month Luncheon. This event invited other seniors, family and friends. Meals were prepared and brought in by the

seniors themselves with different cultural dishes. The group socialized and sung songs. It was wonderful event.

Upcoming Events:

Healthy Living classes /Cooking Classes

Project Connection: Project Connection is now at the Eastside Family Resource Center. We currently have two kids and are actively recruiting more. Project Connection staff have visited different school and agencies to promote the program. The staff is working diligently and researching ideas for the program.

Family Resource Center Monthly Report

Center: Emma L. Johnston SFRC

Date: 03/20/2016

Month of: February

# Total Number of Volunteers	5
# New Volunteers	1
#Clients Served	22
#Clients set up in Cap60	0
#Emergency Food Donations	3
# New Collaborations List the names of collaborations below: , Syracuse Model Neighborhood, Tales and Toys, Summit Apartments, Dunbar Association/Center, Onondaga Community College	1

Center Highlights:

The Emma L. Johnston Southside Family Resource Center is currently in the transition with the news of Project Connection officially moving to the Eastside. THE SFRC is currently working on building community partnerships, finding housing for those in need, and maintaining a safe space for our consumers..

Community Participation:

The Emma L. Johnston Southside Family Resource Center was asked to collaborate with the Dunbar Center on a future afterschool program for children ages six to twelve years of age. Dunbar currently caters to preteens as well as Teenagers currently enrolled in the Syracuse City School District.

Upcoming Events:

We were notified by our maintenance staff of an inspection to be done by the City of Syracuse for re-zoning purposes of the upstairs area where Project Connections, Early Head Start & Head Start both held office space. We are now waiting as to what will need to be done, and how we can develop the space upstairs. We are now working with Onondaga Community College in developing a strong partnership, we would also, like to assist them by have a presence up there two or three times a week, to assist our consumers with any obstacles that might prevent them from completing job training program

Success Story:

Success is measured in various ways. Often success can be hindsight, seeing a mistake before it becomes a disaster. Working with a woman who came into our office we were able to assist her, in

not moving her estranged husband up to New York from Florida. Ms. C. came to the agency, expressing the desire in having her husband moved up here. Mr. C suffers from Alzheimer, and often does not remember any of the conversations they had, there was nothing I could do to convince Ms. C this may not be in the best interest of either party.

So we sat down together and contact the social worker in Florida, and contact a medical moving agency, and added up the cost along with all the documentation required, including the court fees that may come along. Also, the doctor sent the medical care that would be required for Mr. C.

After reading all that information and going over it with me, Ms. C not only realized it was not an overnight process, and just because they were married it did not trump any legal requirements, in order to process the transfer. Ms. C also realized she may be required to pay all the medical expenses not covered by Medicare.

Ms. C decided it may be better just to travel once or twice a year to Florida, to ensure he is okay and is receiving the necessary medical care.

Family Resource Center Monthly Report

Center WESTSIDE FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER Date February '2016

# Total Volunteers	21
# New Volunteers	7
# Clients served	88
# Clients set up in Cap60	6
# Emergency Food donations	14
# New collaborations <u>List names of collaborations below:</u> Westside Take Back the Streets Gifford Foundation Near Westside Initiative Lerner Center	

Center Highlights:

The collaboration continues with Junior League, a group of twelve women came to give the youth a very nice Valentine's Day Party at the center with lots of goodies, everyone had a fun Saturday of making Valentine cards, telling stories and brought bags for each child filled with lots of school supplies, tissues, hand sanitizer, and assorted candy.

The Coordinator along with other Westside agencies were called to a meeting by the Director of the Near Westside Initiative to meet with Ms. Pirano, Director of Human Resources for the Syracuse Downtown Marriott, after being approached about us collaborating with them to assist in finding employable residents living in the Near Westside. They felt we had a better pulse on the neighborhood and need us to help identify residents for employment.

A great discussion generated among PEACE coordinator and the youth regarding summer camp. They shared their school accomplishments during their first semester, now start to plan programming and collaborations for summer program.

Upcoming Events:

Easter Egg Hunt with Junior League with Junior League

Success Story:

- Nine out of ten families who applied for utilities assistance program Care & Share were approved. Each of those families was prevented to have the electricity shut off.
- We continue helping families with economic challenges to build their resume and work with their interview skills. Three out of four were hired.
- One client is working to transfer his colleague credits from Moscow to Syracuse University

Mary Alice Smothers, Coordinator

