

Early Head Start Baby Shower Fosters Friendship and Wellness

P.E.A.C.E., Inc.'s Early Head Start (EHS) is a comprehensive program serving 214 low-income pregnant women, infants and toddlers. The **Pregnancy Care Campaign** provides pregnant women with community support, monitors their overall health and wellness, teaches them how to care for themselves and baby during pregnancy, fosters peer to peer social support networks.

EHS holds a baby shower for the new or soon-to-be moms who have achieved their goals such as attending prenatal visits, establishing an exercise routine or giving up smoking. The women that attend the shower receive books, educational games, and infant care items, as well as important equipment and supplies for expectant families and newborns. The Pregnancy Care Campaign distributes these items as incentives based on need and will help women meet health care requirements, increase healthy behaviors and ensure the hygiene and safety of the newborn child.

If you would like to help these expectant moms and newborns, please consider donating the following items: diapers, baby clothing, car seats, diaper bags, cribs, high chairs, breastfeeding supplies and strollers. We accept donations all year long. For more information call Carolyn Brown at 470-3300.

RIGHT: The Bank of NY Mellon Team had a great time at the P.E.A.C.E., Inc. Big Brothers Big Sisters Bowl for Kids Sake and raised over \$3,000.00!



ABOVE: Jeanie and her little sister Aurianna enjoy a special moment at the P.E.A.C.E., Inc. Big Brothers Big Sisters Bowl for Kids Sake Event held at Flamingo Bowl on Sunday, March 25.

Out and About with P.E.A.C.E., Inc.



ABOVE: Head Start students ready to perform.



ABOVE: A Head Start student enjoys the unusually warm Central New York spring.



BELOW: Head Start students celebrate Dr. Seuss with big hats and even bigger smiles.

This year in the P.E.A.C.E., Inc. BBBS program:

- Adult bigs spent 9,640 hours sharing their world with 144 littles
- 270 college and high school students spent 2,169 hours with their littles at 11 New York elementary schools

Compared to their peers, children who have a mentor see the following results:

- 52% are less likely to skip school
- 46% are less likely to begin to use illegal drugs
- 33% are less likely to hit someone



ABOVE: Rebecca Heberle, Director of Head Start and Head Start families get ready for the St. Patrick's Day Parade.

BELOW: Team Head Shavers, Bill Seitz, Bill Coon, Sally Ward and Bob Ward, from the P.E.A.C.E., Inc. Department of Energy & Housing Service raised \$2,805 to support The St. Baldrick's Foundation.



Did you hear that the P.E.A.C.E., Inc. EITC You've Earned It! free tax preparation program filed 2,701 tax returns for middle and low income individuals and clients received more than 5.4 million dollars in tax returns? WOW!

Help P.E.A.C.E., Inc. Keep Kids Safe in the Sun

P.E.A.C.E., Inc. offers a variety of summer programming for low income youth including summer camps and day trips. Executive Director Joe O'Hara commented "just like their peers, we want these kids to go back to school in September and be able to tell stories of what they did on summer vacation." During these programs, we work hard to keep the children safe from the sun and heat.

We are asking for your help to keep our youth safe from the summer sun and heat.

Please consider donating a gender neutral sneaker bag or string bag filled with a pair of children's UV protected sunglasses, a 12 to 16 oz. bottle or tube of sunscreen (SPF 30 or higher) and a water bottle. We also ask that donors include some fun summer items such as: sidewalk chalk, jump ropes, nerf balls, paint kits, stickers and/or activity books. Please help make summer a safe, exciting time for these children. To donate call Carolyn Brown at 470-3300 or go to www.peace-caa.org/sun.

P.E.A.C.E., Inc.

Empowering people to thrive not just survive

Community Quarterly

Spring 2012



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Don't Miss the 7th Annual Golf Ball Drop

On June 7th it will be raining golf balls from the sky and four lucky winners will go home richer. It must be the 7th Annual P.E.A.C.E., Inc. Golf Ball Drop. Tickets are on sale now. One ticket costs \$20.00; three tickets for \$50.00 and eight tickets for \$100.00. Once you purchase your ticket we put your number on a golf ball; when we drop the golf balls from the helicopter the closest ball to the pin wins \$5,000.00; second closest wins \$3,000.00, third closest wins \$1,500.00 and the furthest from the pin wins \$500.00. Total prizes of \$10,000.00!! The funds raised go to support P.E.A.C.E., Inc. community programming.



Dear Friends,

In addition to Mother's Day and Memorial Day, during May we also celebrate Community Action Month. As you may know, P.E.A.C.E., Inc. is proud to be the designated community action agency for Onondaga County. What you may not know is that there are 1060 other community action agencies throughout the country which serve over 20 million low income individuals annually.

Community action agencies are part of a nationwide network of private, not for profit organizations that operate under the federal Community Action Program, founded by the 1964 Economic Opportunity Act to help fight poverty on a national level. The essence of community action is helping low-income families achieve economic security through a variety of programs such as Head Start, job training and placement, mentoring, financial education and housing. Just like at P.E.A.C.E., Inc., funding for most community action agencies comes from federal, state, and county sources, with critical support from volunteers and local communities.

We are proud of the national accomplishments of the network of community action agencies and the local accomplishments of P.E.A.C.E., Inc. We know none of this would be possible without the support of our volunteers, board members, staff, funders and the community at large. Thank you for all you do.

Every kind wish,
Joseph E. O'Hara
Executive Director



In the Spotlight: Big Brothers Big Sisters

Through mentoring, P.E.A.C.E., Inc. Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) is changing lives one child at a time. BBBS provides at risk children with strong and enduring mentoring relationships. Children who have positive role models are more likely to succeed than those who do not. BBBS helps to get children on the right path by matching them with caring mentors who provide guidance and friendship that leads to improved academic achievement and success in life.

In the BBBS traditional one to one mentoring program, "bigs" are asked to spend 8 to 10 hours a month with their littles. Sometimes mentors enjoy everyday activities like baking cookies, washing the car, grocery shopping or watching a movie. Other times donated tickets can be used by mentors to take littles to local events. Bigs can enjoy exposing littles to new experiences like an SU game, a performance at Syracuse Stage, or the annual BBBS holiday party.

Children between the ages of 6 and 12 who reside in Onondaga County and the Central Square area of Oswego County can apply for the program. Currently we have a waiting list of 146 children hoping to be matched with a mentor.

In the school based program, high school and college students mentor at risk elementary school students in a group setting. The school-based program operates after school one day a week for the entire school year. The program consists of tutoring, homework assistance and socialization. The students have the opportunity to participate in 2 field trips during the year. Currently children from eleven elementary schools are able to participate.

RIGHT: Big sisters from Cicero North Syracuse High School get a little messy while working on some arts & crafts projects with their little sister from Roxboro Middle School.



Look inside for our amazing numbers!

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