



# "An Evening To Savor" Raises More Than \$80,000 To Help At-Risk Students

Thank you to the many supporters who generously sponsored and attended "An Evening to Savor", Family Service's fund raising event. Once again we packed the Chart House restaurant with a sell-out crowd for a fun-filled night that this year honored Dr. O'dell Owens, president and CEO of Rise Learning Solutions, as our Distinguished Friend of the Family. With your help, we raised more than \$80,000 for the nationally recognized School Attendance Program.

Success of "An Evening to Savor" is critical to the School Attendance Program's ability to ensure that youth at risk stay in school. Case managers work one-on-one with youth and their families, many referred by the Hamilton County Juvenile Court, in schools in Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky. Together they work through issues, solving problems one at a time. It's an investment in time that has paid off—this past year, more than 75 percent of the youth in the program have chosen to stay in school.

Thanks to event Co-Chairs Patty and Ivan Misrach, and the event committee. Also, thanks to the Chart House and its employees, who donated their food and time to ensure the event's success. Major sponsors were Ohio National Financial Services, Convergys Corp., KnowledgeWorks Foundation, and Richards Electric Supply Co., with support from Western-Southern Financial Group.



Dr. O'dell Owens (center) with co-chairs Ivan and Patty Misrach



Bill Robinson and John Domasco of the Northern Kentucky Airport Board, Mike Gibbons, and Charles Whitehead of Ashland Inc.



MC Mona Morrow, community service director at WCPO-TV



Committee members Gene Mapes, Barri Mapes, Ron Felder, Ivan Misrach, Ellen Miller, Patty Misrach, Connie Harris and Hallie Goldcamp



Past board chair Judith Bogart, Herb Brown of Western-Southern Life, Marcia Brown, and board chair Jill McGruder



Host Bob Goldcamp with Bill Butler, the 2001 Distinguished Friend of the Family



Committee member Connie Harris with host Calvin Buford



Lee and Shannon Carter greet Dr. O'dell Owens and Patty and Ivan Misrach before the event begins



Staff from the Chart House take a well-deserved break to chat with Ivan Misrach



Patty Misrach, Arlene Herman, Ivan Misrach, and Dr. O'dell Owens

“*this past year, more than 75 percent... have chosen to stay in school.*”

# RSVP Highlights - Annual Meeting

With such potential to make a positive impact on lives, what more befitting a topic for the 2002 Annual Meeting than Family Service's newest program—the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP). The keynote speaker was Paul R. Schrader, Ohio director for the Corporation for National Service, the parent organization of RSVP.

"RSVP is empowering to the lives of the volunteer and the person being served," he said. "It is the single most important message we want people to understand. Volunteering enriches people. It enriches the community."

Schrader said more than 100 RSVP volunteers have donated 20,000 hours of service in the Cincinnati area to tutor children in public schools. Founded in 1971, RSVP has 766 chapters nationwide (including Family Service); and 480,000 senior volunteers who have donated 77 million hours to more than 65,000 agencies. In Ohio there are 28 chapters with 18,000 volunteers. Now that's making an impact.



Paul Schraeder speaks to attendees at the Family Service annual meeting.

## RSVP Looking For Volunteers

You can make a difference in another person's life. Are you, or someone who you know, 55 or older? Are you a member of a civic or faith-based organization, or an employee of a company looking for a group activity? Become an RSVP volunteer, either on your own or with a group.

RSVP volunteers assist with public health and safety activities; and tutor children and adults in education and literacy. There are a variety of locations throughout the Cincinnati area. Whether you have a few hours to give, or can volunteer on a regular basis, your time will be well spent.

For more information, or to volunteer, please contact Pat Seuberling, RSVP program director, at (513) 354-5704 or [Pseuberling@fsmail.org](mailto:Pseuberling@fsmail.org).

## Case Manager Assists Older Refugees

What started as an interim position for staff member Cheryl Waters—pitching in while another social worker recovered from an accident—has evolved into a full-time role with the International Family Resource member as a case manager assisting older refugees.

Cheryl has worked for Family Service for almost nine years, beginning in the Life Skills Department where she ran parent groups, assisting parents through challenging transitions in their home life. In mid-January, Cheryl began working with the International Family Resource Center on a temporary basis.

Now, with the support of a grant administered by the Council on Aging, Cheryl is one of two case managers connecting older refugees, particularly the Vietnamese, with support services and resources. It's a vital service for this population, many of whom have faced age discrimination and language barriers, and

who are traditionally hesitant to ask for help. "Our job is a valuable support to these people who often feel isolated, even from within their own culture," said Cheryl.

What does Cheryl find most rewarding about her work? "My job is a real eye opener," she said, "It has really given me an opportunity to stretch and look at myself and others in different ways."



## New Staff at Family Service

Family Service is pleased to introduce the newest members of our team:

- In Northern Kentucky, **Katherine Johnson, Lesley Robinson and Jennifer Wolfe** are school-based therapists. **Kara (Jill) Collins** is a clinical social worker in our Covington office. The Florence office has added **Sherrie Baciagalupo** as a clinical social worker and **Tera Hubbard** as secretary.
- The Eastgate office has added **Connie Jones** as the new Medicaid clerk/advocate, and **Richard Michler** and **Connie Sherwood** as clinical social workers.
- The Hyde Park office has added **Shannon Voellmecke** as a clinical social worker.
- The Community Support Program has added **Melissa Turner** as a case manager.

## New Board

(continued from page 1)

Paper Tube Co.

- **Neil Stieglmeyer** is president of The Deters Co. and is a retired Kenton County school superintendent.

The 2002 officers are: Jill McGruder (chair); Terry Kelly (vice chair); Craig Sumerel (vice chair); Fred Heyse (treasurer); and Willie Hill (secretary).



Seventeen parents agree: They are stronger, more patient, and better prepared to help their children grow up into successful, responsible adults after taking Family Service's 13-week Raising Great Kids parenting course at Heinold Foreign Language Academy. These parents, along with others completing the spring sessions, developed methods of alternative and positive discipline, relationship building, anger management, and peer support to help them better communicate with their children. For information about Raising Great Kids, call Janelle Luczka at 354-5687.

# Kids Fest Booth a Splash



If you asked children what their favorite booth at Kids Fest was, chances are good they would have said: "Spin art!"

Children flocked to the Family Service booth at Kids Fest June 1 and 2 to try their hand at spin art. Kids plopped drops (or, sometimes blobs) of brightly colored—and washable—paint onto a card. With the help of a battery-operated, spinning turntable and some Family Service staff, the children transformed the paint into works of art they could take home. The art was attached to a Family Service pencil, and parents received information about Family Service's programs.

Thanks to the staff members who volunteered to spend some of their weekend helping to make happy memories for hundreds of children.

## "Opt Out"

If you no longer wish to receive Family Focus, please call Pat Lane at 513-354-5633 or email at [plane@fsmail.org](mailto:plane@fsmail.org) and let her know.



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### Family Service Programs

#### Clinical Programs

Anger Management  
Clinical counseling for families, children, individuals  
Children's Treatment Team  
Co-Dependency Workshops  
Family Violence Intervention Project (N.Ky.)  
Impact Program (N.Ky.)  
Sex Abuse Treatment  
Sex Abuse Therapy Groups  
Substance Abuse Treatment  
Women's Therapy Groups

#### Employee Assistance Resource Network

Professional counseling for employees of contracted companies  
Critical Incident Stress seminars  
Workplace seminars on popular topics  
Management consultation  
Child care referrals  
Legal referrals

#### Friends of the Children

International Family Resource Center  
Citizenship Education  
Employment Counseling  
English for Speakers of Other Languages

#### Immigration Counseling

Language Bank  
Life in the USA  
Multicultural Information Services  
Social Services  
Spanish Classes

#### Life Skills Education

At-Risk Juvenile Program (N.Ky.)  
Every Child Succeeds  
Independent Living for Foster Teens  
Kid Power  
Options for Youth  
Parent Education for Homeless Families  
Parent Power  
Positive Parenting & Responsible Parenting  
Raising Great Kids  
Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)  
School-to-Work (N.Ky.)

#### School-Based Services

Crisis Intervention/Prevention  
Social service coordination  
Safe and Drug Free Schools (N.Ky.)  
School Attendance Program for truant youth

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