

Family Focus

a newsletter for friends of Family Service



Foundation Gifts Support Family Service Programs

Foundation partners are helping many of Family Service's programs serve more clients in a variety of ways:

- The 80 children in *Friends of the Children* will benefit from a gift from the Jack J. Smith Charitable Trust, PNC Bank Trustee. *Friends of the Children* also received support from the Lois and Richard Rosenthal Foundation, and from the Mitzvah Challenge—a youth project sponsored by the Jewish Federation which gives Bar and Bat Mitzvah teens experience in giving back to the community.

Friends of the Children is gaining increased support on a national level as well. After making a grant to the national office of *Friends of the Children*, Michael Bailin, president of the Edna McConnell Clark Foundation, said this about the program: "*Friends (of the Children)* shows great promise. From everything we've seen from scrutinizing the program top to bottom, *Friends* appears to be doing what is necessary to help the young people it serves achieve outcomes that will help them someday become productive adults. I would stake my professional reputation on the likelihood

that *Friends'* future evaluation will show that its program is one of the most effective models for working with this country's most at-risk children."

- A grant from the Health Foundation of Cincinnati enabled Family Service to hire a bilingual therapist, who will be able to better serve people who speak Spanish, French or Portuguese.
- The Procter & Gamble Fund's gift helped support the International Family Resource Center's move to the McFarland Center. The McFarland Center also houses Family Service's downtown counseling office. The Josephine Schell Russell Trust, PNC Bank Trustee, and Toyota Motor Manufacturing NA also contributed toward the renovation of the McFarland Center.
- The Ohio Children's Trust Fund will support the Raising Great Kids program for two years.
- Northern Kentucky's Family Violence Intervention Project received support from the Target Foundation.

Other recent gifts came from the Federated Foundation, Sam's Club, and the Summertime Kids program of the Greater Cincinnati Foundation.

● Robert Killins of the Procter & Gamble Fund (second from right), with Family Service President Arlene Herman, board member Judy Gibbons, and Carl Rayburn, director of the International Family Resource Center.

Enrichment Programs Continue Learning Opportunities for Children

Impact/Impact Plus programs in Northern Kentucky had a busy summer, with activities for the children and their parents.

The summer program provided 60 youth ages 8 to 14 with six weeks of daily therapeutic recreation, social development, and learning. Summertime activities are not always available to children with emotional and behavioral disorders because of their special needs. The program, a collaboration between the Impact and Impact Plus programs and school based services in Northern Kentucky, offers those opportunities for continuing psycho-educational opportunities during the summer.

Activities focus on weekly themes which provide an organized structure for therapeutic activities, learning, field trips and games. Activities are designed to provide fun while teaching/reinforcing interpersonal, self-management and life skills. The children also participated in a social skills group every day except Thursdays, when longer field trips are scheduled and social skills are practiced and reinforced in a variety of environments. The children visited East Fork Lake, Florence Aquatic Center, Sawyer Point, Sunrock Farm, and the Cincinnati Natural History Museum.

The staff also accompanied 15 youth to Kincaid Regional Theatre in Falmouth, Ky., to see "Forever Plaid." The musical focused on achieving dreams despite adversity. The trip was made possible through the Summertime Kids grant from the Greater Cincinnati Foundation. Nikki Fangman, Impact program director, proposed and planned the outing, including a charter bus ride to Falmouth, a picnic lunch in the park, and games in the park before watching the play. Actors in the play pulled one child on stage to help play the piano.

One participant of the program said, "I've done more this summer than I have ever done in my whole life. This has been a great summer."

In collaboration with NorthKey Community Care, parents and children in the Impact Parent Support Group had a picnic at Boone Woods Park. Events included Survivor-style games for the children, and a guest speaker for the adults.

International Family Resource Center

A festive open house in April celebrated Family Service's new McFarland Center downtown, which houses the downtown counseling offices and the International Family Resource Center. Clockwise from top left: Co-chairs for the event were Dr. Patricia O'Reilly and Dr. Ernie Barbeau. Members of the dance troupe Que Lindo es Panama provided entertainment.

Students in classes for English for Speakers of Other Languages expressed their gratitude with this mural in many languages to all who attended. The centerpiece for the open house was "Home of the Brave," a watercolor created for the International Family Resource Center by Sharonville artist Kathleen Wickemeier.



School Attendance Program An Evening to Savor

Family Service honored John and Carrie Hayden in May at the annual An Evening To Savor. The Haydens have offered their consistent and loyal support to Family Service, and to families in Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky, for many years. This year's event, co-chaired by David and Karen O'Maley, took place in the 4192 Room at the Great American Ball Park.



About 20 children in the Friends of the Children program had a once-in-a-lifetime treat over the summer when they visited Paul Brown Stadium to watch the Cincinnati Bengals at a pre-season mini-camp. The kids and their Friends toured the stadium, watched the football team go through a number of drills, listened to former Bengal and the team's spokesperson, Eric Ball, talk about how players prepare for the upcoming season, and met the players and Coach Marvin Lewis. At left, running back Corey Dillon signs autographs and talks with the kids; below, the children explore the team's locker room.

Friends of the Children



Friends of the Children Golf Outing



The inaugural Friends of the Children golf outing took place in June, raising \$12,500 to help provide educational activities for the 80 children in the program. Nearly 100 golfers took part in the outing at Belterra Resort in Indiana. After a round of golf, everyone convened in the resort banquet room for dinner, prizes, and live and silent auctions. During the live auction, emcee Jim Scott of WLW Radio (above) persuades golfers to bid on a signed basketball.

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)

The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program hosted its annual luncheon in the spring to thank the more than 300 people who spent give their time in the community through RSVP. On the luncheon committee were: Bob Steinman, Vickie Brown, Gretchen Dinerman, Jan Lawson, Page Williams, Vickie Memmel, Nancy Tanner, and Mike Duttel.



