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NEWSLETTER

A Quarterly Update On Family Service Of The Piedmont, Inc.

Final Push Needed to Reach Campaign Goal

Our campaign to "Build Safe & Healthy Families" has nearly reached its \$3.4 million goal, with only \$31,606 left to raise! "We're very proud of our campaign cabinet and the response from our community for this project," said Julia Nile. "The campaign has demonstrated the commitment of our volunteers and the support of our community, but our work is not complete."

Campaign Cabinet leadership met in December to develop a strategy for reaching the final goal. "These final dollars are traditionally difficult to raise, and in our case they are especially crucial," said Nile, referring to the agency's Kresge challenge grant. Currently recorded as a pledge for \$225,000, the agency will not receive the grant unless the overall campaign goal is met. Meanwhile, construction on the site at 315 Washington Street is also nearing completion. Greensboro operations of Family Service of the Piedmont are expected to move into the building on March 16. "It's been an amazing transformation," said Nile, "watching this empty downtown building evolve into something so grand." The project includes a 5,000 square-foot façade that reorients the entrance of the building toward the west. The building will house Clara House and the agency's other Greensboro operations, providing access to all services from one port of entry.

Above ▲ Construction on the new Washington Street site continues. Greensboro operations of Family Service of the Piedmont are expected to occupy the new facility this March.

establishing a strong community presence. The proximity of other social services like the new Library, the YWCA and the Children's Museum add value to the downtown location.

Another motivation for the campaign was based on the urgent needs of the agency's Greensboro shelter for battered women and children - Clara House, which was constructed in 1916. A 1997 fire demonstrated in a dramatic way the inability of Clara House to provide a safe haven for women and children who have been physically abused. Insurance from the fire permitted the restoration of the house to its former status, but did not allow for modern safety standards to be met. Clara House does not meet current fire and safety codes and Clara House does not meet new ADA requirements and cannot serve handicapped residents or residents with handicapped children.

The new Clara House will be housed in the agency's Greensboro site along with all other agency operations. This will make participation in therapy, financial counseling or parenting classes convenient

for the shelter clients. In addition, the new shelter will accommodate 35 more women and children, will be handicapped accessible, and will utilize state-of-the-art security and fire safety.

If you would like to help us reach our goal and meet the Kresge Challenge, please contact Paul Russ at 333-6910 or 889-6161. You may also email Paul at pruss@family-service-piedmont.org or mail your contribution to Family & Children's Service of Greater Greensboro Foundation, PO Box 3631, Greensboro, NC 27402.

Nile Elected to Serve on Alliance Board

Julia B. Nile, President and CEO of Family Service of the Piedmont, has been appointed to the Board of Directors of the Alliance for Children and Families. Nile's three-year term began in January 2001.

Family Service of the Piedmont is an affiliate member of the Alliance which is an international membership association representing more than 350 private, nonprofit child- and family-serving organizations.

"This is a very exciting and challenging period for the Alliance," said Peter B. Goldberg, President & CEO of the Alliance for Children and Families. "Our Board is composed of some really terrific people who are extremely enthusiastic that Julia will serve with them."

Julia B. Nile

In total, Alliance members serve more than 5 million individuals annually in more than 2,000 communities, providing a vast array of services ranging from residential care to domestic abuse prevention and intervention. The Alliance's mission is to strengthen members' capacity to serve and advocate for children, families, and communities. The Alliance formed in October 1998 when Family Service America (established 1911) and the National Association of Homes and Services for Children (established 1975) merged.

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POSTED PRAISE

Dear Consumer Credit Counseling Services,

I am responding to the survey you sent out in your recent newsletter and your call for feedback from satisfied consumers! I hope this is a story that will inspire others.

I was at a point where I would get incredibly depressed each time I sat down to pay bills. I had accumulated so much credit card debt, and could only pay the minimum amount allowed each month, never making a dent in the overall balance. I couldn't see the light at the end of the tunnel, and what's worse, I would get really angry with myself for allowing this to happen. A friend suggested that I contact CCCS. I was a little reluctant at first, because I think I was ashamed to go ask for help managing my money. I mean, here I am, a grown woman! But a few more months of the "money blues" put me over the edge and I made an appointment to meet with a counselor. For free! He was very nice, non-judgmental, and gave me a basic task to complete so that he could assess my situation. He negotiated with my credit card vendors and by consolidating my debt, lowered my interest rates substantially.

I have been working with CCCS since March of 1999 and have paid off half of my debt. I should be completely paid off by August of 2002. At least there is a light at the end of the tunnel, and it hasn't hurt my credit at all! In the last year I have been able to purchase both a house and a car.

The most memorable feeling I have about signing up with CCCS is that I felt like a grownup! I felt like I took responsibility and stopped stressing out about getting those bills paid. I would recommend this organization to anyone who feels like they may be in over their heads financially. It's really a pleasure to get things in order.

Cindy Davis

STAFF DEVELOPMENTS

New Staff

In November, Cathleen Vance joined the clinical team as a Case Researcher/Resource Coordinator; Patty Swing joined the victim services team as the Director of Victim Services; Princess Walden joined the prevention services team as the Healthy Start Coordinator; Mark Smith-Soto joined the victim services team as a DVIP Group Leader; and Roslyn Dickey joined the victim services team as a Shelter Relief Staff.

Most recently, in December, Keith Austin joined the agency's Finance Department as an Accounts Supervisor. In January, Chris Rockwell joined the clinical team as an Intake Specialist. In February, Melissa Fox joined the clinical team as a Therapist, and Magdalene Hall joined the clinical team as an Intensive Family Preservation Therapist.

Role Changes

In January, Tom Campbell became the Director of Client Services & Systems; Erv Henry became the Director of Community Initiatives & Assessments; Michelle van den Boom became the agency's Grants & Contracts Manager; Keshia Shields became a Program Assistant for CCCS; Stephanie Hairston became a CCCS Counselor; and Kelly Gill became CCCS's Education & Housing Coordinator.

Staff Developments

In December, Peggy Bynum, MSW, received her LCSW.

Gifts for Smiles Really Delivers!

TWO MEN AND A TRUCK® really delivered this holiday season when their "Gifts for Smiles" program generated more than 100 new toys for Family Service of the Piedmont. The new, unwrapped toys were delivered in time for the holiday season and were distributed to residents of the agency's shelters for battered women and children, Healthy Start program, and play therapy offices.

Family Service of the Piedmont thanks TWO MEN AND A TRUCK® for their dedication to strengthening children in our community.

Above ▲ Pictured, from left, are Brian Ellis, General Manager; Julia Nile, and Paula Newland, Franchise Manager.



301 East Washington Street
Greensboro, NC 27401-2011
1401 Long Street
High Point, NC 27262-2441



Agency Friends are Making Headlines

Carroll Ann Miller, member of the Family Service of the Piedmont Board of Directors, was pictured with Elizabeth Dole in the January 26th edition of the News & Record. Dole was the keynote speaker at a black-tie event for the Carolina Regional Heart Center.

Jeff Horney, a member of the Family Service of the Piedmont Board of Directors and the Family Service of High Point Foundation Board of Trustees, was recently profiled in the Triad Business News.

Jeff is vice president of Mirro Products Co. in High Point and was making news by becoming the Chairman of the Board for the High Point Chamber of Commerce.

Congratulations to Family & Children's Service of Greater Greensboro Foundation Trustee Martha Faw who appeared in the January 18th issue of The Rhinoceros Times.

Martha, owner of Southern Structures, Inc., received the "Eugene Gullledge Outstanding Service Award." Faw's past credits include Builder of the Year and past President of Greater Greensboro Builders Association.

Carol Ann Miller

Jeff Horney

Martha Faw

MEMORIAL

Family Service of the Piedmont wishes to recognize the life of Dr. Alexander W. Spears, III for all his contributions to our community. Our deepest sympathy is also shared with his wife, Shirley P. Spears and the Spears family.

Both Alex and Shirley are most appreciated for their commitment to building safe and healthy families and a better community for Greater Greensboro.

Dr. Alexander Spears III

The Spears family has established the Dr. Alexander W. Spears, III Memorial Fund to benefit Family & Children's Service of Greater Greensboro Foundation. Memorial contributions may be sent to the United Way of Greater Greensboro at PO Box 14998, Greensboro, NC 27415-4998.

Please place "Spears/Family Service" in the memo line of any contribution to help expedite your gift.

Agency numbers to change

Family Service of the Piedmont's numbers will change on March 16 when we move Greensboro operations into the Washington Street site!

Our new numbers will be ...

	Greensboro	High Point
Main Reception	336-387-6161	336-889-6161
Voicemail	336-387-6105	336-889-6105
Fax	336-387-9167	336-889-9167

Numbers for the Crisis Lines, Consumer Credit Counseling Services and Healthy Start will remain the same.

Our Mission

Family Service of the Piedmont, Inc. provides services to promote healthy lives and relationships for families, individuals and children in times of crisis or transition.

Family Service of the Piedmont, Inc. represents the combined strength of Family & Children's Service of Greater Greensboro and Family Service of High Point.

Visit us on the web:
www.safeandhealthyfamilies.com

Resolving to Save Money in the New Year

Everyone wants to save money but the question is HOW? Only 5% of Americans have six months worth of salary in their savings account. Most Americans live paycheck to paycheck, and saving money sometimes seems to be an unreachable goal. You can start saving money by following a few simple steps.

Step One: Set financial goals that the family agrees are important. Break these goals into smaller action steps.

Step Two: Take a look at your paycheck. Make sure you know how much income you have on monthly basis.

Step Three: Start a budget. You should begin by tracking your expenses so that you know where your money is going. You will never be able to reduce your spending if you do not know what you spent. Track your expenses for a few months. Try not to change your spending patterns and just write down what you spend. Then evaluate your monthly budget. Look to see if you can reduce any expenses like going out to eat or entertainment.

Step Four: Evaluate your credit debt separate from your monthly budget. Ask your creditors for lower interest rates. Stop using credit and start paying off the debt.

Step Five: Always reevaluate. Make sure that your budget and financial goals are working.

PCA Conference Planned for April

The link between domestic violence and child abuse will be explored at Prevent Child Abuse North Carolina's 22nd Annual Statewide Conference on Child Abuse & Neglect this April. The conference, titled "Out of the Shadows of Family Violence," will promote collaboration around issues of child maltreatment and domestic violence.

The lack of attention to the strong links between domestic violence and child abuse prompted the conference theme. Between 3.3 and 10 million children witness acts of domestic violence each year. Research indicates that 30% to 60% of children from homes where domestic violence is present are also victims of abuse themselves. The presence of domestic violence in the home increases the likelihood that child abuse will turn fatal, making domestic violence the single major precursor for child maltreatment fatalities. Finally, of those children who witness domestic violence, 30% later become perpetrators of violence as compared to an abuse rate of 2% to 4% in the general population.

As the local Prevent Child Abuse NC affiliate, Family Service of the Piedmont will support the conference by providing volunteers to staff the venue. In addition, Susan Vaughan, LCSW, Child Advocacy Center Coordinator for Family Service of the Piedmont, will co-present a workshop that explores the links between child abuse, domestic violence and animal abuse.

The conference will take place April 9, 10 and 11 at the Sheraton Greensboro Hotel at Four Seasons/Koury Center. More than 50 innovative presentations on prevention, intervention and treatment are scheduled. If you would like to attend, contact Prevent Child Abuse NC at 1-877-443-2670. If you would like to volunteer to help staff the event, contact Julie Talbert, Family Service of the Piedmont's Director of Development at 889-6161 in High Point, or 333-6910 in Greensboro.



for you and your family. You need to make changes, as your family's needs change. Be positive about money and money management. A budget will not be successful unless it is part of your life.

Remember always be creative. Everyone saves money differently. Ideally 10% to 15% of your income should be set aside for savings and investments. Look over some of these tips on saving money to see what works for your lifestyle. Try one or two and you will be successful and you will save money.

- § Save your loose change.
- § Take your lunch to work.
- § Plan your meals and make a list before you go to the grocery store. Stick to the list.
- § Take your credit cards out of your wallet.
- § Ask the kids to take part in making a dinner once a week instead of picking up fast food.
- § Cut and use coupons.
- § Buy clothes out of season, during sales, or go to thrift stores.
- § Put your income tax return or bonus checks into savings.
- § Try to save any raise that you receive. You are already used to budgeting without it.
- § Do not use shopping to relax or unwind, read a book or take a walk in the park.

Shelter Needs List

Shelter Needs List (All items should be new)	Gift Certificates or Funds for Bedspreads and Lamps
2 Double Bed Mattress sets	Laundry Detergent
2 High Chairs	lysol Spray or Liquid
4 Large Dressers (Vanity Kind) (Light Pine/Wood)	Movie Passes
Air Fresheners	Nightlights
Baby Swing for Playroom	Portable Crib
Bras (all sizes)	Pots and Pans (industrial, heavy)
Bus Passes	Rain boots (children)
Canned meats	Raincoats (adult and child sizes)
Clothes Hampers	Rubber Cleaning Gloves
Deodorant/Anti-Perspirant	Shower Curtains
Diaper Rash Ointment	Silverware
Ethnic Hair-care products	Stroller
Flashlights	Tank and Toilet Cover sets
Floor Model TV	Toilet Bowl Cleaners
Foam Bath Tub Cleaners	Toy Chest
Gift Certificates (Harris Teeter, Wal-Mart, Target)	Trash Bags
	Umbrellas
	Upright Vacuum Cleaner

Due to a lack of storage space, we are not accepting any used items. If you have questions or concerns, please call 333-6910 in Greensboro, or 889-6161 in High Point, and ask to speak with the shelter manager.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 28: "Smart cents," a free budgeting workshop provided by CCCS of Greater Greensboro a division of Family Service of the Piedmont. This 1-session workshop will help you set financial goals, track expenses, create a working budget, evaluate your current spending, manage your debt, and start saving money. If you are interested in attending a workshop please call Kelly at 333-6916 ext. 203 in Greensboro or at 889-6105 ext. 203 in High Point. You may also email Kelly at kgill@familyservice-piedmont.org

March 3: "Oyster Roast," Family Service of High Point Foundation's premier event! This year's event will be held at the home of Mariana & Nido Qubein and will cost \$40 per person. To RSVP call 889-6015 ext. 829 or 333-6916 ext. 829. For more information, contact Julie Talbert at 333-6910 in Greensboro or at 889-6161 in High Point. You may also email Julie at jtalbert@familyservice-piedmont.org

March 5: "Smart Cents," a free budgeting workshop.

March 16: "MOVING DAY" Greensboro operations of Family Service of the Piedmont move into the new Washington Street site. During the move, our phone systems will be down. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

March 29: "Smart cents," a free budgeting workshop.

April: "Blue Ribbon Campaign for Kids." Join Family Service of the Piedmont and the Blue Ribbon Campaign Committee in recognizing April as Child Abuse Awareness Month. To find out more about this event, or to volunteer, contact Patti Gilbert at 333-6916 ext. 329 in Greensboro or at 889-6105 ext. 329 in High Point. You may also email Patti at pglbert@familyservice-piedmont.org

April 9, 10, & 11: "Out of the Shadows of Family Violence" The 22nd Annual Statewide Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect. Presented by Prevent Child Abuse North Carolina. For more information, call 1-800-354-KIDS or visit www.childabusenc.org

Thanks for helping us progress this far!

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 - Mr. & Mrs. Robert Lavietes
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