



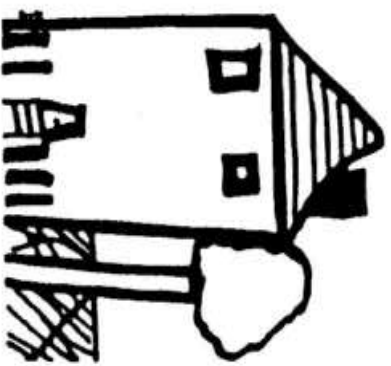
*a moment of peace / a piece of hope*

the Respite Center  
2120 Forдем Ave.  
Madison, WI 53704

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MADISON, WI  
PERMIT NO. 1666

**2004  
ANNUAL  
REPORT**

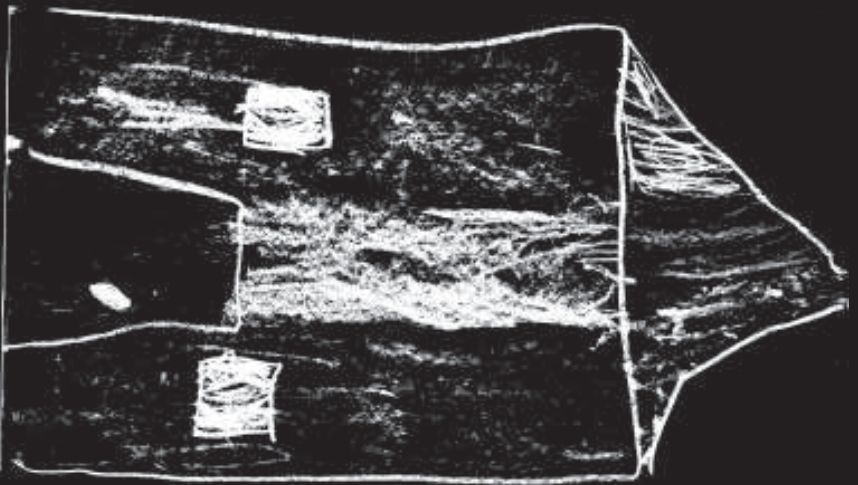
# the RESPIRE CENTER



**25 YEARS OF SERVICE  
TO THE COMMUNITY**

**"The antidote to trauma is the capacity of human relatedness to promote the healing integration that is necessary if the victim is to transform suffering into victory. "**

**"Our ability to form attachments to each other and to form social groups has been our best defense and has guaranteed our survival." Sandra Bloom, "CREATING SANCTUARY"**



**"I think that your program is a wonderful resource for families. My boys absolutely love coming there. It is very much a special treat. I was referred by a friend 3 years ago and have since referred friends. I never have to worry while my kids are there, as all the staff and volunteers that I've dealt with really seem to have my children's needs and safety as their priority. I am really glad we have something like the Respite Center in Madison. Thank you!" Parent Survey '04**

# 2004 Budget

## REVENUE

Net assets 01/01/04	\$	72,139
Dane County Department of Human Service		342,229
City of Madison Community Services Commission		114,338
United Way		116,558
Grants		6,661
Fundraising		39,837
Miscellaneous		3,284

**TOTAL REVENUE** \$ **706,349**

## EXPENSES

### Personnel

Salary	\$	486,826
Taxes & Benefits		122,312

### Operating

Insurance		10,504
Professional Fees		10,895
Supplies		7,142
Telephone		4,660
Depreciation		3,293
Conference/ Training		1,237
Household/ Food		8,055
Miscellaneous		493
Rent		22,300
Fundraising		520

**TOTAL EXPENSES** \$ **678,237**

Excess of Revenue over Expenses 2004 \$ 28,112

# President's Report

The little house that could ...

I think I can, I think I can ... provide safe nurturing care for children twenty four hours a day every day of the year.

This belief and an innovative federal grant in 1979 brought the Respite Center into existence in Dane County in an old house on Williamson Street. Originally a small program of the Red Caboose Day Care Center, the Respite Center grew to become a separate agency in 1983. In 1989, the agency moved along its path of innovation and service by joining with the Parental Stress Center, Family Enhancement, the Exchange Center and the Family Sexual Abuse Treatment Service to share a building on Fordem Avenue and to develop complimentary services housed under one roof - Family Centers.

With the support of the community the Respite Center continued to improve the qualifications of its dedicated staff, develop policies and procedures to ensure parents and children are always provided with the best care possible, and work with other agencies and funders to find new solutions to the ongoing challenge of supporting families.

For 25 years the Respite Center has believed that it could do what sometimes has felt impossible. It has remained true to its core belief that all families need to have a welcoming and secure haven for children when parents are unable to care for them.

The idea of respite as a way to help families to help themselves is proven daily in the laughter of children and the smiles of parents ... and will be continued by the Respite Center in its newly renovated building. A successful Capital Campaign is providing funds to revitalize the Family Centers building and greatly improve the Respite Center space.

We thought we could and we did. The little house that could is still chugging along.

Thank you.

**Barb Barbard, President**



# Twenty-Five Years of Service to the Community

For 25 years, the Respite Center's goal has been to improve the lives of Dane County's most vulnerable families. The good idea that engendered our program back in 1979, remains the core of our program today. We still give children a safe place to stay while helping their parents cope with difficult times. What we do hasn't changed; how we do it has.

This is reflected in a document that we created this year. We took the wisdom and words of 25 years of experience and incorporated the agency's mission, vision and values into one statement of purpose. It is the best way we know to honor the families, staff, volunteers and supporters who over the years have made the Respite Center what it is today.

## MISSION

**The Respite Center is a child centered, family focused, culturally responsive agency that is useful to families in times of stress and transition. We provide childcare, crisis intervention, and support for parents, and a safe nurturing place for children.**

## VISION

**The Respite Center commits itself to this vision:**

**In Dane County, children and parents with the fewest resources will have hope for themselves and the future.**

**To be hopeful, children will be functional and parents capable.**

**Functional children will have safe environments, will grow emotionally, cope with rules and regulations, be confident and contribute to the community.**

**Capable parents will have the support needed to be nurturing, knowledgeable about child development, responsible, able to provide for their family's needs, be confident and able to cope with daily challenges.**

Rayla Temin  
Jean Tews  
TDS Metrocom  
Mary Ann Thurber  
Rowland & Marian Todd  
Mary Trewartha  
James & Karen Troupis

T

Donna Ulteig  
Unity Church of Madison  
Vermont Valley Community Farm

U/V

Waisman Center  
Jeffrey & Julie Ward  
Ellen Webb  
Nancy Welch  
Wisconsin DDES Administrative Staff  
Wisconsin Energy Conservation  
Coalition  
Paul White  
Sandy White  
Nikki Cohen Wichner  
William & Brenda Wilcox  
Jenifer Wilgocki  
Ann Wilson  
John & Jean Wilson  
Sandra Wolens & Michael Feldman

W

Youth Services of Central Wisconsin  
Mike & Sue Zaleski  
James Zerwick

Y/Z

*"I have peace of mind when my child is at the Respite Center. It gives me a wonderful break and time to sort out the stress in my life."  
Parent Survey '04*



## Honorariums

IN HONOR OF:

**Lynn Gilchrist**  
Anders & Christine Gilchrist  
Corrine & Dan Mayland



Diana Lakes  
Greg Landry  
Barbara Lahrenbach  
La Petite Academy

## L

Julie Leachert  
Neil Lerner  
Dave Lewis  
Philip & Elizabeth Lewis  
David Libert  
Dale Liebowitz  
Tod & Jane Linstroth  
Peg Luby  
Peter Lundberg  
Marjory Lyford  
Jim Lynch

Madison Recharging Services Inc.  
Mary Maher  
Marvel Mapes  
Mary Kay Dillon & Peter McCanna  
Janis McGill

## M

Susan & Michael McKiernan  
Marjory McMickle  
Claire Mangasarian  
Marshall Fields  
Sue Mauer  
Metropolitan Women's Club  
Jane Meyer  
Lauren Meyers  
Terry Meyers  
Kate & John Miller  
Kim Miller, Thom Evans & Family  
Paula & C.J. Miller  
Mom's Club of Madison  
Stephen Morton  
Michael, Best & Friedrich

## N

Kathie Nichols & Bill White  
Northport Pizza Hut

Glen & Barbara Olson

## O

People's United Methodist Church  
Lynn Persson  
Donald & Marion Peterson  
Kay Plantes  
Dean & Dawn Proctor  
Pottery Barn  
Purple Moon Foundation

## P

Wendy Rakower & Warren  
Buckles  
Ruth Ramsey  
Denise Resch  
Gerald Ring  
Mary Anne Ripple  
Robin Rhoads  
Celeste Robins  
Elizabeth Roberts  
Krista Roys & Bill O'Connor  
John Roach

## R

Chris & Wayne Sage  
Robert Schnur  
Eric Schulenburg  
Erica Serlin  
Lin Sheahan  
Marie Sieker & Rod Matthews  
Christine & Larry Siebert  
Judy & Marv Siegert  
Bob & Jo Skloot  
Ann Ustad Smith  
Louis & Elsbeth Solomon  
South Rotary Foundation  
Kirk & Wendy Strang  
George Strother

## S

**For these children & parents to have hope, the community will:**

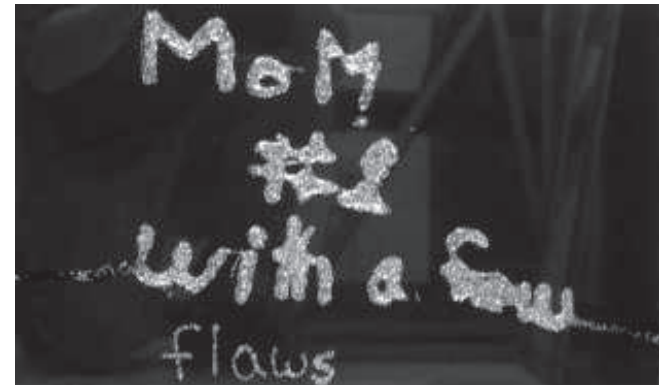
- \* **respect, value and be responsible for children;**
- \* **be committed to a continuum of care for all families;**
- \* **have work places and employers who recognize the value of family life where the employees are supported as parents and family members;**
- \* **have a more open attitude about giving and receiving help;**
- \* **believe that a family is defined by its members.**

## VALUES

**Through the use of our skills and knowledge, we apply our values in our work to help realize our vision for the community. The values of the Respite Center are to:**

- \* **create safety**
- \* **build trust**
- \* **support growth**
- \* **exercise compassion**
- \* **practice professionalism**
- \* **respect differences**
- \* **advocate fairness.**

As we look to the future and our next quarter century of service to the community, these words will guide us in making a difference in the lives of Dane County=s children and families.



**The artwork in this report was done by children over the past 25 years.**

***"I would have had a nervous breakdown if it wasn't for one of your counselors." Parent Survey '04***

# Program Description

The Respite Center provides respite and crisis childcare 24 hours a day, seven days a week to Dane County families experiencing high levels of stress. Families using the Respite Center receive support in a confidential, non-judgmental setting. Family Service Workers are available to schedule childcare and to provide short-term counseling and community referrals. Families are offered the assistance they need to resolve the crisis, stabilize, and improve their parenting.

Children from birth through fourteen are cared for at our home-like facility, by professional staff and well-trained volunteers. Staff work to meet the physical and emotional needs of children in an environment designed to reduce stress and promote positive social interactions. Children stay an average of four to 16 hours, with longer visits arranged in crisis and emergency situations. The Respite Center is licensed by the State of Wisconsin and accredited by the City of Madison Day Care Unit and the National Association for the Education of Young Children.



***"We love the Respite Center because they are like a part of our family. They take very good care of our children. We know our kids are in good hands." Parent Survey '04***

Ralph Cagle & Tonia Neustifter  
Capital Kids  
Catholic Charities Staff **C**  
Bernard Cesnik  
Christ Memorial Lutheran Church  
Sue Cornwall  
Catherine Cuccia

Nancy Mars Daly  
Mary Ann Damm **D**  
Richard & Susan Davidson  
Amy DeBaker  
Fran DeGraff  
Jim & Betty Desnoyers  
The Disney Store  
Barbara & William Ditscheit  
Andrea Dlugos  
Paul & Barbara Douglas  
Tammy Downing  
Mr Duwaynes  
Virginia Davis Dance

Mark Ediger & Jocelyn Milner  
Einstein's **E**  
Jane Eisner  
Larry & Joanne Elfman  
Evjue Foundation

Sherry & Tom Finkler  
First United Methodist Church  
John Frautschi **F**  
Julie & Bruce Frey  
Jim Fullen



Dorothy Gertsch & Dale Beske  
Neil Gleason  
Maureen Griffin **G**  
Cynthia & Thomas Godar  
Alfonso Gonzalez  
Lulis delCastillo Gonzalez  
Jim & Laura Good  
Good Family Foundation

Juanita & Douglas Halls  
Charles Hammer  
Half Price Books **H**  
John Harmelink  
Lucy Harr  
Beverly Hays  
John & Kimberly Hazen  
G. Heideman Gallery  
Erin Hewitt  
Marion Hill  
Deborah Hobbins & David  
Mlandenhoff

Robert & Virginia Joyes  
Lee & John Kelly  
Kate Kemper **J/K**  
Helen Klibaner  
Jin & Lori Knishka  
John & Emily Kolman

## In Memorial

The following gift was given in memory:

**Roy Dorman**  
in memory of his father

## 2004 Donors

We appreciate the increased financial and in-kind support given in 2004 by old and new sources. We want to thank all who generously gave, and highlight a few donors to show the diversity of ways people lend their support to the Respite Center.

In 2004, the Madison Mom's (formerly the MOMS club) raised over \$3000 in their annual Scrapbooking Marathon. Over 50 scrapbooking participants joined efforts to raise money for the Respite Center while completing personal scrapbooks in a 12-hour marathon. Area businesses donated food prizes for participants who paid a \$50 entry fee to participate. The community-wide support allowed all entry fees to be donated for general program support.

In 2004, Clyde Stubblefield and musicians throughout the Madison area continued their tradition of supporting the Respite Center through an annual benefit at the Crystal Corner Bar. Owner Dave Day and the musicians donated all proceeds to our program, raising over \$1500.

In 2004, Kathy Kuntz, a long-time volunteer, spearheaded an initiative with her co-workers at Wisconsin Energy Conservation Coalition which benefited children at the Respite Center. As part of a staff retreat, WECC employees formed teams which assembled twelve bicycles. The new bikes were then donated to the Respite Center.

Lorna Aaronson  
Altria  
American TV - West  
The Arts & Crafts Store  
American Family Insurance  
Elizabeth & Richard Askey

**A**

Ray & Joyce Berdal  
Shawna & Emil Bertalot  
Beta Sigma Phi Sorority  
Big Mike's  
David Blouin & Claire Gervaise  
Linda Bochert & David Hanson  
Chris Boehm & Family  
Ellie Bowen  
Joan Brooks  
Mike Burns  
Rick & Lianne Burnson

Trudy Barash  
Jim & Barbara Barnard  
Sandra Beaupre  
Belleville Elementary School

**B**

During 2004, 737 children from 416 families received 26,085 hours of childcare.



## One week at Respite: July 19 - 25 '04

Number of families	39	<b>Ages of Children:</b>	
Number of children	78	Birth - One	10
New families	3	Two - Three	23
New children	7	Four - Five	15
Families with no ties to DCDHS	15	Six - Eight	13
		Nine - Twelve	11
		Thirteen - Fourteen	2

### Instances of Care (per family):

Respite Care	22
Family Emergency	2
Appointments	6
Therapy	5
Hospitalization	1
Parent working	2
Moving	1
Intake Interview	4
DCDHS/police emergency	1

### Racial/Ethnic Background of Children:

African American	14
Biracial	7
European American	35
Hispanic/Latino	12

# Family Centers

The Respite Center has been part of Family Centers, Inc. since 1989. Family Centers was created to provide a home base for four agencies, each of whom plays a vital role in promoting family strengths, as well as providing services that reduce family stress and prevent and treat child abuse and neglect. The four agencies that make up Family Centers are:

The Exchange Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse  
Family Enhancement  
The Parental Stress Center  
The Respite Center

Family Centers is an innovative model of collaboration which makes it easier for families to access services under one roof. While all services are centralized for the convenience of families, no services are duplicated. Each agency serves the needs of families in unique ways.

2004 was a happy yet hectic year for Family Centers. Our **Invest in Children** Capital Campaign received another generous pledge from the Purple Moon Foundation. This pledge means that in 2005 Family Centers will be able to have a new home.



*"My son loves it there. When we drive by, he says, 'Drop me off!'"*

## Childcare Volunteers

Laura Blakesley  
Debbie Buss  
Emily Bucholz  
Rod Cambell  
Jill Courtight  
Melissa Coons  
Jessica Dean  
Elisabeth DeBoor  
Johnna Dorshurst  
Dominique Dotson  
Sherry Finkler  
Jenelle Fuller  
Deanna Friedman  
Scott Gala  
Emily Hill  
Rhonda Jamison  
Amy Kemery  
Andrea Kramer  
Kathy Kuntz  
Anna Lidester  
Donna Livesey  
Meredith Lewis  
Bonnie Macritchie  
Anna Macknicca  
Angie McAllistor  
Domminick McParland  
John Meredith  
Barb Metallo  
Dori Michael  
Diane O'Connor  
Sue Olsen  
John Palmer  
Laurie Pinkert  
Rachelle Rossing  
Shannon Scallon  
Katie Shannon  
Elham Springer  
Jessican Steward  
Lisa Taylor  
Jai Thomas

## Volunteer Groups

Quarles & Brady  
Christ Memorial Lutheran Church  
Youth Services of Southern Wisconsin

**Barb Mezera  
provide 40 hours of  
service in 2004 working in  
our children's garden.**

**Jai Thomas  
provided over 245  
hours of service as a  
summer intern, helping to  
care for children and  
general program  
support.**

## Community Service Volunteers

Suzanne Gerson  
Barb Mezera  
Krysta Moore  
Lois Tyler  
Heidi Ylvisaker



# 2004 Volunteers

## **Volunteers provided over 2175 total hours of service in 2004.**

Volunteers are a vital component of service at the Respite Center. With the support of dedicated community members, we are able to care for more children and families, provide a cleaner and safer environment, and maximize the use of our resources.

## **Volunteers provided support for 8,555 childcare hours in 2004.**

Childcare volunteers spend four hours weekly or bi-weekly assisting Childcare Specialists. The presence of these skilled caregivers allows more children to benefit from one-to-one nurturing and interaction. Having a competent volunteer on a shift often means that we can accept children in an emergency, when otherwise we might have to say no.

## **Community Service volunteers and Service Learning students provided 244 hours of service in 2004.**

Volunteers from the community help support the program with short-term service or on-going projects. In 2004, service volunteers helped with data entry, copying and filing, organizing educational resources used for staff training, and maintaining our children's garden.

## **Volunteers groups provided 56 hours of service in 2004.**

Community groups participated in projects throughout the year. Groups help to improve and maintain the equipment and environment for children who visit.

We are grateful for the support of a caring community. Volunteers at the Respite Center support us in maintaining high-quality programming for the children and parents who come to the Respite Center.

**Thank you to all of our volunteers who provided their support in 2004!**

*"They're fabulous and take the time. What more can I say? I feel that they really care!" Parent Survey '04*

*"The break I receive is reflected in being able to be more responsive, coping better. Overall the relationship improves then." Parent Survey'04*



# 2004 Board of Directors

## **President**

Barbara Barnard  
Child Welfare Consultant

## **Vice-President**

Sandra Beaupre  
Wisconsin Dept. of  
Transportation

## **Secretary**

Jeff Morton  
Retired – CUNA Mutual

## **Treasurer**

Linda Pauls Fleming  
EraGen Biosciences

## **Directors**

George Arida  
Venture Investors LLC

Terry Bell  
Wisconsin Public Radio

Joan Brooks  
Retired – UW Madison

Sherry Finkler  
Telephone and Data Systems, Inc

Murry Kapell  
U.W. Hospital

Jim Knishka  
Associate Technologies

Bettye Lawrence  
Retired – City of Madison

# "Illustrations of Hope"

In 2004, the Respite Center celebrated the resiliency of children with an exhibit of artwork and stories. Our fourth grant from the Dane County Cultural Affairs Commission allowed Childcare Specialists to spend individual time with children as they expressed their hopes, fears, strengths and struggles.

Here are some examples:

Tymeisha wrote **"my fears are not to live alone by myself, to die, or that they might bomb Madison."** Her dream is **"to be a star - #1 someday, to be somebody, to help the people that are poor, so all the people could be just like everybody else. Wouldn't you do the same thing?"** she asks.



Trudie's story about a Child Care Specialist is titled **"The Chris."** **"Chris is baby sitting."** **"Chris is cleaning."** **"Chris is sleeping."** **"Chris is playing with the kids."** **"Chris is eating fish sticks."** **"Chris is dancing."** **"Finally Chris is gone."**

This exhibit illustrates that our approach with children, which has been guided by our instincts, is now being borne out by the latest research in the budding field of trauma theory. Trauma theory states that for healing to occur, the traumatic experience must be put in narrative form, that it be ordered and sequenced, with a beginning, a middle, and hopefully, an end. Our use of the visual, dramatic, and language arts help children unlock troubled feelings and celebrate themselves.



---

## 2004 Staff

### Executive Director

Meg Miller

### Program Coordinator

Kristin Sage

### Child Care Program Manager

Sharon Kilfoy

### Child Care Specialists

Chris Boehm

Leonie Dolch

Rachelle Hinrichs

Amy James

Rick Kraus

Irma Montes

Julia Murray

Lola Ramos

Matt Schmidt

Mary Tessmer

### Administrative Assistant

Maritza Moroney

### IT/Operations Manager

Rachelle Fenster

### Family Service Workers

Sheila Lynch

Fay McClurg

Krista Roys

### FSW Substitutes

Helen Findley

Mary Lloyd

### Child Care Substitutes

Caroline Burke

Laurie Christman

Carmen Essterich

Mercy Greenwald

Annette Kiesow