



a moment of peace / a piece of hope

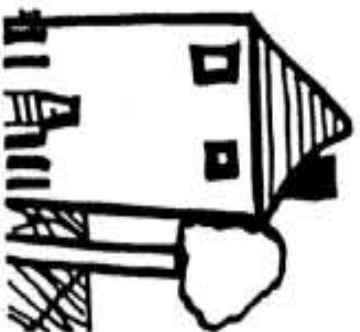
the Respite Center
2120 Forдем Ave.
Madison, WI 53704

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**2006
ANNUAL
REPORT**

the RESPIRE CENTER

A FAMILY CENTERS' AGENCY



**27 YEARS OF SERVICE
TO THE COMMUNITY**

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 their situation, 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 4 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.



"I had moved here from Hurricane Katrina about a year and a half ago. When I moved here I had many appointments where it was not child friendly. I knew they would be long appointments. I would bring my child to the Respite Center and not be stressed during the appointment time. Everyone treated me with respect and my child loves it there."

Parent Survey '06

During 2006, 663 children from 389 families received 24,057 hours of childcare.



One week at Respite: July 17 - 23 '06

Number of families	42	Ages of Children:	
Number of children	75	Birth – One	11
New families	4	Two – Three	21
New children	8	Four – Five	23
Families with no ties to DCDHS	32	Six – Eight	13
		Nine – Twelve	5
		Thirteen – Fourteen	1

Instances of Care (per family):

Respice Care	22	Racial/Ethnic Background of Children:	
Family Emergency	3	European American	28
Appointments	13	African American	20
Therapy	1	Hispanic/Latino	16
Hospitalization	0	Mixed	5
Parent working	1	Asian/Pacific Islander	5
Moving	1	Native American	1
Intake Interview	1		
DCDHS/police emergency	0		

2006 Budget

REVENUE

Dane County Department of Human Service	345,329
City of Madison Community Services Commission	127,571
United Way	122,814
Grants	42,892
Fundraising	52,245
Miscellaneous	3,021
Parent Fees	10,567
TOTAL REVENUE	\$719,374

EXPENSES

Personnel	\$616,041
Insurance	14,676
Professional Fees	15,080
Supplies	22,135
Telephone	3,604
Depreciation	3,335
Conference/ Training	2,717
Household/ Food	8,210
Miscellaneous	443
Rent	32,568
Fundraising	112
Assistance to Individuals	696
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$723,333

Excess of Revenue over Expenses 2004 \$ (3,759)



Director's Report 2006

"Having a functional physical space opens the door to look differently at how we live or operate within that space. Having financial security open up our capacity to think and imagine. 2005 was the year in which change and stability became potential for the Respite Center."
Director's Report 2005

2006 was a year in which the Respite Center staff settled in and started developing our potential. What does a successful agency do when it has been providing a needed service for 27 years, exceeding all expectations and still looking to improve? If we look at an agency as having a life cycle, it goes something like this:

Most people navigate adolescence/early adulthood through a combination of meaningful attachments, fortuitous instincts, and sheer luck. It is similar for an agency. We have done the right thing over the years because we have paid attention to what fosters resiliency in human beings and particularly in children; we have followed instincts about how to care for children and parents in crisis that have proven to be sound; and we have matured by reflecting upon an enormous amount of combined experience.

We have an outstanding staff, with a long record of service to the Respite Center. In our employee group, there is a core of 4 people who have worked here more than 18 years each. Another 5 have been taking care of children 9 - 10 years. The Director has led the agency for 22 years. This degree of longevity affords the community continuity in care, and a collective pooling of knowledge that is based on our day-to-day work with families in crisis. We have been doing what we do for a long time. We work with everybody, and we have learned a lot.

Now, as we have solidified our future with a new building, we have taken the next step in our work and are proceeding with intentionality. We are working to strengthen our core operations. Our sound intuitions made us leaders in providing a safe nurturing place for children and parents in crisis. As one comes of age, intuition is coupled with experience and reasoned intelligence. As a successful agency matures, excellence emerges through clarity and deliberateness in the work. By continuing to clearly articulate the lessons we have learned about families in crisis, we will strengthen our greatest asset, our staff; we will more purposefully build competencies in children and families; and we will fortify the relationships we have built over the years within the community.



Report from the Front: **Fay McClurg - Family Service Worker**

As a Family Service Worker at the Respite Center, the most important part of my job is supporting parents. I am one of four staff social workers who offer parents childcare, make referrals, and provide informal and crisis counseling. We offer parents childcare so they can take a much needed break or attend counseling or medical appointments. We also offer childcare while parents search for housing or employment. We are able to schedule childcare as space permits, taking into consideration the circumstances of the family and the needs of the children. In a typical week we helped:

** A mother of 3 - infant twins and a one year-old – wanted to get a night of sleep. When she brought her children she stayed awhile to talk. She's often alone with her 3 young children while her husband works. She had some concerns about the development of one of the babies. We offered her some information about normal child development and suggested an agency that could help address her concerns.*

** A father without a place to stay needed his children to come to the Respite Center for a night. He was hoping that the Salvation Army would have room for them the following night. We provided overnight care for his children as well as the phone numbers of other agencies that might help him find housing.*

** Dane County Human Services Department placed a child at the Respite Center until a foster home could be found. Allegations of child abuse prevented the child from going home. We worked closely with the Dane County social worker, as well as our own Childcare Specialists, to ensure a smooth transition for this child.*

Connie Stelzer

T

Rayla Temin
Pam Testin
Mary Anne Thurber
Molly Rose Tueke
James & Karen Troupis

U/V

Donna Ulteig
UW Office of the Registrar
Anne Ustad Smith
Vermont Valley Farm
Georgene Vitense
Cathy Vrentas & Family

W

David Weber & Trudy Karlson
Nancy Welch
West Madison Mom's Club
Westmorland Card Club
John Weston
Paul White
Barbara Wiesner
Wildwood Productions
John Wilson

Y/Z

Yogasong
James & Nancy Youngerman
James & Rose Zerwick
Jim & Mary Ann Zorko



Honorariums

IN HONOR OF:

Frederica Schilling's Retirementf

Fredericka Schilling
MMSD School Nurses

Hanna & Claire Berggren / Black's Birthday

Gerry & Vicky Benusa
Jennifer Black
Shane & Laura Brunner
Carlos & Amy Gonzelez
Rebecca Hayes
Michael & Shana Kellum
Glenn Lui & Jenny Liao
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William O'Brien
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Mary Thompson

Helen Koberstein

Mary Anne Ripple

Donna Lewis

Lucy Harr & Dave Lewis

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Lao Laan-Xang
La Samaritaine Community
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Neil Lerner & Judy Collins
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Carlos & Charlotte Lima
Kate Liu
Mary Lloyd
Peg Luby
Elizabeth Lynch
Gregory Lynch
Jim Lynch

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Claire Mangasarian
Marvel Mapes
Maureen Marshall
Mary Kay Dillon & Peter McCanna
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Michael Best & Friedrich
Bernard Micke
Midwest Billiards
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Paula & C.J. Miller
Jocelyn Milner & Mark Ediger
Tom Moen
Montessori Children's House
Stephen Morton
Earl & Eleanor Munson

M

N

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New Orleans Take-Out
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B.J. Obermeyer
Bill O'Connor

Office of the State
Public Defender
Glenn & Barbara Olson
Deb Onell
Kari Orn

O

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Robert Petershack
Donald & Marion Peterson
Erik Phelps
Kay Plantés
Kelly Pochant
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Jenny Pressman
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P

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Steven & Carla Ritt
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William Robertson
Dan & Sally Rossmiller

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Church
Marie Sieker & Rod Matthews
Judy Siefried
Katie Simon
Kate Simpson
Bob & Jo Skloot
Louis & Elsbeth Solomon
Charles Sommers
Spectrum Brand

S

** A single mother of 2 sons just added her 3 nieces to the family because their mother is in alcohol/drug treatment. She needed respite time to arrange her home for her newly expanded family. We scheduled a much-needed break for her and asked her about the children's latest accomplishments. They have been coming to the Respite Center for years and the whole staff has enjoyed watching these resilient children grow up.*

** A mother of 2 children she's raising alone called late at night. She works full time and goes to college. Exhausted and overwhelmed, she was totally despondent. She could not imagine living until the next day. After talking to her for two hours I got enough information so that the police could check on her safety. The officer called me later to tell me that they thought she'd be "ok" and that a friend was coming to help. The next morning I called Dane County Department of Human Services to ensure that they would offer her follow-up services.*

** A mother of 3 went to the hospital in an ambulance. The police called to see if we could take care of the children. They didn't want to leave them with their grandmother, who is mentally ill. The Respite Center cared for the children until the next day when another relative became available. We provided the family with information about using us in non-emergencies, too.*

The hardest part of the job is saying "no" to families with urgent childcare requests. We will offer childcare at another time, or counseling and referrals, but sometimes it doesn't seem to be enough. In a typical week, we are wishing we could do more:

** A father of a child with autism needed childcare for an important meeting at work. Both parents are worried about losing their jobs. Their son is often excluded from school and day care because his needs are so high. Although we couldn't honor their childcare request at the time, we offered to advocate with the school system so that the child's needs could be better met in the future.*

** A mother of 2 infants, who had a recent psychiatric hospitalization, desperately needed a break overnight. We had no overnight care to offer for a week. We scheduled respite care for her to look forward to and offered to call her if we had last minute changes in our schedule.*

Most of the time, what the Respite Center can offer IS enough. Parents tell us, time and again, that having the Respite Center as a resource is a tremendous relief. Parents know that they can depend on us for support, and that we will care for their children as soon as we are able. When parents tell us how much their children love the Respite Center, we know we are offering a place where children feel well cared for and happy. When we can offer the care that helps a parent to get the medical care they need, find a job, or take a much needed break, we know we are helping the whole family.



PLAYGROUND INSTALLATION

2006 Staff

Administrative Assistant

Maritza Moroney

Childcare Program Coordinator

Kristin Sage

Childcare Specialists

Chris Boehm
 Mercy Greenwald
 Amy James
 Jessica Meier
 Irma Montes
 Julia Murray
 Lola Ramos
 Matt Schmidt
 Ryan Singh
 Mary Tessmer

Childcare Substitutes

Hannah Diedrich
 Laura Di Julius

Mercy Greenwald

Annette Kiesow

De Juanna Rice

Ileana Rodriguez-Gunaratnam

Executive Director

Meg Miller

Family Service Workers

Sheila Lynch
 Fay McClurg
 Krista Roys

FSW Substitutes

Helen Findley
 Mary Lloyd

Program Development Specialist

Sharon Kilfoy

Stacey & Jeff Caplan
 Child Abuse Prevention Fund
 Cleveland's Diner
 Dorothy & Greg Conniff

C

Nancy Daly
 Mary Ann & Mike Damm
 Susan & Richard Davidson
 Fran DeGraff
 Jim & Betty Desnoyers
 Barbara Ditscheit

D

Larry Elfman
 Christine Elhom
 Marie Ely
 Thom Evans & Kim Miller
 Evjue Foundation

E

Karen Falkner
 Dennis Fay
 Leslie Fields
 Sherry & Tom Finkler
 Dan & Susan Finkelmeyer
 Tom & Linda Pauls Fleming
 John Franz
 John Frautschi

F

Elaine Gadzicki
 GE Foundation
 General CasualtySERVE
 Grant Program
 Claire Gervais
 Lynn Gilchrist
 Neil Gleason
 Alfonso Gonzalez
 Lulis delCastillo Gonzalez
 Good Family Foundation
 Laura & Jim Good
 Beverly Gordon & Steven Vedro
 Gerry Greenfield &
 Lauren Meyers
 Maureen Griffin & Max Weber

G

Juanita Halls
 Dolores Hambley
 Charles Hammer
 Beverly Hayes
 G. Heideman Gallery
 Jordan Hemaidan
 Marion Hill
 Linda & Jerry Hisgen
 Deborah Hobbins &
 David Mlandenhoff

H

Bob & Ginny Joyes
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 Helen Klibaner
 Herb Kohl Charities
 Steve Koslov & Mary Fulton
 John & Emily Kolman
 Rena Kornblum
 Doris Kox
 Joe & Pat Krantz

J/K



"You have been there to help in my desperate time of need when I've been hospitalized and had no other options. Now that our life isn't so chaotic, you've been there at least once a month for us. I don't know what I would have done without you."
 Parent Survey '06

2006 Donors

Every year our donor base expands and diversifies. We want to thank all who generously supported the Respite Center in 2006 and highlight a few donors to show the variety of ways people give.

Spectrum Brands Inc. gave the Respite Center \$2,856.00 from the proceeds of their sponsorship of the Frank Loin Wright cow, in the "Dazzle in Dairyland Cow Parade Wisconsin" auction.

Curt Brink continues to donate warehouse space to the Respite Center as we take our time deciding what to do with furniture, filing cabinets and fooforall left over from our move.

Fredericka Schilling chose the Respite Center to receive donations in her honor. She wrote:

"As a school nurse I saw the need for the work of the Respite Center so when I was asked what I would like as a retirement gift I requested that the nurses donate to the Respite Center."

The Berggren/Black family honored their daughters Hannah and Claire by asking guests at the girl's birthday party to donate to the Respite Center. One of their five-year-old friends brought her piggy bank savings as a gift.

" I found out about you when I was in crisis. I was left working full time without childcare. Your case managers acted quickly to provide me with enough coverage until a permanent solution was possible. Staff were timely, efficient and very compassionate. I was treated with such kindness when I was going through these difficult times. More importantly, my girls were cared for by a competent and caring staff. Thank you to an amazing group of people."
Parent



Absolutely Art
AFSCME Local 720
Alliant Energy Foundation
Allstate Foundation
Arts & Craftsman Supply
Ashley Furniture
Elizabeth & Richard Askey

A

Shawna & Emil Bertalot
Kerry Bolger
Amy Brandt
Bill and Dorothy Breisch
Curt Brink
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Robert Brooks
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Joanne Bunge
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Lianne Burnson
Deb Buss

Jim & Barbara Barnard
Michael Baumblatt, M.D.
Sandra Beaupre
Mary Benes & George Strother
Berggren/Black Family

B

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Associate Technologies

"My boys love the Respite Center! I recommend it to friends like myself who have no family locally. It is a great place where you don't have to worry about your kids getting good quality care. Also, your new center is fantastic! Please continue doing what you're doing. It is one thing that makes Madison a nice place to live." Parent Survey '06

2006 Volunteers

77 volunteers provided over 2118 total hours of service in 2006.

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 5,700 childcare hours in 2006.

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.

Many volunteer groups gave their time and energy to the Respite Center and Family Centers in 2006.

48 individuals from the following groups helped make our landscape and program space beautiful, clean and safe.

American Collegiate Adventures
MSCR Camp Possible
Hospice Social Workers
Black Hawk Church

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 2006!

Childcare Volunteers

Jennifer Baker
Debbie Buss
Rod Cambell
Mandi Croft
Kamala Dahal
Alison Davies
Elisabeth DeBoor
Johnna Dorshurst
Mallory Evans
Sherry Finkler
Joan Frost
Jenelle Fuller
Katie Habersbrunner
Nancy Gaedke
Chris Glad

Tina Gieschen
Katie Ingman
Mary Hegi
David Katz
Sehee Kim
Beverly LeBlanc
Nandini Lorenzsonn
Melissa Luther
Louise Meske
Camellia Mortezaazadeh
Melissa Reiland
Allison Tiefenthaler
Lois Tyler
Cathy Vrentas



2006 Donor Memorials

In Memory of James Brooks:

J. Matzer & J. Ballard
Regina & Steve Bieringer
James & Freda Blair
Veronica Bodoh
Carol Brown
Allison Coakley
Patricia Coakley
Judith & William Endle
Brandon & Stephanie Erickson-Brown
Geneva & Neal Ewers
Thomas & Phyllis Fass
Christine Hartl
Omer & Mary Jones
Donald Kiefer
Lois Audrey Nelson
Sonia Porter
Rev & Mrs. Arlee Powell
Jane Schmieding
Rebecca Schumann
Judy Swenson
Ron & Carole Wells
Erwin & Carol Welsch

In Memery of Gary Leckwee:

Homer & Joann Bellus
Tammy Boyd
Ruth Dalton
Marlynn Frankey
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