

CONNECTIONS

www.statelinefamilyservices.org

The mission of Family Services of Southern Wisconsin and Northern Illinois, Inc. is to restore, sustain, and enhance the lives of members of our community by providing an array of empowering services that focus on prevention, advocacy, case management, education, counseling and therapy.

OUR PROGRAMS»

BELOIT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SURVIVOR CENTER

(608) 364-1083 (608) 365-1119 24-hour help khood@familyservices1.org

CASA OF ROCK COUNTY

(608) 305-0187 casarc@familyservices1.org www.casarockcounty.org

FAMILY AND INDIVIDUAL COUNSELING

(608) 365-1244 jfruin@familyservices1.org

HOME COMPANION REGISTRY

(608) 856-0153 sguetschow@familyservices1.org

LIFE FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS

(608) 365-1244 cccs@familyservices1.org

SEXUAL ASSAULT RECOVERY PROGRAM (SARP)

(866) 666-4576 asunza@sarpwi.com www.sarpwi.com

YOUTH2YOUTH 4 CHANGE

(608) 313-9220 deptfk@aol.com www.rcy2y.com

IN THIS ISSUE»

Annual Luncheon 1
Starry Night2
Helping Hands Create Serenity3
Board Profile
Home Companion
Executive Director5
Staff Profile5
News In Brief6
News In Brief
Event Calendar

ANNUAL LUNCHEON BUILDING A BETTER BELOIT THROUGH POSITIVE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES»

OVERCOMING ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES AND FOSTERING RESILIENCE»



Family Services is very pleased to announce the keynote speaker for the Annual Luncheon will be Dr. Robert Sege. Dr. Sege, is a pediatrician, a professor of pediatrics at

Boston University, a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Child Abuse and Neglect and lead author of a new report "Balancing Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) With HOPE (Health Outcomes of Positive Experiences."

Dr. Sege speaks passionately about raising healthy children and preventing violence, bullying, abuse and neglect. "The future of our society is bright, and it rests with our children, who are the leaders, parents, citizens and workforce of the future. In turn, the well-being of our children is the responsibility of all of us. Current brain and social sciences have shed light on the impact of childhood adversity, risks and toxic and negative factors impacting healthy child development." Dr. Sege will speak to the importance of HOPE-Healthy Outcomes of Positive Experiences, a framework that studies and promotes positive child and family well-being.

"Balancing ACEs with HOPE" describes the role that experiences play in child development and the understanding of the power of positive encounters to mitigate the negative role played by adverse childhood experiences. Adverse experiences have demonstrably harmful results because during each stage of development, particularly in the crucial first there years of life and during adolescence, the basic architecture of the growing child's brain is established. The report speaks to how positive experiences and supportive relationships provide the buffering needed to allow children to withstand, or recover, from adverse experiences.

Dr. Sege speaks nationally and internationally, motivating his audiences to support parents, children and teens in realizing their hopes and dreams in order to promote resilience and eliminate adversity.

The luncheon will be Tuesday, September 26th from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Eclipse Center with lunch catered by Merrill & Houston. There will be no charge for the luncheon, however donations to Family Services and our programs are greatly encouraged and appreciated.

Reservations are required – the reservation deadline is September 20th. Please go to www.statelinefamilyservices.org under "events" to make your reservation on-line or call 608-365-1244

STARRY NIGHT HIGHLIGHTS»

April 8 was a wonderful evening. Our 2017 Annual Starry Night Dinner and Auction featuring the dueling pianos of Piano Fondue successfully raised \$25,000 to support Family Services and its programs. We are extremely grateful to our sponsors and attendees for their support.



Thank you to our Sponsors

Kerry, Regal, First National Bank and Trust, Stillman Bank, Rockford Bank and Trust, Finley Buick GMC, Angus Young, Tricor, Wisconsin Distributors and Wegner CPAs. Photos by Bill Mathis.



Anita Cosgriff, Courtenai Smith, Julie Thoren, Kimberly Bolin, and Terri Michelsen



The magic of Piano Fondue



Marline Holmes, Mary Howland and Bill Henderson



Board Member Lonnie Klecker selling raffle tickets



Dave McCabe, Andrea Gonstead and Kelly Jenkins



Dan Schooff and Rick Dexter



Joe and Dawn Stadelman with Jennifer Spiak



Steve Howland, Chuck Kincaid and Tom Warren

HELPING HANDS CREATE SERENITY »

Family Services is grateful to all those helping with the garden project »

Many generous hands have come together to continue work on the Serenity Garden located in Horace White Park.

The garden honors victims and survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault and abuse. Several dozen community members either donated materials or hands-on labor.

"The community support of this project is an excellent example of how much concern there is for many of the hidden victims among us," said Family Services Executive Director John Pfleiderer.

This spring, progress began on Phase One. The area was surveyed by Jennifer Hansen of Terra Yard Creations, and McMahon Construction donated excavation and grading services. Installation of the pergola posts and gravel was donated by Tom Ptacin, Jake McMahon and Jerry Klobucar.

Phase Two consisted of construction of the pergola which went up in early May. Wood from the pergola came from contributions from Family Services Board of Directors' "Board for Boards Initiative" as well as Nelson Young Lumber. Tom Finley, Tom Ptacin, Leo Mullooly, Curt Hansen, Dave Drevdahl, and Jerry Lewis all helped to build the pergola. Jeff Korbol of Ace Works Pattern Shop did the milling of the wood used for the pergola and Dan Taylor assisted with moving and delivering materials.

Family Services received a grant of more than \$4,000 the Sonnentag Foundation to cover the cost of hardscape such as the pavement and stones to build a retaining wall as well as the paths.

A 3-foot-tall stainless wind chime featuring the butterfly motif was made by a local artist Don Meyer and will be placed in the garden in a separate ceremony in late summer.

The garden plan incorporates the butterfly as a metaphor for the overcoming of and transcendence of the past. The design includes plants attractive to butterflies and will include mosaics of butterflies throughout the garden. Area garden clubs have stepped forward with volunteers to help with planting and tending.

If people want to make donations to the Serenity Garden they can visit www.statelinefamilyservices.org and go to the donate page or call Family Services at 608-365-1244. Financial donations are welcome as well as plant donations and donations of labor to help maintain the garden.





SIGNS YOUR LOVED ONE MAY BENEFIT FROM A HOME COMPANION »

Age sneaks up on us all and it is difficult to admit we can't do everything ourselves. Recognizing the need for help is the first step to getting support for yourself, your spouse, a parent, family member, or friend. Be aware of these signs that indicate something has changed and that you or a loved-one may need more assistance:

- Changes in mood or forgetfullness
- Spoiled / expired groceries that don't get thrown away
- Poor personal hygiene
- Dirty and/or disorganized house
- Trouble getting up from a seated position
- Missing appointments or forgetting to take medication
- Uncertainty and confusion when performing once-familiar tasks
- Poor diet or weight loss
- Loss of interest in hobbies and activities

If health or happiness seems to be compromised, it may be time to consider additional support, whether it's finding in-home care, a retirement community or a senior living facility. The Home Companion Registry, a program of Family Services, can help assess your family's needs. The program provides in-home care and support for as little as a few hours a week and as many as 24 hours a day. Companions help with meal preparation, transportation and errands, light housekeeping and much more. There are ways to improve quality of life while maintaining independence. Our caregivers will work with you to make life easier, less stressful and more enjoyable. Call the Home Companion Registry for more information at (608) 856-0153 or go to www.statelinefamilyservices.org/home-companion-registry.





BOARD PROFILE: BILL FLANAGAN»



Dr. Bill Flanagan is a long-time board member and current Vice President of Family Services. He will soon be retired from Beloit College where he served as Executive Advisor to the President, Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students over the past 37 years. His distinguished career at Beloit College and his commitment to the Beloit community is well recognized and appreciated.

Originally from Erie, Pennsylvania, Bill had many stops along the way to Beloit, where he and his wife Cathy finally settled and raised two sons, both of whom still reside in Beloit, along with their own children. "We are blessed with six wonderful grandkids we adore and love spending time with them whenever busy schedules allow," says Bill.

Bill's involvement in the community is deep, serving many organizations such as Beloit Regional Hospice, Our Lady of the Assumption, United Way, the Stateline Community Foundation, Chamber of Commerce, Beloit Economic Development Education Committee and the Beloit School District.

He first learned about Family Services while serving on the United Way's Budget Allocation Committee. "Through that process, I came to appreciate and value the role Family Services plays in helping those in our community most in need, at a point in their lives when they need professionals who genuinely care about them, are compassionate and able to help them put the pieces of their lives back together," explains Bill.

Bill acknowledges the challenges and rewards of serving on this board, knowing that Family Services make a difference in the lives of the most vulnerable, adding, "It's a real challenge for the agency to meet the needs of people who are falling through the increasingly-large gap in the safety net and to secure the resources necessary to address them."

When Bill is not at work or volunteering, he can be found serving as PA announcer for Beloit College football games, biking, golfing, exercising and spending time with his family.



John Pfleiderer Executive Director

FAMILY SERVICES BEGINS STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS »

Family Services is engaged in a strategic planning process to align their collective vision and strategies. The plan is designed to drive positive change and innovative ideas and address root causes of the challenges facing families and individuals in our community.

The Family Services' plan is based on input from an internal situational analysis generated by board and staff, research on nonprofit best practices, and disruptive changes and industry trends. External focus groups and client survey data was collected to inform the process. A Strategic Planning Team comprised of staff and board members drove the process with guidance of a facilitator, Pam Clark Reidenbach of the Northern Illinois Center for Nonprofit Excellence at Rockford University.

The team discussed a vision for the future of Family Services. The vision was created using a scenario approach that focused on the organization receiving an award from the City Manager and the Greater Beloit Chamber of Commerce in the presence of other social service organizations, volunteers, staff and board members. From this vision, common themes and critical issues to be addressed were identified. Focusing on these key issues, the team set five goals defining their course of action with strategies, action steps, accountability, timeline, financial impact and evaluation associated with each strategy.

Family Services' staff and board will work the plan over the next three years focusing on marketing, collaboration, sustainability, proactive leadership, and staff and board development.

STAFF PROFILE» Debbie Fischer Director of Youth2Youth





Debbie Fischer has been the Director for Youth2Youth 4 Change for 23 years and feels honored to have the position. "I absolutely love my job. The most rewarding part is the opportunity to work with young people and help shape their decisions about substance abuse and making life choices. The true reward is seeing them become adults who continue to make good decisions about substance use and attribute this to the Youth2Youth program."

Debbie was raised near Orfordville but has lived in the Beloit area since 1976. She initially became involved with Family Services when her daughter, who was born with multiple birth defects, needed to go to Boston for medical care. "Family Services at that time had financial help for travel expenses and we turned to them for assistance and later for family mental health help. They were a huge support to me not only personally but professionally as well." She professionally became involved with Family Services as the fiscal agent for Youth2Youth from the time the coalition began in 1991.

"I admire the diversity of services offered by Family Services to the City of Beloit and Rock County." The biggest challenge for Youth2Youth she feels is "the constant emergence of new drugs and the acceptance of drug use by some adults and social media, which has created an unhealthy social message to our youth." Despite these challenges, Debbie "truly believes we can educate and shape healthy options for our young people if we reach them early."

In addition to her work with Y2Y, Debbie is involved with Stateline Community Crime Stopppers, Optimist Club/Just Say No Club, Rock County Health Department HEAR, YES Youth Emotional Stability Program, Rock County Prevention Network, and the Wisconsin Youth Alliance.

When not working or volunteering Debbie can be found in her horse barn or pasture or with any of her 12 grandchildren. She currently lives in South Beloit, is married to her best friend, has 5 children and 1 great grandchild. She also has family in Haiti where she is a co-sponsor of a sponsorship program at an orphanage and school.

NEWS IN BRIEF»



Beloit Domestic Violence Survivor Center

PAINT NIGHT

The Beloit Domestic Violence Survivor Center held its first paint night fundraiser on May 18, 2017. Thank you to Doodles and Nikole Wagner for the wonderful event and to the Thirsty Badger for the space... a good time was had by all!!

SARP TO WORK WITH WCASA AND AG ON UNTESTED **RAPE KIT BACKLOG PROJECT »**

The Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault (WCASA) and sexual assault victim advocates, such as SARP (Sexual Assault Recovery Program) have been working with the Attorney General's Sexual Assault Response Team (AG SART) since 2012 to address the prevalence of untested rape kits.

The goal is the creation of a coordinated community response that ensures just resolution to these cases whenever possible through a victim-centered approach. These untested kits located throughout the state have vet to be sent to a crime lab for processing. The kits have been "sidelined" for a variety of reasons, including prosecutors deciding cases were too weak or costly to pursue or cases were resolved without the need for testing at that time.



SARP Team: Stacy Stackhouse, Esmerelda Durbin, Lacresha Graves and seated, Amanda Isunza.



Family Services' Sexual Assault Recovery Program is looking forward to working on this project on behalf of victims.

Women's Empowerment Art Show!!!!!!



Hosted by the BDVSC, the goal of this art show and sale is to put the spotlight on local women artists and raise funds for the BDVSC and their many services.

The artists are donating their artwork for display and sale with the proceeds benefiting the BDVSC.

Artists interested in participating and donating artwork may use this link to register:

https://goo.gl/forms/pcvwZnGYfpbapEvo1

NEWS IN BRIEF»

CASA OF ROCK COUNTY

CASA of Rock County celebrated 9 new volunteers with swearing-in ceremonies, officiated by Judge Bates, in early June.









CASA of Rock County participated in Legislation Day on Wednesday, May 10th at the Wisconsin State Capitol.

CASA Bike Night»

CASA of Rock County is hosting a **Bike Night** at the Randi Kutter Pavillion at Boardtracker Harley



Davidson in Janesville on Tuesday, August 22nd at 5 pm. Bike Night is a weekly summer event with food, live entertainment and prizes that will benefit CASA of Rock County. The Dirt Road Rebelz, a local country band, will be performing and there are

already some great raffle prizes lined up including four tickets to the Bears vs.

Green Bay Packer's game at

Soldier Field on November 12th!







"LITTLE" LITTLE FREE LIBRARY »

Students from Merrill Elementary School and representatives from the Beloit Public Library, School District of Beloit, Family Services and Wisconsin First Lady, Tonette Walker, gather in front of the newly installed "Little" Little Free Library at Merrill after a program encouraging kids to keep reading during the summer months.

Be sure to stop by some of the other locations with little libraries that are just for kids!

Go to <u>www.statelinefamilyservices.org/</u>little-free-library-initiative for details.



Family Services of Southern WI and Northern IL, Inc. 416 College Street » Beloit, WI 53511 » (608) 365-1244



UPCOMING EVENTS»

BELOIT DOMETIC VIOLENCE SURVIVOR CENTER

JUNE 24 SHOP FOR A CAUSE AT K. PAIGE FUNDRAISER

10am-4pm 10684 Main Street, Roscoe, Illinois

JULY 14 LGBTQ INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE SUPPORT GROUP

5pm-6pm Contact Stephanie

for more information 608-364-1083

AUGUST 24 & 25 WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT ART EXHIBIT AND ART SALE

5pm Friday & 10am-3pm Saturday Beloit Fine Arts Incubator

CASA
AUGUST 22
BIKE NIGHT FUNDRAISING EVENT

5 pm Randi Kutter Pavillion at Boardtracker Harley Davidson

5 pili Kalidi Kutter Favillion at Doardtracker Harley Davidsor

Janesville.

For more information go to www.casarockcounty.org/event

FAMILY SERVICES

SEPTEMBER 26 FAMILY SERVICES ANNUAL LUNCHEON

11am-1pm For more information and to RSVP,

see front page article

To find out more about Family Services

Donate, see our volunteer opportunities,

read our 2016 Annual Report, receive our newsletter via

email or contact us...

please go to www.statelinefamilyservices.org.

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS»

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