

The Center for Family Unity, Inc.



*Strengthening Families
Through Caring*



**National Exchange
Club Foundation**



Preventing Child Abuse . . . Serving America

January 2007

Dear Exchange Club Members:

In an effort to communicate with the many Exchange Club members in the Lake Erie District who have generously supported the Center for Family Unity over the years in so many ways, we have decided to prepare a quarterly update that can be shared with all the Exchange Clubs in the district. As this is our very first issue, it will be a general overview of the the services that the Center has to offer, along with information about our staff and board.

We will be putting this little newsletter/report together every quarter throughout the year, so if you or your club would like to see more specific information about a topic or a program, please feel free to let us know. We will be sure to include contact names, numbers, e-mails, etc., so that our services will be more accessible to you.

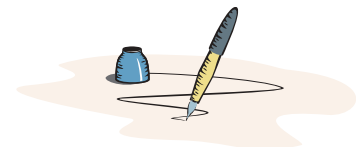
In addition, please remember that Center staff and board members are more than willing to come meet with your club to share the news about what we are doing, who we are serving, and what we might be planning for the future.

We will be sending several copies of this report to every Exchange Club in the district. Please feel free to make extra copies to share with all your members, or let us know if you would like us to send you additional printed copies. We would like to take every effort to make sure that all Exchange Club members are up-to-date on Center Services.

We look forward to hearing your feedback and working more closely with you throughout the year.

Linda Riggs

Executive Director



Board of Directors

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Terry Hahn - Vice President

John Cappellini - Secretary

Terry Benca - Treasurer

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Grey Fitzpatrick

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Center Staff

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Donna Chubon- Fundraising

Lynda Chudy - Family Consultant

Sally Keppel - Visitation Monitor

Margaret Parry - Family Consultant

Carmen Rhim - Family Consultant

John Trout - Family Consultant/

Chautauqua County Program Manager

THIS AGENCY SUPPORTED BY



of Cattaraugus County

The Center for Family Unity, serving as the Lake Erie District Exchange Club for the Prevention of Child Abuse, is a private non-profit organization chartered under the National Exchange Club Foundation. The Center for Family Unity provides services throughout the Lake Erie District.

Programs Offered by the Center for Family Unity

Home Visiting Program – *The Center provides child abuse prevention services and parent education through its home visiting program. Trained Family Consultants visit homes of referred families on a weekly or bi-weekly basis providing education and support to families. Family Consultants provide parents with information regarding ages and stages of child development, setting limits and boundaries, establishing family routines, using appropriate discipline techniques, using age appropriate discipline, stress and coping techniques, problem solving skills, and more. Family Consultants also work with other agencies, making referrals and appropriate connections, to make sure the needs of each family are being met.*

Supervised Visitation - *The Center provides supervised visitation services for parents requiring some type of supervision when visiting with their children. This includes parents who have children in foster care, parents undergoing custody disputes, or parents in need of supervision with their children for a variety of other reasons. Family Consultants are available to supervise one or two hour sessions with families at various locations throughout our service area. Visits may take place in public or private settings, depending upon need. The Center currently contracts with the Departments of Social Services in both Cattaraugus and Chautauqua Counties to provide these services.*

Active Parenting – Parent Education Classes – *Classes in Cattaraugus County are held in Salamanca and Olean; classes in Chautauqua County are held in Jamestown; classes in Allegany County are held in Friendship. Classes run in seven week cycles and cover topics such as styles of parenting, active communication, problem solving, effective discipline techniques, punishment vs. discipline, re-directing misbehavior, building family cooperation, the power of encouragement, and more.*

Strengthening Fathers Initiative - *This is a pilot program in New York State offered in Chautauqua County that offers parent education and visitation services to non-custodial fathers who are in the process of finding employment and reengaging in the child support process. Referrals are received through court, other human service agencies, employment and training facilities and other sources. The Center partners with Chautauqua County Department of Social Services, Cornell Cooperative Extension and Ross IES to provide these services.*

Family Support Services for the Developmentally Disabled - *The Center has been contracting with the Western New York Developmental Disabilities Services Office for many years to provide parent education services to parents who have a developmental disability or for parents who have children with a developmental disability.*

Parent Education and After School Programming - *The Center contracts with the Salamanca City Central School District in Cattaraugus County to provide parent education programming to the district as well as after school programming to middle school students. The Center is currently the community based partner with the school under two New York State grants.*

Questions? Contact us at...

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