On May 26th, the Young Executives Committee (YEC), a volunteer group that works to raise awareness and funds for The Family Center, held their first annual fundraiser at Freight 410 in Chelsea. 150 people were in attendance to enjoy good company, lively bidding in our silent auction and great music. The team worked incredibly hard to create an exciting social event to kick off the summer season, and they raised $25,000 in support of the Buddy Program. Special thanks to YEC for a job well-done!

Lakota, a beautiful 6-bedroom lodge located on 8 acres of land near Callicoon, NY, was built by special friends, Bill Schwinghammer and Barry Mackall. Bill and Barry are graciously donating the lodge and working with TFC to host children and families for weekend retreats and workshops. Their vision is to create an environment where kids can find their own voices. Some of the activities available at Lakota are outdoor hiking, art projects, dance lessons in their state-of-the-art dance studio, fireplace chats, river rafting, and wood-working class. Our most recent trip to Lakota was with a youth dance and music group helping guests explore movement, voice and to experience the world of Broadway.

Our most recent Teen Scene included a trip to the Museum of Television and Radio to attend a Film Slam. Participating as part of a voting panel, our teens reviewed and rated film clips submitted by other New York City teens. Our next Teen Scene will explore street gangs, and help teens to consider why gangs exist, to separate the fantasy of gangs from the reality and to prepare for how they will handle their own decisions if they are asked to join one. Teen Scene is one of The Family Center’s most successful programs, as evidenced by the attendance, the enthusiasm and the sense of connection it has created amongst our teens.
Summer Camp

Every year The Family Center sends more and more children to sleep-away Summer Camp. Beginning this July, we are sending 54 campers to three summer camps in upstate New York. For 30 of our campers, it will be their first time away from home, and we, along with the more seasoned campers, will help them through their feelings of nervousness and excitement. The children will be given postcards to write home and disposable cameras to create memories of their fun adventures and new friends.

The Moth

This past fall, TFC started an exciting new venture with The Moth. The Moth is a non-profit organization whose mission is to spread the joys of storytelling through various venues. Their outreach program provides a unique forum for participants to tell stories about their lives. Some of our clients completed a 5-week workshop, after which two of our participants shared their stories in front of over 250 people at The Players Club on Gramercy Park. Their stories were met with tears and enthusiastic cheers! Our clients have expressed a sense of accomplishment to advance their storytelling skills to promote TFC’s mission.
Since our inception in 1994, TFC has established comprehensive services that have touched over 3500 individuals affected by illnesses such as AIDS and cancer. Our programs include:

**Social Services**

The social work team at The Family Center helps families cope with the stresses of a serious parental illness. We help parents at every stage of the process; deciding how or when to inform their children of their health status, identifying prospective caregivers for their children and developing custody plans that respect everyone’s wishes. Throughout this process, often called permanency planning, we also provide comfort and assistance and offer mental health counseling for individuals and families.

**Legal Services**

To exercise control over the future of their children, parents with life-threatening illnesses need an attorney to represent them in court. The Family Center provides clients with the expert legal counsel they need to legalize custody plans and to prepare health directives.

**Mediation**

In some families, a mediator is needed to resolve issues that are getting in the way of strengthening plans for their children’s futures. As a neutral third-party facilitator, the mediator’s approach is particularly helpful for families with high levels of volatility. This innovative process creates a context for issues to be discussed in a safe and direct way for children, parents and caregivers.

**Volunteer Programs**

The Volunteer Program offers many opportunities to work directly with children and families. Our signature program, the Buddy Program, matches children ages 6 to 17 with adult volunteers who provide friendship, outings, activities, support and positive role models. Volunteers spend 6–10 hours a month, one-on-one with children. The Family Center arranges and subsidizes group activities throughout the year for volunteers and children.

Our newly developed professional mentoring program allows children ages 14 to 19 the opportunity to explore different careers by interning with volunteers at select companies. Children work for up to 6 hours a month learning a craft or business such as catering, book publishing, finance or law.

Additionally, volunteers may accompany children or families on weekend retreats to a beautiful lodge, “Lakota,” in upstate New York for specialized learning.

**Groups**

The Family Center runs a number of groups geared toward special interests and needs of our clients. For example, Teen Scene is a monthly Saturday drop in group for all Family Center teens (ages 13 to 18 years old). The purpose is to provide opportunities for socialization, exploration and discussion of relevant
topics and occasional recreation for our community of teenagers. Teenagers often do not have enough opportunity to express themselves and to connect with other teens in a setting outside of school or their families. Our yoga group meets at different times throughout the year for 4–6 weeks. Yoga teaches meditation and visualization, and enhances flexibility and strength, helping our families relax and find ways to cope with stress and illness.

**Camping Experiences**

Everyone deserves the chance to explore the world outside of the city. TFC sends children to sleepaway camps each summer. We buy camping gear, orient the kids to what it’s like to be away from home, and give the parents and children an opportunity to be apart.

The Family Center’s weekend camping trips help parents and their adolescent children strengthen and enrich their relationships. Camping encourages cooperation and trust through therapeutic, fun activities such as outdoor adventures, art projects and family team-building games.
Ten Facts about TFC

1. In 1994, The Family Center began serving families affected by serious illnesses such as AIDS and cancer. We became an independent non-profit agency in 1997.

2. It is estimated that over 60,500 children have been orphaned by AIDS and cancer in New York City.

3. The Family Center has an annual budget of $3.7 million (78% government funding and 15% foundation and 7% private), an increase of 9% in the last fiscal year.

4. The Family Center has a staff of 44 professionals, 36% of whom are bilingual in English/Spanish.

5. 95% of the families we serve live below the poverty line.

6. Of our clients, 52% are Latino, 40% are African American, 2% are Caucasian, and 6% are unidentified.

7. Our families have an average of three children; only one out of ten of these children is HIV-positive.

8. Most of our social and legal services are provided in the client’s home.

9. The Family Center has served over 3,500 parents and children since our inception.

10. All of The Family Center’s services are free, confidential and bilingual.

The Family Center Statement of Activities
For Year Ended June 30th, 2003
(With comparative totals for 2002)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue and other support</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2003</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Government grants</td>
<td>$2,407,506</td>
<td>$2,742,942</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>473,971</td>
<td>852,041</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest Income</td>
<td>6,026</td>
<td>11,347</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td>56,206</td>
<td>69,792</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total revenue and other support</td>
<td>2,943,709</td>
<td>3,676,122</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social services</td>
<td>1,669,355</td>
<td>1,969,050</td>
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<tr>
<td>In-home legal services</td>
<td>398,248</td>
<td>557,895</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outreach</td>
<td>166,153</td>
<td>205,760</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Program Services</td>
<td>2,233,756</td>
<td>2,732,705</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

| Supporting Services       |          |          |
| Management and general    | 554,555 | 549,041  |
| Total Expenses            | 2,788,311 | 3,281,746 |
| Change in net assets      | 155,398  | 394,376  |

Revenue: 1998-2003

Expenses: 1998-2003
The Family Center Donors  We gratefully acknowledge the generous support of the following donors whose gifts were received between July 1, 2003 and June 30, 2004. If your name is not listed correctly, please accept our apologies and let us know.

$450,000
The Robin Hood Foundation

$55,000
Nina Collins and Marek Fludzinski

$20,000 to $25,000
Levi Strauss Foundation
Marc and Joan Sherman

$10,000 to $15,000
Edward S. Moore Foundation
Hill and Gloria Farber
Benedict P. Morelli
Seedco Foundation

$5,000 to $9,999
The American Express Foundation
Broadway Cares
Merrill Lynch and Company
New York Mercantile Exchange Charitable Foundation
NICO Foundation
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Dimitri Raitzin
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Bessie Sylvane
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Ruth Abram
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Federica Tondato
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Trilogy Photo
Leslie Tylersmith
G. Bridgette Vidunas
Raymond Wagner
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Suzanne West
David Whipple
Travis Wilson
Yik Wong
Elizabeth Yates
Dixon Yee
Lester Young
Dennis Young and
Sarah Spagnola Young
Gloria and Abbey Zalaznick
Margaret and
Jeffery Zelkowitz

Many generous individuals gave in-kind gifts
and donations up to $100 to The Family Center. We regret not being able to list all of our
supporters, but are very grateful for these important contributions. Thank you all for sharing in our work.
As we look to the future and continue our work with families affected by serious illness I see a number of priorities. Since we are funded mostly by government grants, one of our most daunting tasks is to face a precarious funding landscape with fortitude. We must raise our profile in order to reach out to more families, teach others to replicate our model, and increase funding from a wider variety of supporters. Our task is large and our families have many complicated needs, but they are resilient and inspire us to collaborate with them toward a better future.

I look forward to continuing my service as Chair of the Board and partnering with you to make The Family Center a nationally recognized model for ensuring the future well-being of children.

Regards,

Nina Collins

Nina Lorez Collins, Chair
Soo-Jin Cho
Michelle B. Davila, Esq.
Barbara Draimin, dsw
Ivy Gamble Cobb, cs

Lystra Batchoo, Chair
Ameya Bijoor
Kristin Braun Connelly
Kameron Kordestani
Angela Lockhart

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Roma Downey
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John Kander

David S. Mazza, md
Minesh P. Mistry
Samuel & Judith Peabody
Robert Scott
Grant Shaud
And Now We Are 10!

Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

Ten years ago, when The Family Center opened our doors, who could have imagined all we would become? Since then, we have served more than 3,500 parents, children and new caregivers. Our team, which started with four of us, is now 44, and our budget has grown from $41,000 to $3.7 million! We have retained and expanded our home at 66 Reade Street, thanks to the help of our wonderful landlord, Jean Hieber, and have added a second office in Bedford Stuyvesant, Brooklyn.

But birthdays are also times for wishes and dreams. We dream of expanding services to help families attain economic independence and self-sufficiency; to launch a vital social enterprise venture to help us become more self-sustaining; and to share the lessons and wisdom we have gained with other programs nationally and internationally. My fondest dream is that The Family Center will be able to share our lessons to make a difference in the lives of families facing AIDS in other nations.

Most of all, birthdays are a time to count one’s blessings. Our blessings are the families and children we serve and the growing family of volunteers and donors who inspire us every day. Thank you for your commitment, caring, and generosity!

Sincerely,

Barbara Draimin

Barbara Draimin, DSW
inside:

What’s Happening Now
TFC’s Programs
Financial Report
Generous Donors

We try to avoid sending duplicates of our mailings. If for some reason you received more than one annual report, let us know. In the meantime, please give your extra copy to a friend.

CONTACT THE FAMILY CENTER
1.800.219.4522  www.thefamilycenter.org

IN MANHATTAN:  IN BROOKLYN:
66 Reade Street  584 Nostrand Avenue, 2nd Fl
New York, NY 10007  Brooklyn, NY 11216

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Well, now you can—just by shopping for your favorite things on www.igive.com—a fun, easy way to help TFC while shopping for the things you need and want anyway. This online mall offers safe and secure shopping at popular online retailers. All you have to do is register at www.igive.com for a free membership and start shopping . . . TFC is already listed with the site. The percentages donated from your purchases are tax deductible, and can be tracked on the site.