



# THE FAMILY CENTER

*Newsletter 2007–2008*



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*Amy Yates Capone, Chair*  
*Barbara Blakney*  
*Soo-Jin Cho*  
*Ivy Gamble Cobb, LMSW*  
*Read S. Hubbard, Esq.*  
*Pearline Lounds*  
*Lyle Monteserrato*  
*Richard Osterweil*  
*Joseph Ruggiero, MD*  
*Joseph Tringali, Esq*

## ADVISORY BOARD

*Barbara Andres*  
*Roma Downey*  
*Barbara Drainin, DSW*  
*Robin F. Goodman, PhD*  
*Bill T. Jones*  
*John Kander*  
*David S. Mazza, MD*  
*Minesh P. Mistry*  
*Samuel & Judith Peabody*  
*Robert Scott*  
*Grant Shaud*

## JUNIOR BOARD

*Lyle Monteserrato, Chair*  
*Jennifer DeCastro, Vice-Chair*  
*Erika Beck, Secretary*  
*Danielle Aque*  
*Beau Avril*  
*Cristina Buzovi*  
*Howard Chang*  
*Alison Devenny*  
*Petar Dudukovski*  
*Brian Gallagher*  
*Molly Hartman*  
*Kate Helfet*  
*Laura Hughes*  
*Anastasia Kim*  
*Carroll Leatherman*  
*Vladimir Luzader*  
*Tiffany Marsh*  
*Noel Monteserrato*  
*Leigh Morbey*  
*Katie Parent*  
*Tina Passalacqua*  
*Jason Perloth*  
*Carrie Petri*  
*Megan Randolph*  
*Danielle Raymond*  
*Lauren Sbordone*  
*Catherine Stones*  
*Clark Wen*  
*Yating Yu*  
*Jessica Zachary*

---

# Contents

A Message from Our Chair	1
Letter from TFC Leadership	2
Home, Sweet Home	3
Housewarming	4
Three of Hearts	5
Helping The Family Center BLOOM and grow...	6
The Linda Stein Memorial Fund at The Family Center	7
The Family Center loves our corporate volunteers!	8
Group Therapy at TFC: Let's get together!	9
Our Clients Vote	10
We Sang and Danced the Night Away!	10
Did you know? The Family Center performs research!	11
Family Center Profiles	12
The Family Center Volunteers	14
The Family Center Financial Supporters	16

## A Message from Our Chair

---



When The Family Center Board of Directors asked me to serve as Chair, I was honored to agree. For me, our children's question: "Who will take care of me?" sums it all up. What is more important than building a secure future for a child?

The Family Center mission is not the only reason that I so readily agreed to serve as Chair. Unlike many nonprofits, The Family Center stretches supporters' donations to the fullest possible extent. Our staff's passion, business acumen and stellar leadership make our programs more effective and efficient. When you support The Family Center, you can rest assured that your contribution is being used wisely to help children whose parents face life-threatening illnesses.

In 2008, there will be lots of opportunities to support The Family Center. As we settle into our new Manhattan home at 315 West 36th Street, we will be continuing our Capital Campaign. On May 8th, the Junior Board will again host BLOOM at the Union Square Ballroom. As the year goes on, don't forget to visit our website to find out about our latest events: [www.thefamilycenter.org](http://www.thefamilycenter.org).

When you read this Family Center newsletter, think about your plans for this year. I invite you to share in my New Year's resolution: Help build a secure future for a child.

Sincerely,  
Amy Yates Capone  
Board Chair

# Letter from TFC Leadership

---



Dear Friends and Supporters:

As many of you know, we moved our Manhattan offices this past autumn. Our new home is at 315 West 36th Street (between 8th and 9th Avenues). We are excited to be in our new space. In the construction of our new home, we were determined that The Family Center remain a warm, comfortable place for our children and families. We have used our relocation as an opportunity to renew our commitment to providing families with the best services possible. Many of the details in the new space were included based on recommendations from our client families.

We were saddened to leave 66 Reade Street, which had been our home since 1992, but look forward to working out of our new office. We are especially grateful to Jean Hieber and her late husband Bill who took a chance on renting to a brand new non-profit back in 1992. Not only did Jean and Bill keep our rent well below market rates thereby allowing us to target more of our funding to direct client services, but they have been long time donors, supporting our work with families. While we will no longer physically be at 66 Reade Street, the Hieber family will forever remain a part of our family.

Relocating an agency is a huge undertaking. Capital campaigns are often years in the making. In 18-months, through capital grants and donations from our annual fundraiser BLOOM, we are well on the way to our goal of raising \$500,000. We are so thankful to the

donors that have supported our relocation efforts. Some current funders that supported our move include: Robin Hood, Broadway Cares, the law firm of Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP, and the Steven & Alexandra Cohen Foundation. Some new funders who came on board to support our relocation include: The Hyde & Watson Foundation, The News Corporation Foundation, and Rosenblatt Securities.

In the following pages, you will read about Family Center volunteers and corporate supporters, who share our commitment to New York's ill parents and their children. Their dedication is evident in the article about BLOOM 2007. We are especially thankful to our BLOOM sponsors including HighBridge Capital Management, Tri Star Construction, and many other companies whose sponsorship was key to our exceeding our goals for the event (see page 7 for a complete list of our BLOOM sponsors). We also discuss our research projects, which ensure that we provide families with effective services that have been proven to work.

Wherever we live, The Family Center will continue serving children and families in the best way we know how. As a supporter, you help us do this. Throughout the year, you paint our children's faces at The Family Center Annual Holiday Party, you take our families to the zoo or you simply make a monetary donation. We are extremely grateful for all of this. And as we settle into our new home, we cannot forget the people who helped us get there. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Joseph Tringali, Esq.  
Outgoing Board Chair

Ivy Gamble Cobb, LMSW  
Executive Director

# Home, Sweet Home



Have you heard? The Family Center Manhattan office has moved! After residing at 66 Reade Street for 15 years, we have relocated to 315 West 36th Street, off Eighth Avenue. On November 12th of 2007, we happily unpacked our boxes, rolled up our sleeves and got to work in our new home.

Our new home has a lot to offer. For one, we have more space for group therapy sessions. We can offer more groups and allow more people to attend them. We also have a dedicated play therapy room filled with new toys. In this space, our social workers make sure that our children can be themselves and feel safe at the same time.

We have a computer with internet access in our reception area. This way, clients waiting to meet with their attorney, social worker or family coordinator can read the news or surf the web. And once they are ready for us, we have more rooms for their counseling sessions.

Also a plus in our new home, everyone is located on one floor. Now our families don't have to traipse up and down the stairs to go from a group room to a consultation room. Most importantly, we all see one another more often! That not only helps us work

together better, but also helps our staff members, who don't get to visit our families, meet more of the people we serve.

The best part about moving to our new home was working with the individuals, foundations, and corporations that helped us get here. Some donors to our Capital Campaign include: Broadway Cares, The Hyde & Watson Foundation, The News Corp Foundation, Robin Hood, The Steven & Alexandra Cohen Foundation, and the law firm of Simpson, Thacher & Bartlett.

We hope that you consider supporting us as we settle into our new home. Our rent has more than doubled, and we have many expenses that we still must cover. There are several ways to help us in our new home, where you can even name a room after a loved one! Supporters can make a secure online donation on our website at [www.thefamilycenter.org](http://www.thefamilycenter.org), where they can also visit our relocation blog to see more photos of our new home.

Many thanks to all of you who have donated to our Capital Campaign! It is because of supporters like you that home is ever so sweet.

# Housewarming



On January 31st, The Family Center welcomed over 80 honored guests into our new home on 315 West 36th Street. Throughout the reception, our supporters were given tours by Family Center youth, who were able to speak about their various experiences with The Family Center, including Family Pride Camp and the Buddy Program. Remarks were made by Executive Director, Ivy Gamble-Cobb, and Board Chair, Amy Yates Capone, but the stars of the night were our client speakers, Alantheia and William.

Their words touched everyone in attendance, as they spoke of the passion and love they have for The Family Center. The night was capped off with a performance by our Capoeira group. This youth group practices the traditional Brazilian martial art of Capoeira as a means to both work through their personal issues and to learn about the history and culture of the martial art.

The Family Center would like to thank everyone who supported us through the relocation. After over a year of hard work and effort, The Family Center is finally home.

Counterclockwise, left to right: Founding Executive Director of The Family Center, Barbara Draimin, with current Executive Director, Ivy Gamble-Cobb; Family Center Board Chair Amy Yates Capone with representatives from Robin Hood; NYS Department of Health AIDS Institute representative Wanda Jones-Robinson with Family Center youth and Ivy Gamble-Cobb; Family Center youth with Junior Board member Jason Perloth and Melody Serafino, whose company The Rosen Group, participates in The Family Center Holiday Gift Drive; Ivy Gamble-Cobb and her mother Anna Gamble, in whose honor, along with Ivy's father James Gamble, a room was named.

## Three of Hearts



On the evening of Saturday, February 9th, more than 150 people gathered at Joes' Pub at the Public Theater for Three of Hearts. Aptly named, Three of Hearts involved three fantastically talented performing artists: Beth Arentsen, Mark Lee and Lindsey Wilson –all singing their hearts out for The Family Center. While the talent of the evening lay in the three performer's generous hearts, the brain behind the event was Christian Wikane, who was solely responsible for its production. All ticket sales benefitted The Family Center and a grand total of \$3,000 was raised. The Family Center is incredibly grateful to Beth, Mark, Lindsey and Christian for donating their time and resources to support our work.

From left to right: The Family Center Deputy Executive Director Jan Hudis, Three of Hearts performer Mark Lee, The Family Center Executive Director Ivy Gamble-Cobb, Three of Hearts performer Beth Artensen, Three of Hearts performer Lindsey Wilson, and Three of Hearts producer Christian Wikane.

Photo credit: Craig Bailey/Perspective Photo

# Helping The Family Center BLOOM and grow...



Top row: Nicole Phillips, Petar Dudukovski, Jason Perloth, Lyle Monteserrato, Davie Reilly, Danielle Raymond, Karen Sadler, Clark Wen, Kate Helfet, Megan Randolph. Front row: Lauren Huston, Erika Beck, Yating Yu, Tina Passalacqua, Katie Parent



BLOOM Sponsor Brad Zizmor of a + i with Family Center Board Chair Amy Yates Capone



Family Center Deputy Executive Director Jan Hudis with BLOOM Sponsor Carri Lyon of Cushman & Wakefield



Family Center Special Projects Manager Dave Nimmons with Board Chair Amy Yates Capone and BLOOM Sponsor Jack Irushalmi of TriStar Construction Corp.

On June 7th, The Family Center hosted our fourth annual fundraiser – BLOOM 2007. The event, organized by our Junior Board, raised more than \$65,000, which was double the prior year's proceeds! All proceeds for the event were targeted to help us move to our new quarters on 36th Street.

The Union Square Ballroom provided the backdrop for fun and successful event. More than 250 guests attended, spent the evening laughing, visiting and enjoying a full course dinner, cocktails. There was fevered bidding on a number of silent auction items, ranging from Mets vs. Yankees tickets to a custom-designed sundress. One lucky winner won a privately catered dinner for four from Chef & Company. The silent auction contributed almost \$10,000 to the proceeds. No guest went home empty handed, though, as each one left

the event with a Victoria's Secret gift bag filled with Redken products, Starbucks coffee and yummy hand-made pastries by Jennifer Lou.

Highbridge Capital, BLOOM's generous lead sponsor, contributed significantly to the evening's success, along with other sponsors including TriStar Construction Corp. In addition to this support, Junior Board member Danielle Aque organized her own fundraiser with her Lehman Brothers colleagues in Jersey City. The proceeds from that event generated more than \$7,000 and in support of BLOOM.

BLOOM 2007 lived up to its name. A thrilling success for us, it was testament to the amazing hard work of our Junior Board. With our Junior Board members, we thank our sponsors, silent auction and goody bag donors, volunteers and

all who attended. Not only did you contribute to a great event, but it's a lasting gift. Our new home on 36th Street will be all the more beautiful because of everyone's generous support!



## BLOOM 2007 Sponsors

*Rose Sponsor*  
Highbridge Capital  
Management LLC

*Lily Sponsor*  
TriStar Construction Corp.

*Daisy Sponsor*  
BTQ Financial

Carrie Lyon at Cushman &  
Wakefield

Korn Ferry International  
Leeside Clan  
MBL Benefits Consulting

*Sunflower Sponsor*  
a + i  
M5 Networks  
N. Cheng & Co. P.C.

## BLOOM 2007 Beverage Sponsors

*Liquor Sponsor*  
Boru Vodka

*Wine Sponsor*  
Barefoot Cellars

## The Linda Stein Memorial Fund at The Family Center



Left to right: Samantha Stein-Wells, founder of the Linda Stein Memorial Fund, her mother Linda Stein, and her sister Mandy Stein.

In January 2008, the Linda Stein Memorial Fund was created at The Family Center to honor the memory of Linda Stein, a leading New York City realtor and manager of the punk rock group, The Ramones. Samantha Stein-Wells, Linda's eldest daughter, felt that The Fund would be the best way to celebrate the life of her mother, who had devoted herself to a number of charitable causes throughout her life. Samantha had the idea of starting The Fund while shopping for The Family Center Holiday Gift Drive, in which her daughter's preschool at Steven Wise Free Synagogue participates. Her mother Linda had recently died, and shopping for children in need lifted Samantha's spirits: "It was one of the good moments in the past few months." The Linda Stein Memorial Fund is dedicated

to purchasing basic necessities and other materials goods, like birthday presents, for Family Center youth.

Before her tragic death in October 2007, Linda Stein had been planning her daughter Samantha's 35th birthday party. At first, Samantha wanted to cancel the party. Her husband Rodger, younger sister Mandy and friend Jake Spitz convinced her go ahead with it. Thinking about Family Center children and their birthdays, Samantha agreed on one condition: that her birthday party be a benefit for The Linda Stein Memorial Fund at The Family Center. On February 6th, over 200 of Samantha's friends and family celebrated her birthday at the Club Marquee in Chelsea, which generously donated the space so that every last contribution could support The Linda Stein Memorial Fund.

The Family Center continues to accept donations to The Linda Stein Memorial Fund. Checks can be made out to "The Family Center, Inc." and sent to:

Attn: The Linda Stein Memorial Fund  
The Family Center  
315 West 36th Street, 4th floor  
New York, NY 10018

On behalf of all the children and families whom we serve, The Family Center is honored to memorialize Linda Stein and her charitable spirit.

## The Family Center loves our corporate volunteers!

Many generous companies lend their hearts and hands to The Family Center. We are consistently honored by their work, which helps us better serve our children and families.



At the end of 2006, after learning about The Family Center through our website ([www.thefamilycenter.org](http://www.thefamilycenter.org)), Stockamp & Associates decided to support our holiday festivities. A national hospital consulting firm, Stockamp & Associates organized a gingerbread house making party. By the end of it, volunteers and children were sticky with frosting, but very proud of their delicious little houses.

Also in 2006, Stockamp & Associates became the first-ever corporate sponsor of The Family Center's Annual Holiday Party for our children and their families. We are grateful for Stockamp & Associates' amazing generosity.



During February of 2007, M5 Networks, an outsourced IP phone system provider, hosted 'Sweet Talk,' an event for our families to make international phone calls to family and friends. We greatly appreciate M5 Networks' assistance in helping us keep families together. Sweet Talk took place at Dylan's Candy Bar, where our children participated in arts and crafts and munched on lots of sweet goodies. Needless to say, everyone left sweeter than they arrived.

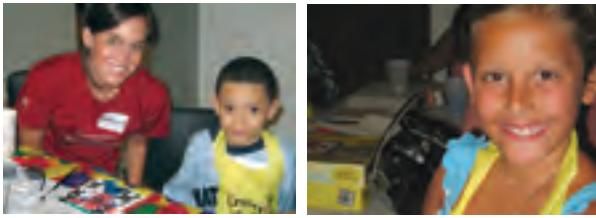
This spring, M5 Networks also sponsored BLOOM, our annual fundraiser hosted by The Family Center Junior Board. The Family Center is thrilled to continue our partnership with M5.



After years of sending a team of more than 30 volunteers to staff our annual Holiday Party, the Credit Suisse Private Banking group organized a softball and picnic day for our families this past June. The volunteers and children played game after game of softball, while parents enjoyed a well-deserved rest in the shade. Smaller children played twister and other games with volunteers. We didn't keep score of the softball game, because everybody won!

Credit Suisse again honored The Family Center in October when the firm's Product Control group took some of our families to Green Meadows Farm. Our children learned how to milk a cow and enjoyed taking hayrides with the volunteers. At the end of the day, everyone was excited to take home a pumpkin.

The Family Center is also grateful to Credit Suisse for its financial support of our agency. For the past two years, the Credit Suisse Americas Foundation has awarded The Family Center a general operating grant to support our work in the community.



In July, Goldman Sachs employees visited The Family Center to paint tiles with our families. Volunteers and families also made ice cream and decorated their own ice cream bowls, which they took home. The Family Center is very proud to be part of Goldman Sachs' Community TeamWorks Program again in 2008 when the company will host a Summer Camp Orientation for our families.

After having fun with our families during corporate events, many volunteers are inspired to continue working with The Family Center, resulting in new mentors joining our Buddy Program and working with us year-round. The Stockamp & Associates, M5 Networks and Credit Suisse Private Banking group events all resulted in The Family Center gaining a Buddy.

If you are interested in hosting a volunteer event for The Family Center, or volunteering for us in another capacity, please contact Sarah Goff, Family Center Volunteer Coordinator, at [sgoff@thefamilycenter.org](mailto:sgoff@thefamilycenter.org) or (212) 766-4522 ext.184.

## Group Therapy at TFC: Let's get together!

### Family Pride

Our families have the opportunity to strengthen their bonds through participating in our *Family Pride* group. *Family Pride* uses art projects, games, and other therapeutic activities to encourage cooperation and trust. The group takes place over 8 sessions and ends with a coveted camping trip, when families spend a weekend together practicing lessons learned in previous sessions. Together, *Family Pride* participants roast marshmallows at camp fires, tackle low and high ropes courses, and go hiking. *Family Pride* is an important extension of the work that The Family Center does year-round: helping families most in need of support.

### Comic Book Group

In March 2007, The Family Center ran its first-ever *Comic Book Group* for adolescent boys, ages 11 to 13. Conducted by a Family Center art therapist, the group provided a safe forum for these youth to express feelings in positive and creative ways. The group was sometimes instructional, as our art therapist taught the boys things like how to draw bubble letters. Group members made the majority of the group's important decisions, and one of those was their unanimous vote to extend the group from 8 weeks to 12.

At the *Comic Book Group's* conclusion, the young men hosted a "gallery opening," where they invited their friends to view their artwork. They also visited DC Comics for a tour.

### Caregiver Group

The Family Center *Caregiver Group* provides extra support and guidance to men and women who unexpectedly become caregivers later in life. Sometimes, a family's best permanency plan for the future care of the children involves a grandparent assuming responsibility for the children. This group is one of many services we provide to older caregivers.

On May 24th, our *Caregiver Group* enjoyed a special treat when MAC make-up artists visited The Family Center to provide makeovers. While our caregivers are always beautiful, each one left looking like a movie star! We are grateful to MAC and the make-up artists for volunteering their time and resources. MAC make-up artists also volunteer every year to paint faces at The Family Center Annual Holiday. As always, thanks, MAC, for all you do to help us put our best face forward!

## Our Clients Vote



TFC's Health Care Access team – Julia Sanchez, Ikponmwosa Edorisiagbon, Dave Nimmons—along with intern Latrice Ishmael, getting out a mailing to register all clients to vote in districts across New York City.

At The Family Center, we spend a lot of time making sure our families' needs are heard by policy-makers and elected officials. We know that one of the best ways to do this is to make sure their votes get counted in the communities where they live, across our city.

That is why, this fall, our voter registration and education drive shifts into high gear as we launch a city-wide program to provide free, bilingual registration cards and instructions to every eligible person in the 300-plus families we serve, as well as to their friends and neighbors. We expect to reach thousands of eligible adults with our non-partisan voter enrollment efforts.

We have begun distributing registration packets to clients, volunteers, and donors from now until the 2009 election. If you know someone who needs to register, or needs materials mailed to them, please email us at [voterinfo@thefamilycenter.org](mailto:voterinfo@thefamilycenter.org).

## We Sang and Danced the Night Away!

On December 7th, The Family Center hosted our annual holiday party for families at the Puck Building. Over 340 children, parents, guardians and family members attended. They enjoyed a number of activities associated with our theme of the evening - *Singing and Dancing the Night Away*. From dance competitions and karaoke to musical chairs and wood drum crafts, our families enjoyed plenty of ways to party.

As always, our volunteers had a large hand in making the event such a success. Volunteer teams from Credit Suisse, Lehman Brothers, MAC and the Volunteer Referral Center helped our children with arts and crafts, served food, and took family portraits. In addition to these volunteer teams, we had a number of individuals helping out at the party, for total of 137 volunteers. Even Santa Claus stopped by the party with one of his elves to take some pictures and wish a Happy Holidays to everyone in attendance.



Family Center youth enjoying arts & crafts.

### Holiday Party 2007 Sponsors

Credit Suisse  
AFEX Associated Foreign Exchange  
Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP  
Liquidnet  
Angela & Dimitri Raitzin  
Rice & Dore Associates, Inc.  
Kauff McClain & McGuire LLP  
Douglas Elliman Property Management

## Did you know? The Family Center performs research!

The Family Center has long been committed to rigorous evaluation of all of our programs. We have published more than 20 research articles in professional peer-reviewed journals on varied aspects of our work and family-based service model. In 2003, we created the position of Research and Evaluation Manager and hired Warren Reich, Ph.D., whose work as a social psychologist has enabled us to look at our families and services in new ways.

Research at The Family Center has been funded by the National Institute of Mental Health, the National Institute on Drug Abuse, the Levi Strauss Foundation, and the Pfizer Foundation. One recent study investigated how our services affect the success of our families' permanency planning, and we are currently testing approaches to boosting HIV-positive clients' adherence to their medication regimens. From our research, we have learned a lot about the families we serve, including:

- Caretakers working toward a permanency plan report less conflict with their children, and an improvement in their children's mental health, by the time they complete our program.
- Families who engage in our counseling services stand a better chance of completing a permanency plan than those who do not.
- Families who participate in *Family Pride*, an eight-week conflict management group that includes a camping trip, develop an understanding of one another that paves the way for more productive communication and problem solving.

While conducting research like this is rare for an agency our size, The Family Center remains committed to better understanding our families and the ways we serve them. Disseminating our research findings is one of the best ways to ensure that our pathbreaking work has an impact beyond the families we serve.

### Family Center Research Publications

Reich, W. A., & Rubin, R. M. (in preparation). Self-relevance of safer and riskier sexual scripts.

Reich, W. A., Lounsbury, D., Rapkin, B., & Zaid-Muhammad, S. (in preparation). Social support, mental health, and medication adherence in HIV-positive persons.

Gamble, I., Bauman, L., Silver, E., & Berman, R. (2008). Children as Caregivers to Their Ill Parents with AIDS. *Caregiving: A Lifespan Perspective*. Washington, D.C.: American Psychological Association Books.

Reich, W. A., & Hudis, J. (2007). Self-Reported Physical Abuse History as a Risk Factor in Permanency Planning. *The Source: The National Abandoned Infants Resource Center*, 16, 21–24.

Reich, W. A., & Rubin, R. M. (2007). Prototypical images in condom scripts among AIDS-bereaved adolescents. *AIDS Education and Prevention*, 19, 83–96.

Gamble, I., Bauman, L., Foster, G., Silver, E., Berman, R., & Muchaneta, L. (2006). Children Caring for their Ill Parents with HIV/AIDS. *Vulnerable Children and Youth Studies*, 1 (1), 56–70.

Draimin, B. H., & Reich, W. A. (2005). Troubled Tapestries: Children, Families, and the HIV/AIDS Epidemic in the U.S. In G. Foster, C. Levine, and J. Williamson (Eds.), *A generation at risk: The global impact of HIV/AIDS on orphans and vulnerable children* (pp. 213–231). New York: Cambridge University Press.

Reich, W. A., & Hudis, J. (2005). Assessing clients' progress through a permanency planning program. *Journal of HIV/AIDS and Social Services*, 4, 81–95.

Hudis, J., Silver, E. J., Bauman, L. J., & Camacho, S. (2003). Factors associated with psychological distress in late-stage HIV/AIDS. *AIDS and Behavior*, 7, 421–431.

Draimin, B. H., Hudis, J., Segura, J., & Shire, A. (1999). A troubled past, an uncertain future: Well adolescents in families with AIDS. *Journal of HIV/AIDS Prevention & Education for Adolescents & Children*, 3, 37–50.

Draimin, B. H., Gamble, I., Shire, A., & Hudis, J. (1998). Improving permanency planning in families with HIV disease. *Child Welfare*, 77, 188–194.

# Family Center Profiles

## DR. JOSEPH RUGGIERO



Left to Right: Dr. Joseph Ruggiero and Amy Yates Capone at BLOOM 2007

New York Hospital Cornell Medical Center's Clinical Director of Solid Tumor Oncology, Dr. Joseph Ruggiero has supported The Family Center since its inception. As a close personal friend of the founding Executive Director, Barbara Draimin, he remembers how the agency evolved out of her doctoral dissertation highlighting the needs of teens whose parents had HIV/AIDS. Two years ago, Dr. Ruggiero took on an even more active role in the life of the Center, when he joined our Board of Directors.

Social justice is the cornerstone of Dr. Ruggiero's life. He credits his high school experience in the 1960's with his commitment to helping others. As an oncologist, Dr. Ruggiero has a unique perspective on the daily challenges, hopes and disappointments experienced by Family Center clients and their families. "What I do every day is work with families affected by serious illnesses. The Family Center gives me hope." The depth of his insight coupled with the strength of his commitment to the mission are invaluable assets to the Board. We remain extremely grateful for his service.

## KATE HELFET

"I would probably do just about anything for The Family Center!"

That was Kate Helfet's response when we asked her to be our featured volunteer for this newsletter. Although Kate has only been involved with The Family Center for just over a year, her dedication and enthusiasm for the agency is unparalleled among our volunteer team. In even this short time with TFC, she has been involved in "just about everything" a volunteer can participate in.

Kate was one of the first tutors at The Family Center. She was matched with two children, who were having difficulties in school.

When she realized that both children had never learned basic study skills, Kate dedicated her tutoring sessions to teaching them study tips. By the end of the school year, their grades were improving.

In November, 2006, Kate joined our Buddy Program, an experience she described as "terrific." During all her Buddy activities, Kate tries to incorporate some element of learning, whether a visit to the New York Hall of Science or something as simple as quizzing her Buddy on types of flowers they encounter in the park. It is, Kate says, "a real honor to be included" in her Buddy's life.



TFC Volunteer Kate Helfet, her Buddy and a friend go kite flying.

Kate also serves on The Family Center Junior Board. "I am so thankful to get to work with such a dynamic intelligent group of young people – and for such a good cause." For both BLOOM 2007 and 2008, Kate played a key role in securing beverage

sponsors and obtaining a number of silent auction items.

Kate's dedication to TFC is an example to everyone involved here. We are honored – to have her as a volunteer, an ambassador, and a friend.

## CLEO



Left to Right: former TFC Volunteer Coordinator Diana Koepfer, Jontayzha and Cleo

Cleo came to The Family Center three years ago for support in raising her two grandchildren, Jontayzha and Keon. Participating in our Caregiver Group for grandparents caring for their grandchildren, she realized that she was not alone. She connected with other people in the same situation.

In January of 2007, Keon died. This tragedy deeply affected everyone at The Family Center and we continue to miss his presence. Cleo confided, "The

Family Center has been getting me through things." Her social worker has been helping her process her grief.

Family Center Board member Richard Osterweil, who befriended Keon, fondly remembers him, "He used to kiss the hand of every pretty girl that walked by." Richard also remembers watching Keon play basketball. The young man thoroughly enjoyed the game—and his cheering fans on the sidelines.



Keon

The vivacious six-year-old Jontayzha has helped allay some of the sorrow that we all hold over Keon's death. With her grandma, she participates in many special activities here at The Family Center. In June, she attended the Credit Suisse Softball Day, and every year, she looks forward to The Family Center Holiday Party.

Cleo's courage exemplifies the strengths of all Family Center clients. We feel honored to serve her family.

# The Family Center Volunteers

---

The list below represents those who donated their time and efforts to the work of The Family Center during the period of July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007. We thank them for their generous contribution.



Anna Allen  
Drew Allen  
Lara Allen  
Ani Altoonian  
Danielle Aque  
Adriana Arizmendi  
Alba Arocho  
Lorraine Attardi  
Beau Avril  
Kathy Azbell  
KJ Baldwi  
Brittany Barge  
Kevin Barry  
Erin Baskin  
Stephen Bastasch  
Erika Beck  
Roger Benjamin  
Amy Berg  
Ritesh Beriwal  
Nicholas Bertha  
Debbie Bielak  
Ameya Bijoor  
Lee Black  
Matthew Black  
Adam Bloom

Charles Bradley  
Robin Brusman  
Edmond Busby  
Walter Busby  
Cristina Buzovi  
Michael Camacho  
Amy Caron  
Howard Chang  
Flora Chao  
Tzvi Chefer  
Heidi Chen  
Bryant Chou  
Leeah Chu  
Sara Cisco  
Brienne Cliadakis  
Eve Cohen  
Carrie Colden  
Andrew Costagliola  
Demetri Costoyiannis  
Jessi Rose Cuthbert-Payne  
Stephen Czick  
Guy D'Aleo  
Jennifer DeCastro  
John Delehanty

Nate Dell  
Vincent DiGiano  
Geri Doyle  
Barbara Draimin  
Petar Dudukovski  
Pat Duffy  
Miriam Duhan  
Clint Ellenberg  
Cari Endres  
Daniel Erck  
Mustapha Fajri  
Jacquelyn Faughnan  
Cynthia Ferro  
Anna Filatov  
Lori Fink  
Martie Finkelstein  
Jess Frisone  
Lauren Fuller  
Brian Gallagher  
Lesli Gallagher  
John Gans  
Sarah Garvey-Potvin  
Bill Garza  
Michael Gilbertson  
Neil Goldberg

Robin Goodman  
Farah Grainger  
Igor Grinberg  
Mary Anne Guediguian  
Tro Hallajian  
Rashadul Haque  
Mio Hara  
Tony Harmon  
Jennifer Hartley  
Molly Hartman  
Sally Harwood  
Jonathan Hefter  
Yasaman Hekmat  
Katherine Helfet  
Patrick Hendricks  
John Hendry  
Caroline Henry  
Amelia Herdrich  
Angie Hernandez  
Diana Herskovich  
Michele Hirsch  
Ali Hirschenbaum  
Dan Hoffman  
Sunsy Hong  
Christopher Hornsey



---

Amelia Hoy	Nadia Lubbe	Monika Paulus	Tara Steinberg
Michael Hozer	Keisha Lugay	Karen Pawlyk	Catherine Steinthal
Risa Hozer	Vladimir Luzader	Christine Pecoriello	Lee Stern
Steven Hsieh	Iris Majia	Chien Peong	Bradford Stocker
Kimberly Hunt	Joanne Mak	Kisha Perez	Kirkley Strand
Lauren Huston	Vita Mannino	Jason Perloth	Tami Sturm
Nisha Jain	Tiffany Marsh	Samuel Petrucci	Heather Thomas
Sarah Johnson	John Martin	Nicole Phillips	Ronald Torgow
Jessica Kahn	Sally Martin	Justine Pokoik	Richie Touseull
Jodyne Kim	Beth Mateiko	Michael Pou	Savitri Tu
Brian Klansky	Darin Mays	Jessica Provda	Jenn Tuerk
Katherine Klimczak	Allison McCormack	Lauren Quinn	Ramona Valentin
Amy Kohn	Daniel McDermott	Catherine Quitian	Jeff Vallillo
Lisa Kohn	Lock McKelvy	Angela Raitzin	Lisa Vanderheyden
Yvonna Kopacz	Andrew McKuin	Dimitri Raitzin	Liv Vesely
Kameron Kordestani	Ryan McPherson	Megan Randolph	Nancy Vincent
Charles Raymond	Iris Mejia	Danielle Raymond	Mark Viveiros
Krzewski	Kym Michaud	Shyamala Reddy	Kendra Webb-Scott
Emily Kurtz	Marcy Millington	David Reilly	Janelle Wellman
Steve Kuznick	Veronica Mollere	Jennifer Reyes	Clark Wen
Lauren Langer	Lyle Monteserrato	Greg Rinaldi	Haley Whitmore
Tonya Leary	Noel Monteserrato	Rebecca Roberts	Alima Wieselmann
Carroll Leatherman	Peter Montgomery	Brett Robertson	Christina Williams
Carol Lee	John Morro	Nicole Robertson	Christopher Wilson
Ed Lee	Marisol Naranjo	Danielle Rumore	Larry Wilson
Susan Lee	Karlyn Nelson	Karen Sadler	Denee Wolf
Elizabeth Lewis	Kateryna Nenchyna	Ilyse Sanford	Ryan Wolf
Toni Libassi	Yen Nong	Raymond Santos	Ken Wright
Jaclyn Lichtman	Emily Nordee	Praveen Saxena	Ashley Yost
Tom Lind	Allison Oldehoff	Lauren Sbrodone	Yating Yu
Kirstin Lindermayer	Nicole Orange	Lindsey Schmidt	Jessica Zachary
Vivian Lindermeyer	Alicia Palumbo	Len Schwartz	Katrina Zepp
Mario Lo Presti	Julia Paolucci	Chris Sharp	Jazmine Zorrilla
Barbara Lockhart	Kathleen Parent	Stephen Shulstein	Michael Zymaris
Michael Lorenzo	Amy Paris	Kate Solinsky	
Erin Loughran	Tina Passalacqua	Edison Speck	

# The Family Center Financial Supporters

We gratefully acknowledge the generous support of the following donors whose gifts were received between July 1, 2006 and June 30, 2007. If your name is not listed correctly, please accept our apologies and let us know. An (\*) indicates that this donor also gave time as a volunteer at The Family Center.

## \$550,000

Robin Hood Foundation

## \$100,000

Pfizer Foundation

## \$75,000

Susan G. Komen  
for the Cure

## \$65,000

Credit Suisse Americas  
Foundation

## \$10,000-\$40,000

Broadway Cares/  
Equity Fights AIDS

Cecily Carson

The Steven A. & Alexandra  
M. Cohen Foundation

Highbridge Capital  
Management, LLC

The Hyde and Watson  
Foundation

Jean and Louis Dreyfus  
Foundation

Lehman Brothers, Inc.

Stockamp and Associates

Joseph Tringali

United Way

## \$5,000-\$9,999

DaPuzzo Family Foundation  
Limited Brands

Joseph Ruggiero, MD

Simpson Thacher &  
Bartlett LLP

## \$1,000-\$4,999

a + i design corp.

Seth Aron

Kevin Arquit

Vincent Byrne

B.C. Douglas

Financial Security Assurance

Mary Beth Forshaw

Ivy Gamble Cobb

Alvaro Gonzalez

Sally Harwood

Edith Langer

Michael Lerch

Kenneth Logan

Cari Lyon

M5 Networks, Inc.

David Mazza, MD

Mary Elizabeth McGarry

N. Cheng & Co., P.C.

Anthony O'Callaghan

Stanley Okula, Jr.

Opus Advisory Group, LLC

Danielle Raymond

Roy Reardon

Thomas Rice

Rosenblatt Securities

Joan and Michael Steinberg

The Jockey Hollow  
Foundation

Time Warner

Mary Kay Vyskocil

Marissa Wesely

Erika Wessel

Alan Wilensky

William Heiber, Jr. and  
Jean Hieber Charitable  
Foundation

Amy Yates Capone

## \$500-\$999

Bruce Angiolillo

Alan Brenner

Andrew Brimmer

Richard Capelouto

Sarah Cogan

Charles Cogut

Paul Curnin

Renee DeSantis

Deutsche Bank Americas  
Foundation

NICO Fund

Robin Goodman

Matthew Gorman

Marjorie Helfet

Michele Hirsch

David Horowitz

Daniel Horowitz

Steven Jeraci

Kelly Joinnides

Andrew Keller

Alan Klein

Kameron Kordestani

Carol Lee

McKinsey & Company

Dehdan Miller

Muzzafar Mirza

Tom Molner

Javier Naselli

Victor Nee

Zbigniew Ostrowski

Vincent Pagano, Jr.

Angela Raitzin

Thomas Rinaldi

Cecily Stranahan

Jenner Wall

Jarrett Wolfe

Adam Zoia

## \$100-\$499

Stuart Abrams

Altria

Barbara Andres

Danielle Aque

Keith Attliss

Jaime Bean

Celia Berk

Mary Billard

Mark Bilski

Alek Bituin

Victoria Bjorkland

James Blalock

Francis Bravin

Brencourt Advisors, LLC

William Brentani

Dennis Briefel

John Broderick

Scott Brooks

Katharine Brophy

Janice Brown

Sandra Buergi

Marshall Burroughs

Eric Butler

Pamela Camacho

During this period, The Family Center received many gifts under \$100. We regret that we are not able to list all of our supporters, but we remain very grateful for their gifts. If you have been erroneously left off this list, please contact Aileen Parker at (212) 766-4522 ext.156 or [aparker@thefamilycenter.org](mailto:aparker@thefamilycenter.org)

Andrew Chayut  
Roberta Cherkin  
Soo-Jin Cho  
John Clements  
Eve Cohen  
Ellen Cohen  
Allison Cole  
Kristin Connelly  
John Connolly  
Alex Crepeau  
George Dale  
Michelle Davila  
Nicky Dawda  
John Delehanty  
Albert Dishner  
Matthew Donner  
William Donohue  
Patrick Duffy  
Kasey Dunn Morgan  
Joseph Dursi  
William Dyson  
Richard Errico  
Joseph Evanchick  
Kathryn Farrell  
Michele Feng  
Michael Fernandez  
Irwin Fishberg  
Edward Foley, Jr.  
Brian Ford  
James Formato  
Monroe Freeman, Jr.  
Bryce Friedman  
Chris Garland  
Catherine Giaquinto  
Barbara Gill  
Elizabeth Gordon  
Peter J. Gordon  
Lorraine Green  
Michael Grodio  
Lorraine Grodio

Katherine Helfet  
The Helfet Family  
Roger Herr  
Sally Hipscher  
Todd Hirsch  
Kevin Hogan  
Van M. Hong  
Susan Hothersall  
Bruce Hubbard  
Joseph Huber  
Jan Hudis  
David Ichel  
Susan Jean Dan  
Anna Kaye  
Mary Ellen Kennel  
Charles Koob  
Carroll Leatherman  
Soung Lee  
Alexis Leitenberger  
Vasilis Lembesis  
Jessica Lemkau  
Aimee Longombe  
Pearline Lounds  
Vladimir Luzader  
Andrew Malik  
Gregory Manning  
Gwen Marcus  
Ann Bell McCoy  
Brian McGregor  
Tracy McHale Stuart  
Katie Michel  
Midatlantic Telecom, Inc.  
Dale Miller  
Lyle Monteserrato  
Kasey Morgan  
Frank Moy  
Marisol Naranjo  
Nancy Neuser  
Bonnie Norman  
Oppenheimer & Co., Inc.

Richard Osterweil  
Rosetta Palmeri  
Janet Passalacqua  
Robert Peet  
Samuel Petrucci  
Nicole Phillips  
Marianne Phole  
Kevin Pinter  
Charles Platt  
Mario Ponce  
Tim Powell  
Maura Powell  
Robert Primiano  
Jeff Richardson  
Charles Richardson  
Susana Rodriguez  
Salim Rollins  
Scott Rosenberg  
Philip Ruegger III  
Karen Sadler  
Salesforce.com Foundation  
Lauren Sbordone  
David Schivell  
Bradley Schoelle  
Segue Search Firm  
Amy Sennish

Gerald Shubitz  
Stephen Shulstein  
Signature Cleaning  
Services, Inc.  
David Sorkin  
James Spielberg  
Kathleen Stanley  
David Stark  
Felisse Starker  
Gopinath Sudarsanam  
The Jewish Community  
Foundation  
Tiffany and Company  
Robert Tombolini  
Louis Trakis  
Julian Tzolov  
Chris Valentine  
Catherine Vaughn  
Mark Washburn  
Evan Weisbach  
Brendon Williams  
Alan Wolman  
Yik Wong  
William Work  
Hamish Young

The Family Center acknowledges the support of grants provided by the following Federal, State, and City Departments:

[U. S. Department of Health and Human Services,  
Health Resources and Services Administration](#)

[U.S. Department of Health and Human Services,  
Administration for Children and Families](#)

[NYS Department of Health, Division of Chronic  
Disease Prevention](#)

[NYS Department of Health, AIDS Institute](#)

[NYS Office of Children and Family Services](#)

[NYC Administration for Children's Services](#)

[NYC Department for the Aging](#)

[NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene](#)

[NYC Department of Youth and Community Development](#)

## inside:

The Family Center has  
a new home in Manhattan!

More events in 2007 than ever before

Voter registration drive for our families

The Linda Stein Memorial Fund

An insight into Group Therapy

Family Center Research

## Contact The Family Center at

1.800.219.4522 or online at [www.thefamilycenter.org](http://www.thefamilycenter.org)

In Manhattan:  
315 West 36th Street  
4th Floor  
New York, NY 10018

In Brooklyn:  
584 Nostrand Avenue  
2nd Floor  
Brooklyn, NY 11216

## TFC Donation Online:

You may make a tax-deductible  
donation through our website at  
[www.thefamilycenter.org](http://www.thefamilycenter.org)

## The Family Center received a Google Grant!

Thanks to our Junior Board member and faithful  
Buddy, Beau Avril, we have received a Google  
Grant. This grant allows for up to \$15,000 per  
month in free Google AdWords advertising.  
When someone searches on Google for information  
about families affected by parental illness,  
a targeted text link featuring The Family Center  
appears. This increases awareness about  
The Family Center and brings people to our  
website to learn more.

---

THE FAMILY CENTER 

315 West 36th Street 4th Floor, New York, NY 10018