



2008-2009 ANNUAL REPORT

A Message from The Family Center Leadership



There is no doubt that times are tough. Like all New York City non profits, The Family Center is feeling the squeeze. Yet, we are determined not only to survive, but to *thrive*.

At the heart of this goal are the families receiving our services. When times are difficult for the rest of us, they are particularly challenging for families at The Family Center. Of our families, 95% live below the poverty line. During tight economic times, they experience an extraordinary amount of stress. Considering this, The Family Center has redoubled our efforts to continue providing high quality programming to those families in need of our services.

Throughout this annual report, you will read how The Family Center is flourishing –in corporate and volunteer events, in programming for ill parents and their children, and in the diversity of support that we receive from the many

people who are part of our family. We hope that after reading this, you have an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of impoverished families. Like us, they will welcome you with open arms.

Sincerely,

Amy Yates Capone Board Chair Ivy Gamble Cobb, LMSW Executive Director

Visit www.thefamilycenter.org and click on "How Can I Help?"

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CORPORATE VOLUNTEER EVENTS



It's been a busy year at The Family Center with our corporate champions at the helm!

thx2u hosted by Wedgewood USA!

Wedgewood USA, a British-owned, international event planning company specializing in corporate business trips from Europe to the US, sponsored a weekend-long event for children and adolescents from The Family Center. On Saturday, March 29th and Sunday, March 30th, thx2u involved 100 youth between the ages of 7 and 18. Kids were treated to a weekend of fun filled events: a photography scavenger hunt in Manhattan, a walking tour of Central Park, lunch at the Hard Rock, bowling, a trip to Top of the Rock, an afternoon at the circus, and tickets to Broadway shows.



Goldman Sachs Community TeamWorks hosted Camp Rocks!

Summer camp-bound TFC families enjoyed an evening of arts & crafts, build a back-pack project, camp orientation and dinner generously sponsored by Goldman Sachs Community TeamWorks. Ten Goldman Sachs employees volunteered their time and creative expertise, helping kids design and paint a back pack to take with them for their two week summer adventure.

M5 explores Mexican crafts with our caregiver families!

M5 Networks sponsored an afternoon of Mexican handicrafts and catered lunch for Caregivers' Connection, The Family Center's peer support group for grandparents raising their grandchildren. Our grandparents and their families were joined by M5 volunteers and Manhattan Children's Museum educators for artistic guidance.



CORPORATE VOLUNTEER EVENTS

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It's been a busy year at The Family Center with our corporate champions at the helm!

Sponsoring three events, Credit Suisse again outdid itself!

Family Softball Day

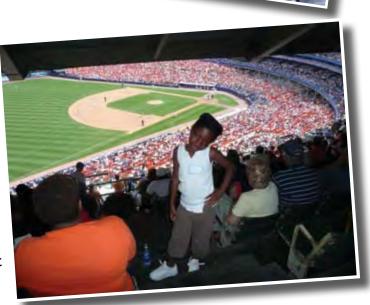
Beautiful June weather prevailed for the third annual Softball Game & Family Picnic at The Great Lawn in Central Park. Over 50 people enjoyed a picnic lunch, face painting, kite flying, Frisbee and Twister. A fierce softball game, with Credit Suisse volunteers pitching and coaching, ended in a close victory. Credit Suisse, headed by employee volunteer Anthony O'Callaghan, generously sponsored the picnic and supplied 15 employee volunteers to assist with activities.

Mets Game

Sunshine and smiles prevailed for a Mets vs. San Francisco Giants game at Shea stadium in July. Seventeen Family Center youth enjoyed the game generously sponsored by Credit Suisse employees. Youth met at The Family Center and proceeded onto Shea with 15 plus Credit Suisse volunteers. Volunteers and kids enjoyed cheering the Mets to victory.

Farm Trip

On a cloudy, cool Columbus Day, Credit Suisse generously sponsored another outing for our families. Six families and three buddy matches spent the day at Green Meadows Farm in Queens. Families fed chickens, rabbits and pigs. Several kids milked a cow and rode ponies. Everyone enjoyed a hayride and picked a pumpkin to end the day.



JUNIOR BOARD UPDATE





The Junior Board leadership from left to right: Clark Wen, Secretary; Kate Helfet, Chair; and Yating Yu, Vice Chair

The Junior Board Cooks!

For two hours in March, Family Center Junior Board members spent time with several families learning about healthy eating and applying that knowledge to cooking nutritious meals. Families made soba noodles with tofu and cucumber and dessert sushi. Project Sunshine provided the ingredients and recipes for this Saturday afternoon culinary extravaganza.

BLOOM 2008

On May 8th, the Junior Board hosted their fifth annual fundraiser – BLOOM. Over 300 supporters filled the Union Square Ballroom to support the agency's comprehensive social and legal services. Since

its inception the event has increased revenues every single year it has been held. And 2008 was no different, as the event generated over \$75,000 – a \$10,000 increase from last year's proceeds. It was a night to remember, as guests enjoyed the musical stylings of world famous DJ Liquid Todd.

Save the Holiday Party!

Due to a highly volatile funding landscape, The Family Center was in need of funding for our Annual Holiday Party. Yet again, the Junior Board initiated a highly successful, multi-pronged fundraising campaign in autumn. Most funds were raised through an online campaign, but these were handsomely supplemented by three happy hours, Halloween and birthday parties, and an online auction. When the holidays came around, there was more than one reason to celebrate, as the Junior Board far exceeded their fundraising goals.

BUDDY TRIPS

The Family Center proudly managed nearly 50 community based matches in our

signature Buddy Program in

2008. Volunteer hours for the

Buddy Program totaled 3,156 by a dedicated group of adult mentors, who donate their time and

energy to their little Buddies. A vital component of our program includes monthly group outings or Buddy Trips, which were generously underwritten by The Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church in 2008. Trips have included visits to the Museum of Arts and Design, MoMA, American Museum of Natural History, Ripley's Believe It or Not and a cooking class. Thanks to The Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, the group

outing cost is covered in full and allows volunteers and little Buddies an

opportunity to socialize and enjoy cultural activities in the city. The Family Center would like to thank Sally Harwood, a graduate of the Buddy Program and member of The Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church Benevolence Committee, for her help in securing support for The Family Center Buddy Trips.









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The Family Center Annual Holiday Party of 2008 was a wonderful success with more than 250 children and their family members in attendance, along with 70 volunteers, enjoying a truly spectacular evening at The Armory. The carnivalesque evening featured Star Wars storm troopers, Nickelodeon's Wanda from the Fairly OddParents, a live DJ and dance party, games, arts and crafts, buffet dinner and of course, Santa and his elves!

Three Of Hearts - Again in 2008, The Family Center benefited from the generosity of three fantastic performers –Beth Artensen, Mark Lee and Lindsey Wilson– and a wonderfully talented producer, Christian Wikane. On February 7th, over 120 people filled Joes' Pub at the Public Theatre for Three of Hearts. We are grateful to everyone who made this event successful.

THE FAMILY CENTER HAS A NURSE!

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In November 2008, Donna Horton joined The Family Center staff as the first Community Health Nurse in our agency's history. We have the Deerfield Partnership Foundation to thank for generously underwriting this position, which has quickly become essential to providing services to families with seriously ill parents or caregivers. In her short time



Our Nurse Donna Horton (left) and Deerfield Partnership Foundation representative Barbara Younger (right) at The Family Center Annual Holiday Party in December

with The Family Center, Nurse Horton has already organized a Hepatitis C training and consulted on over 40 cases. She has done everything from helping our consumers manage their pain medication to advocating that they receive prescription orthopedic shoes. While Nurse Horton's expertise helps to improve our families' health, her cheery disposition keeps everyone in high spirits. Certainly, The Family Center is a happier, healthier place with Donna Horton around. Many thanks to the Deerfield Partnership Foundation for this great addition to The Family Center!



OUR MAN ON THE GROUND

The Family Center Sends A Representative To The XVII International AIDS Conference

For the first time in the history of The Family Center, we sent a representative to the International AIDS Conference, held in August 2008 in Mexico City. The Pfizer Foundation's ConnectHIV Initiative, which generously funds The Family Center's Project SWEL (which stands for "Stay Well to Enjoy Life"), sent Dave Nimmons, Project SWEL Manager, as a representative to attend and report on the conference. Dave was one of seven reporters selected from Pfizer-funded projects around the nation in a competitive process open to all ConnectHIV grantees. During the five-day conference, Dave filed dispatches and photos on an exciting blog that those of us back home followed eagerly. Once back home, Dave offered briefings to staff and clients on the updates, new frontiers, developments and challenges in the global response to HIV/AIDS. He has also helped us incorporate developments from the conference into our work, especially around treatment adherence and medical case management. Thanks to the Pfizer Foundation for selecting one of our own to attend.

GROUP PROGRAMMING

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Paw Pals: Animal Assisted Therapy

The Family Center is working so hard that our dogs are barking –literally! In September 2008, The Family Center began welcoming dog-and-owner volunteer pairs, who are specially trained and certified, to work with youth on various psychotherapy goals including socialization skills, increased self-esteem, and increased attention skills.



Animation Domination!

Another example of our agency's excellence in leveraging partnerships, The Animation Project (TAP) is running a teen group at The Family Center.

This animation group promotes the mental health of adolescents by pioneering the use of technology-based art therapy. In response to the growing appetite of youth for new media, TAP is committed to re-assigning the use of these emerging technologies from a form of entertainment to a form of self-expression. With TAP, The Family Center seeks to facilitate the emotional, social and cognitive development of children, and we are grateful to the ESA Foundation for generously funding this group to benefit teens.



The scene created by The Family Center teens working with TAP



Glamour representatives with Family Center moms

Glamour in Brooklyn

In May 2008, Glamour magazine visited The Family Center's Brooklyn office to meet with parents of our YouthNet program. Glamour representatives spoke with our moms about juggling their responsibilities and the importance of making time to take care of themselves. After a moving discussion, our moms left with bags of new beauty products, generously donated to The Family Center by Glamour. Many thanks to Glamour for supporting our moms!

NEW AIA PROGRAM



The Family Center's Early Support for Lifelong Success is the only federally funded Abandoned Infants Assistance Program grant in New York State!

In October 2008, The Family Center was awarded a federal grant from the Abandoned Infants Assistance (AIA) Program for our proposed Early Support for Lifelong Success project, which focuses on the development, refinement and dissemination of interventions that address the safety and permanency needs of infants, toddlers and children perinatally exposed to HIV. In this most recent AIA funding cycle, only 9 programs across the country were funded, and The Family Center's proposal was the only application accepted in New York State.

Early Support for Lifelong Success (ESLS) is an 18-month intervention specifically targeting the well-being, permanency, school readiness, and safety of children 0-7 years old perinatally exposed to HIV. ESLS expands The Family Center's multi-disciplinary approach of case managers, social workers and attorneys, by adding staff specializing in Early Intervention, Education Advocacy, and Play Therapy. We are excited to get this project off the ground!

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LEGAL SERVICES

In 2008, The Family Center Legal Services Department provided legal counsel to nearly 400 families. Working tirelessly to build safe and secure futures for these families, our attorneys clocked in a total of roughly 5,000 direct service hours for the year.

Over the last few years, the range of The Family Center's legal services also has expanded in order to meet the ever-growing and vital needs of our families. Our legal services now include a wide range of civil matters. For example, our attorneys can help a family secure safe and appropriate housing, get their Medicare or Medicaid benefits reinstated, and much more.

Families affected by illness now know that The Family Center can help them —not only with lifetime planning, but also with all of the other legal services necessary to keep their families healthy and together.

Komen Race For The Cure



On the bright and sunny morning of September 14th, The Family Center's Pink Ladies & Gents walked, skipped, jumped and raced to find a cure for breast cancer. The Family Center was proud to enter a team of 24 individuals at this year's Race for the Cure in Central Park and we successfully raised almost \$1,500 in support of Susan G. Komen for the Cure.



PROFILES





Lyle Moneserrato (right) with friend and Junior Board member Brian Gallagher

Lyle Monteserrato

Board member profile

In 2008, Lyle Monteserrato attended his fourth Annual Family Center Holiday Party, but he admits that after his first, he was "hooked." Initially recruited to volunteer at the event by a colleague from Credit Suisse, Lyle fondly recalls making arts-and-crafts projects with parents of children attending the party. It was not long after this, that Family Center staff recognized Lyle's leadership potential and approached him to serve on our Junior Board. Normally reserved, Lyle didn't hesitate to speak up about his desire to be Secretary when the position opened shortly thereafter. His motivation: "I knew I could do a lot more."

Today a member of our Board of Directors, Lyle provides a stellar example of how a short-term volunteer can become a successful advocate for The Family Center. Only a year after he began serving as Junior Board Secretary, Lyle became Chair of the group. In this capacity, he launched a membership campaign, created a plan for the Junior Board's leadership succession, and spearheaded a revision of the group's by-laws. With Lyle's guidance, the Junior Board increased the net revenue of The Family Center's annual event, BLOOM, by more than \$12,500, and began hosting smaller 'happy hour' events to raise additional funds. Lyle is also instrumental in recruiting and organizing his fellow employee volunteers for our annual Credit Suisse Softball Day event and in advocating to the Credit Suisse Americas Foundation, which awards The Family Center an annual grant.

Lyle's success as Junior Board Chair encouraged The Family Center Board of Directors to vote him onto our Board in March of 2008. Since then, he has only become more involved and a stronger advocate for our agency. What gives this work meaning, he says, is the personal aspect of The Family Center culture: "Clients know the names of individual staff members—more of them know me now too!"

Anita & Her Children

Consumer family profile

When Anita came to The Family Center in 2005, she was not sure how the agency could help her. A single mother of four, she was diagnosed with a life-threatening illness. How could an agency help her manage the many complexities of her life?

Now describing the impact that The Family Center has since had on her family, Anita draws upon her knowledge of homemaking, "You have a house, but you need something to make it a home. That something is The Family Center."

Since 2005, The Family Center attorneys have helped Anita with immigration issues, while our social workers have provided her with counseling services. We have also given summer camp scholarships to her sons and made sure that the family has gifts to exchange during the holiday season.

Not surprisingly, Anita and her family have given tenfold back to The Family Center. Last year, Anita became a peer outreach worker. She represents The Family Center at health fairs and other venues where she has the opportunity to share her story and how our agency has helped her. Also in 2008, her twin sons, David and Pascal, joined our Junior Board to better integrate this volunteer group with the families served by our agency. With their membership on The Family Center Junior Board, our agency now has consumer representation at every level of agency governance.

David and Pascal are also now training to become Buddies, or volunteer mentors to younger children receiving our



Anita with her sons

services. Anita's other son, Carl, participates in our teen animation group and other adolescent programming at The Family Center. While her daughter, Sarah, no longer lives at home, even she has stepped forward to give back to The Family Center. On Valentine's Day, Sarah used her DJ skills to throw an event in Brooklyn to benefit our agency.

The Family Center might help make a house into a home for families all over New York City, but we would be nowhere without families like Anita and her children.

PROFILES



Melody Serafino

Volunteer profile

"The Family Center has been such an integral part of my life since moving to New York. It's so easy to get caught up in our own lives and selfishness living in the city, but when you are connected to an organization that is helping others it is a constant reminder of what other people's realities are and the ways in which we can be a part of ... change for the better."

So says Melody Serafino -Buddy, advocate and high energy wunderkind of The Family Center. Melody came to The Family Center with a long history of community involvement. Her family "has always encouraged me to be an active participant in my community through volunteerism." Melody began her journey at The Family Center in April 2006 as a Buddy -but didn't stop there. Her role at The Family Center has evolved, as she advocated for our agency through the Huffington Post, ran on The Family Center team at the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure, and continued to recruit her colleagues and friends onto our Junior Board.



Melody (far right) with Family Center youth and Junior Board member Jason Perlroth

Melody has recently assisted with the development of press contacts and public relations strategies for The Family Center. As she approaches her three year anniversary as a Buddy at The Family Center, she reflects, "I don't consider my outings with my little Buddy 'work' or a responsibility. She has become a friend to me and our time is not only a chance for her to step outside of her everyday life, but a chance for me to, as well."



Climbing for The Family Center

In January 2009, Carol Lee, a former Family Center Buddy who now lives in London, climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro in Africa. Before she embarked for her adventure, Carol set up a website that eventually raised over \$2,400 for our agency. Congratulations on your achievement, Carol -and thank you for sharing your success with The Family Center!

Julia Sanchez Staff member profile

Julia Sanchez is committed to The Family Center in every sense of the word. She came to us in 1999 in need of legal services, and was later referred to counseling for additional support. "The Family Center brought (my family)... together," she recalls. In 2003, she joined our staff in Brooklyn as a receptionist. Her indomitable spirit and dedication to our mission led The Family Center to promote Julia quickly to the position of Health Care Access Coordinator. Today fulfilling the role of Family Coordinator, Julia facilitates our Women's Wellness Group, a peer support group that encourages a holistic approach to maintaining one's health. "What keeps me here [at The Family Center] is working with these women. I can relate to them -their concerns, their fears. I've been there and I understand." The Family Center continues to be honored by Julia's commitment to our clients and our agency.



OUR VOLUNTEERS

Vincent DiGiano



The list below represents those who donated their time and resources to the work of The Family Center between June 1, 2007 and December 31, 2008. We thank them for their generous contributions.

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OUR VOLUNTEERS



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Paw Pal Volunteers





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We gratefully acknowledge the generous support of the following donors, whose gifts were received between July 1, 2007 and June 30, 2008.

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During this time period, The Family Center received numerous gifts under \$100. We are thankful to these donors, but regret that we do not have the space here to acknowlegde them.

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The Family Center Donors of Goods and Services for Fiscal Year 2008

(July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008)

BET

British Airways 'beca Restaurant Cadbury Candy

Charity Sports Auctions

Chef and Company

Coach Coty Beauty Crunch

CT Partners Cuisinart

David Donahue

DC Comics Deutsche Bank Digital C-lab

Dorsey & Whitney LLP Duane Street Hotel

Eastern Mountain Sports

Equinox Fitness Fairway Skins Co.

GAP

Gevalia Kaffe

Global Business Coalition on

HIV/AIDS Gold's Gym

Gotham Dream Cars

Hermes

Highbridge Capital Management

Hilton Garden Inn

HIV CARES

HK

Jennifer Benetato Jon Driscoll Jose Rosabal Kate Spade Kathryn Millan

Lehman Brothers Leslie Bakke

Levity Designs

Liquidnet

Michael Andrews Bespoke Modell's Sporting Goods Museum of Modern Art

NBC Universal

Nabisco

National Geographic NYSE/ Andretti Racing

NY Yoga

Physique Swim School

Pokémon

Roundabout Theatre Company

SASA Sephora

> Skydive The Ranch Smathers and Branson

Smorgas Chef

Society of Illustrators

Stephen Wise Free Synagogue

Sudler & Hennessey Talene Reilly

Tate's Bake Shop
The Colbert Report
The Ad Council
The Daily Show
The Rosen Group

Thos. Moser Cabinetmakers

Tiffany's

Tribeca Grande Hotel Union Square Cafe Victoria's Secret Vineyard Vines W & H Properties Walker Shortbread

Wendy's Wein & Malkin

Zagat Zipcar









Statement of Activities for the Year Ending June 30, 2008 (with comparative totals for 2007)

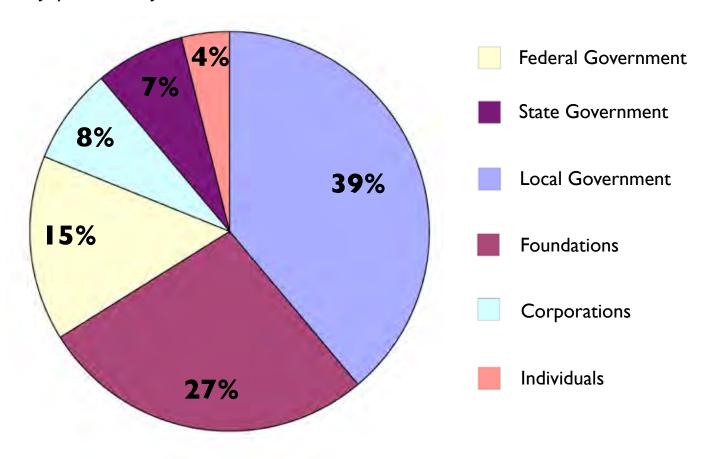
	2008	2007
Revenue and Other Support		
Government Grants	3,610,363	3,513,588
Contributions	2,111,377*	1,018,569
Interest Income	18,908	13,505
In-kind Contributions	20,199	13,017
Rental Income	33,643	0
Other Income	1,165	10,285
Total Revenue and Other Support	\$5,795,655	\$4,568,964
Expenses		
Program Service		
Social Services	2,654,298	2,389,947
Legal Services	477,629	398,593
Child Welfare	601,226	462,727
Total Program Services	\$3,733,153	\$3,251,267
Supporting Services		
Management and General	419,361	392,943
Fundraising	314,753	298,805
Total Supporting Services	\$734,114	\$691,748
Total Expenses	\$4,467,267	\$3,943,015
Change in Net Assets	1,328,388	625,949
Net Assets as of June 30, 2007	2,026,32	1,400,373
Net Assets as of June 30, 2008	3,354,710	2,026,322

^{* \$1,927,981} was restricted for specific programming



The Family Center Revenue Sources Fiscal Year 2008

July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008

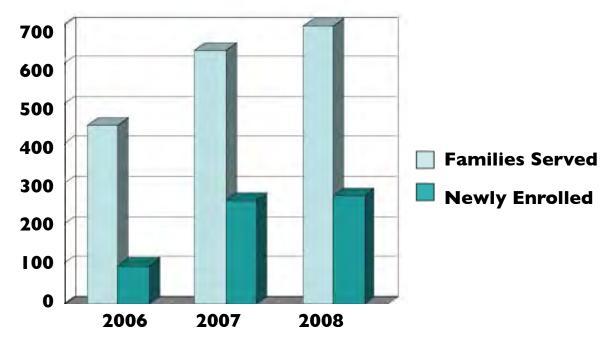


Public Support

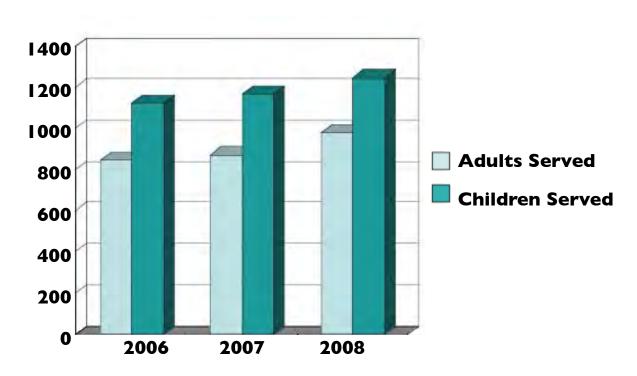
The Family Center acknowledges the support of grants provided by the following Federal, State and City Departments in Fiscal Year 2008.

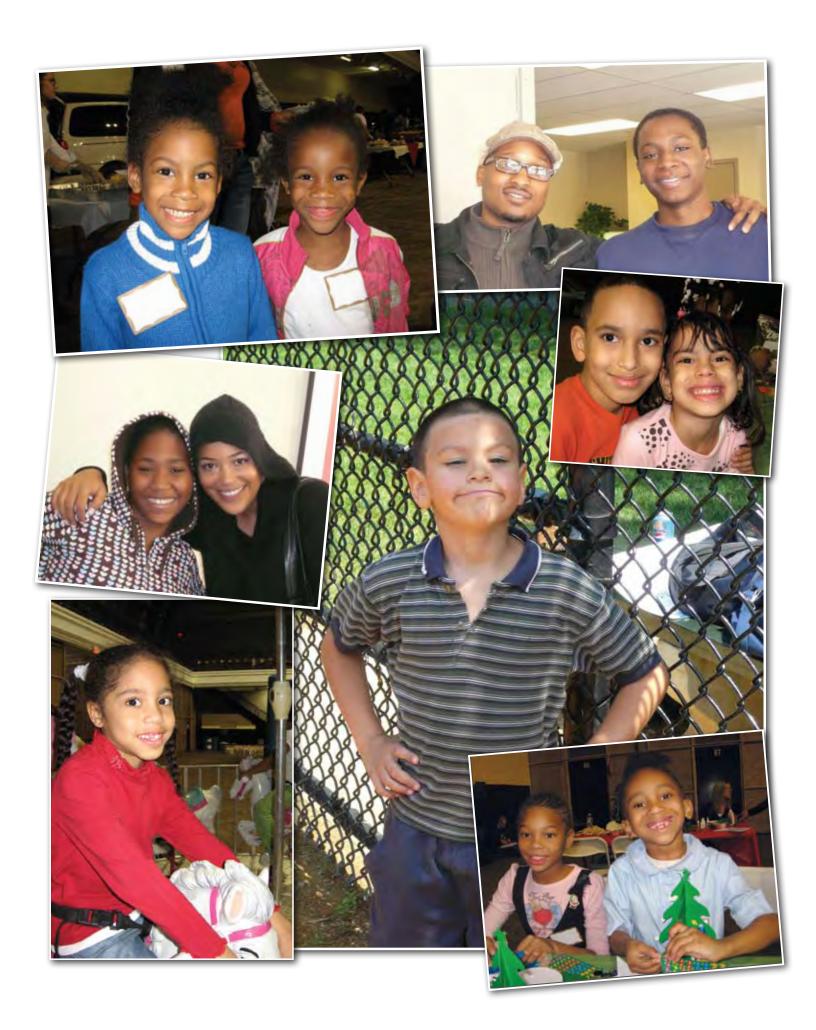
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families
- NYS Department of Health, Bureau of Chronic Diseases
- NYS Department of Health, AIDS Institute
- NYS Office of Children 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

Thanks to the generous support of our donors and volunteers, The Family Center has been able to serve more and more families in need over the course of the last few years. During 2008, The Family Center provided comprehensive legal and social services to a total of 696 families. Of these, 271 were newly enrolled in our programs. This is up from 2007, during which we served 636 families, 260 of which were newly enrolled, and 2006, when we served 449 and 97 of these were newly enrolled. Thank you to everyone who made this work possible!



The 696 families served by The Family Center in 2008 consisted of 1,249 children and 918 adults. This more than the 1,172 children and 873 adults served in 2007, and the 1,126 children and 849 adults served in 2006.







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