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Virginia Van Zandt
Executive Director

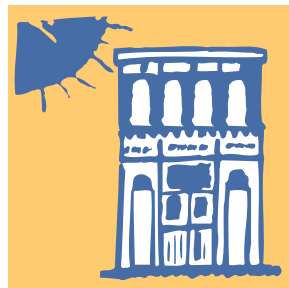
Kathleen Baxter
Director, Child Abuse Council

Diane Suffridge
Director, TALK Line Family Support
Center

Program Directors
Maria Eitz, Respite
Elizabeth Jaffee-Stafford, Children's
Playroom
Anita Moran, Crisis Line
Kevin Moser, Parent Drop In
Susan Reider, Economic Self-
Sufficiency Program
Karen Willcox, Parent/Child
Counseling

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Kate Coyne
Isabel DeTrinidad
Helena Edwards
Marva Edwards
Deidre Estey
Rebecca Ho
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The San Francisco Child Abuse Prevention Center
www.sfcapc.org
1757 Waller Street
San Francisco, CA 94117



TALK Line Family Support Center • 415-387-3684 • San Francisco Child Abuse Council • 415-668-0494 • www.sfcapc.org

PROGRAMS OF THE SAN FRANCISCO CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION CENTER

DIRECT SERVICES

TALK LINE (Telephone Aid in Living with Kids) 441-KIDS
San Francisco's 24-hour crisis and counseling line helps parents under stress. As the entry point to services for over 2,000 high-risk families, TALK Line receives 16,000 calls per year reflecting the damaging effects of emotional abuse, lack of parenting skills, substance abuse, fragmented families, relationship violence, and poverty.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES
Children's Playroom

The Playroom cares for an average of 30 children per day and is available to all families while on the premises and using the Center's services. Early intervention services are provided for children up to age five.

Respite Care

Families in crisis, needing a break, or searching for housing or employment can obtain short-term therapeutic childcare. Six respite-care slots are made available per day in a licensed home on an as-needed basis.

Counseling and Therapy Groups

Group counseling is provided to children of substance-

abusing parents. Individual therapy and psychological assessment are available for children needing more intensive intervention.

PARENT AND FAMILY SERVICES

Parent Drop-In Center

The Drop-In Center offers a supportive, homelike setting with crisis counseling, resources and referrals, free phone, refreshments, family activities and a range of workshops.

Parent Education, Support, and Counseling

Individual and family therapy are available as well as workshops focusing on parenting, chemical dependency and employment issues.

Substance Abuse Outreach and Recovery Services

Parents receive support for entering treatment and are provided with aftercare services.

Economic Self-Sufficiency Program

Welfare recipients and other unemployed parents are assisted in their job search. There is a focus on addressing financial, emotional and personal barriers to employment. Employed parents are given counseling and mentoring to ensure job retention.

INDIRECT SERVICES

PREVENTION TRAININGS

Over 4,000 professionals per year are educated in how to identify and report suspected child abuse. Trainings are offered to childcare workers, teachers, law enforcement officers, medical personnel, social workers and homeless shelter staff.

CHILD SAFETY AWARENESS

The Child Safety Awareness Program offers classroom trainings for 4,000 elementary school students per year, encouraging safety awareness and assertiveness training, including fire and traffic safety, responses to emergency situations, and how to resist and report sexual and/or physical abuse.

PUBLIC AWARENESS

The Council coordinates the annual citywide child abuse prevention media campaign and distributes 10,000 Blue Ribbon packets.

ADVOCACY

The Council reviews all national and statewide child abuse legislation and provides expert testimony, supports legislation that increases funding for local child abuse programs, and coordinates monthly meetings of child abuse prevention committees for San Francisco.

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The San Francisco Child Abuse Prevention Center

Preventing Child Abuse and Promoting Healthy Families Since 1973

VOLUME 7, NO. 1

WINTER 2003

The Journey to Self-Sufficiency Starts Here

As the first month of 2003 comes to end, America's gloomy economic forecast does not appear to be brightening any time soon. In cities like San Francisco, where the cost of living continues to climb off the charts, we know many families, even those with two incomes, who are just barely getting by. Imagine what it is like for an unemployed parent who can't find a job and knows her public assistance will expire soon.

Today more than ever, the Center's Economic Self Sufficiency Program (ESSP) offers crucial support and practical solutions for the many homeless and out of work families that are desperately seeking a way to stabilize their lives. Now in its 7th year of service, ESSP evolved from an early Center support group called Job Club. The current comprehensive program provides individual counseling and intensive case management to address barriers to employment, including mental illness and substance abuse.

"Most of the people we see here are the hardest to employ, especially this year with the economy the way it is," says Program Director Susan Reider. "Even seasonal employment was down this year."

Reider says that initially the program focuses on *pre-pre* employment issues, rather than the finer details of refining resumes and dressing for interviews. ESSP counselors assess the needs of the job seeker, as well as the family, to see what else is going on in their lives that prevents them from finding and keeping employment.

According to Reider, most of the parents she works with are enrolled in CalWORKs, a welfare program that provides cash aid and services to needy California families. CalWORKs will only guarantee benefits for a maximum of five years and recipients are required to participate in some activity or training program that will lead to work in order to receive monthly assistance, which includes child care payments and health care. *(continues on page 6)*

maria's story



Susan Reider and Maria

Maria found herself trying to raise a family alone five years ago when her marriage fell apart. She had no income of her own, no education and had never had a job outside the home. She and her two children had just moved in with Maria's mother

when she walked into the TALK Line Family Center looking for a better way. She had no idea where to start: What kind of work did she want? Would anyone even want to hire her?

Maria started attending the weekly Job Club and met individually with Susan Reider for support and advocacy. Her job search had to be put on hold because both children have special needs and had to move to schools with on-site programs so Maria would have more time to attend a training program.

Maria struggles with diabetes and high blood pressure. In the course of two years, she lost three family members. But, Maria was determined and she was finally able to complete a

computer and office skills training program at The Goodwill Industries. A year later, she got her first job as an Internet shopper at Safeway.

For the first time in a long time, Maria is excited about the New Year.

The job pays just \$8.37 an hour and Maria is only able to work part-time, but she is building a resume and learning new skills. She continues to meet weekly with Susan, working on budgeting and money management, and personal issues. For the first time in a long time, Maria is excited about the New Year. She is looking for a better paying job, planning to finish her education and find her own housing. She has come a long way since she walked into the Center five years ago.

"We often think that what we do here is teach *life self-sufficiency*," says Reider. "In life there will always be problems to face, but our hope is that parents will learn to look for ways to address those problems rather than let them turn into crises."

Save the Date!
6th Annual Luncheon
to benefit the San Francisco Child Abuse Prevention Center

Honoring
**Delancey Street founder Mimi Silbert
and Judge Donna Hitchens**

Friday, April 4, 2003
11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
the Palace Hotel. San Francisco



Board President Sue Wollack and Executive Director Virginia Van Zandt

JANUARY 2003

Dear Friends,

2002 was a year of contrasts. In this troublesome financial climate, the families we serve have faced tough times—many parents are out of work and an unfortunate number have slipped into homelessness. On the other hand, each day we see families seeking and receiving help from the Center to get their lives back on track—help in keeping their children safe, help in finding jobs, help in dealing with issues—like substance abuse and mental illness—that keep them from being the parents they want to be. Their resiliency and devotion to their children are inspiring and we see many success stories as these families move into jobs and homes, and watch their children thrive. We know that the New Year will also be difficult for our families and with your help the Center will once again marshal its resources to meet the ongoing, critical needs of disadvantaged families.

While raising sufficient funds to keep our programs in full operation will continue to be challenging, we have seen many generous and caring individuals, foundations, businesses, and associations step forward to help. The response to our first Major Gifts campaign has been truly inspiring. Our Board members and friends have pulled together to see us through a difficult year, and assure the Center's ability to provide uninterrupted services to our clients.

Our staff members have been equally inspiring as they take on larger and more intense workloads at a time when salary increases are not possible. Our volunteers – true keepers of the flame of compassion – continue to devote countless hours to helping families in need. The spirit and generosity of all those associated with the Center have been extraordinary.

The many generous friends who have made contributions to the Center are acknowledged later in this newsletter. As we embark upon a New Year and look forward to better times, we want to express our sincere appreciation to all who have supported the Center and helped to pursue our mission of preventing child abuse and promoting healthy families. We look forward to a continuing our partnership with you to give families the help they need and hope for the future.

Warm regards,

Sue Wollack

Sue Wollack
Board President

Virginia Van Zandt

Virginia Van Zandt
Executive Director

Welcome New Center Board Members
Harold Kahn, Judge, San Francisco Superior Court
Captain Keith Sanford, SFPD Juvenile Division

We Bid Farewell to Center Board Members
Captain William Davenport, Susan Eto, Marguerite Wilhite
Best wishes and thank you for your service and dedication.

Welcome New Staff
Marva Edwards, our new Substance Abuse Counselor

More News from the Board...

The Facilities Committee, a joint-committee of SFCAPC and CAPS board members has had a very successful year. The committee, co-chaired by SFCAPC Board Member Ray Brown and Bill Meyer representing the CAPS Board, has started the planning process for major renovation and maintenance projects on the Center building, the installation of a new carpet for the upstairs offices and a new heating and ventilation system.

Major Gifts Campaign. The Center successfully initiated its first formal Major Gifts Campaign in 2002. The Major Gifts Team of the Board, including Sue Wollack, Lane Auten, Sarah Brown, John Kalin, Susan Mohun, Peter Sinton, Evie Talmus and Patty Shimek were delighted with the results of the campaign, which generated increased gifts from past donors and as well as adding new supporters to the Center. The Major Gifts Campaign will be a part of the Center's ongoing annual fundraising activities.

Welcome Center Interns!

For the first time in more than two years, there is **no waiting list** for parents and children seeking long-term counseling through the TALK Line Family Support Center! Last fall, a highly skilled group of graduate students working on degrees and licensure in mental health fields joined our counseling staff. Until they arrived, some of our families had been waiting for months to be seen because most could not afford treatment elsewhere or they preferred to wait for an opening at the Center.

We are extremely fortunate to have such a bright and clinically astute group of professionals who were chosen after a rigorous interview process because of their enthusiasm for the unique blend of social services, therapy, family support and milieu services that is the Center's trademark. All ten students possess the crucial requirements for any therapist: a high degree of flexibility combined with a sense of humor and ability to adapt.

The interns have completed the TALK Line Training and are working on the 24-hour crisis line. They also provide treatment for most families, including drop-in counseling milieu therapy, individual, couples and family counseling.

Intern Class of 2002-2003

- Winn Ellis, Post Graduate MFT Intern - Argosy University
- Aggie Favorloro, Post Graduate MFT Intern – University of S.F.
- Malcolm Gaines, Post-doctoral Intern - Calif. School of Professional Psychology
- Mike Lilter, Pre-doctoral Practicum (Trainee) - Wright Institute
- Dalicia Nanee, Pre-doctoral Intern - Argosy University
- Lorie Palmer, MFT Trainee – Argosy University
- Terri Phillips, Post-doctoral Intern – Argosy University
- Karin Smith-Cerra, Pre-doctoral practicum (Trainee) – Wright Institute
- Jessica Tighe, 2nd Year Social Work Intern, University of California, Berkeley
- Virginia Todd, MFT Trainee – Argosy University



Below: Toy Team 2002 (l. to r.) Gayle Blum, Susan Feller, Jim Treadwell, Gloria Duckor



Due to lack of space at the Center this year, Holiday Toy Team Captains Gayle Blum and Gloria Duckor took their act on the road, and set up a workshop at Memory House Antiques Showroom. The magnificent warehouse space was graciously loaned to us by CAPS Board Member James Lee and his mother Mary Ann. Volunteer packers from CAPS worked around the clock to make wishes come true for 450 Center children.



Sweet Chair-ity Co-Chair Anne Symon, left, and CAPS President Susan Kirk



Barbara and Jim Treadwell try out their new "Betsy Ross" chair

Sweet Chair-ity

Sweet Chair-ity was a unique collaboration that began last summer when children from the Center met with San Francisco designers to create imaginative, one-of-a-kind masterpieces that "doubled" as chairs. The kids came up with the ideas and drew pictures and select designers and upholsters took it from there, donating their time and craftsmanship to the project. The resulting works of art hit the auction block at a gala event on October 8th, sponsored by the San Francisco Design Center at the Galleria. The event drew a crowd of 400 eager bidders and raised \$70,000 for the Child Abuse Prevention Society, a longtime supporter of the SFCAPC.

And once again...



On December 12th CAPS members treated 250 Center families to another spectacular Holiday Party, filled with Santa pictures, fun and fabulous food!



Nearly 30 families enjoyed Thanksgiving or Christmas dinner compliments of the CAPS Holiday Meal program.

CAPS' CORNER



FROM ANN, A GRATEFUL GRANDPARENT:

"Christmas would have made me crazy this year, because I didn't have much money... But you made a lot of magic for me; I'm grateful on behalf of my grandkids, but also for myself, because you have restored my faith and hope in people... Bless you."



Thank you to our wonderful 2002 Holiday Gift Program Donors:

- St. Agnes Parish
- Mary Schreiber
- Jo-Ann Rose & First Republic Bank
- KOIT-KDFC Radio
- Barbara Treadwell
- Dan Reider and Smith Group
- Wild Planet Toys
- Virologic
- Mena Farakas
- Gibson, Dunn and Crutcher
- Wind in the Willows Preschool
- Marin Day School
- Eileen Michael
- Levi Strauss
- San Francisco School
- Seneca Capital Management
- The Huber Family
- San Francisco Foundation
- Zephyr Realty

- Deloitte and Touche
- Divisadero Touchless Carwash
- Susan Mohun
- Marcia Doty
- Hilary Newsom
- Harmony Scott
- Barbara Brookins-Schneider

Our heartfelt appreciation to volunteers extraordinaire: Julia Bromley, Susan Feller, Frank Fredericks and Jim Treadwell

And To our **Center Elves:** Jorge, Elizabeth and Jacklyn de Trinidad, Sam Reider, Rory Coyne, Thomas Costello, and Elf Supreme Jennifer Knappick for facilitating family pick ups of toy bags.

Thank you to everyone at CAPS who made these wonderful holiday pleasures possible!

Thank You to Our 2002 Contributors

\$100,000 and above

Caufield Family Foundation
Child Abuse Prevention Center
SF Department of Human Services
SF Department of Children,
Youth and Their Families
State of California

\$50,000 to \$99,999

Miriam and Peter Haas Foundation
Mayor's Office of Community Development

\$25,000 - \$49,999

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William P. Wyman
Susan Yip



We apologize for any omissions or mistakes in our listings. Please contact the Center with additions or corrections.

With a little help from our friends...

On November 26th, a special, thank you memorial was dedicated at our Respite house, featuring the face of a happy clown with a "larger-than-life" nose that kids can grab and squeeze to their hearts' content. The plaque honors Bob Lansdon and Ray Jones, from whose estate a donation was made last year to improve the Respite Care Center facilities.

(Present for the dedication were: l to r: Board Member Catherine Topham, Friend of the Center Kip Oxman, Respite Care Program Director Maria Eitz, Executive Director Virginia Van Zandt, and Board Member Ray Brown)



At right: A grant last summer from SBC helped us purchase new computers for the Family Support Center and fund a monthly computer skills workshop for parents and their children, pictured here with Instructor Carla Arbana.



Far right: The Center's Family Alliance Group sponsors a monthly Art Day, scheduled to coincide with the Computer Workshops, so that half the group paints or works with crafts, while the rest get wired!

Special thanks...

To **Scheiber Design Group** who featured the Center and our mission on their holiday card this year and made a special donation to the Center in appreciation of their clients.

To **Shamrock Moving & Storage Inc.** who chose again this year to make an End of the Year donation to the Center, in honor of their clients. They told us "it is money better spent than on the traditional wine or candy that is in surplus at (holiday time) in our clients' offices and homes."

The Center was chosen as a one of the lucky beneficiaries of **Miracle Day 2002** which took place on December 4th when CIBC World Markets donated all commissions from trading that day to support children's charities.

Special thanks to Board Member Suzy Pak and her boss Peter Hable, president of Davis Skaggs, a division of Citigroup Asset Management, who nominated us for this honor!

Self-Sufficiency (continued from page 1)

Many of the ESSP parents are enrolled in City College programs and working on high school equivalency and certificate degrees, such as computer technology that will prepare them for work.

This past year, the program has been funded by a grant from the state's Employment Development Department (EDD) that helped buy four much-needed computers so that parents can job search and work on resumes here at the Center. EDD funding also helps pay a small staff, which includes the program director, two part-time job counselors and a part-time substance abuse counselor. Program counselors and parents work together on a wide range of issues and skills from finding an apartment and child-care to keeping a date book. Parents learn not only how to call prospective employers to schedule interviews, but how to negotiate a realistic appointment time.

"You'd be surprised how hard this first step is for so many people," says Susan Reider. "A key element of our program is to teach people how to advocate for themselves and their children, so that they can eventually succeed on their own."

Counselors also help parents look for jobs that are appropriate for the individual and the family. Reider says, "Many of our parents have not yet considered what they want to be when they grow up, or the kind of job that will sustain them long term. An overnight shift that pays an hourly wage of \$5.75 is a job, yes, but it may not be the right placement for a single mother raising a family in San Francisco."

Sold out Event on February 26th will Benefit the Center

SOLD OUT!

CITY ARTS & LECTURES PRESENTS:

City Arts & Lectures will sponsor a sold out event, benefiting the San Francisco Child Abuse Center, at Herbst Theatre at 8pm on Wednesday, February 26,



Michael Chabon

2003 featuring award winning authors Michael Chabon and Daniel Handler. **Michael Chabon** has achieved critical and popular success since his days as a graduate student at UC Irvine, when his thesis, *The Mysteries of Pittsburgh*, was published and became a bestseller. His book, *The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay*, won the Pulitzer Prize in 2000. Chabon's most recent book is *Summerland*, a children's novel about baseball, which he describes as "a fantasy, based in the contemporary world, and set against a background of American myth." Chabon is currently working on the screenplay adaptation of *The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay*.

Under the nom de plume Lemony Snicket, **Daniel Handler** is the author of the outrageously funny and macabre collection of children's novels, *A Series of Unfortunate Events*, which follow the Baudelaire orphans through a variety of misfortunes. A native San Franciscan, Handler attended Lowell High School and Wesleyan University. He recently published *The Unauthorized Autobiography of Lemony Snicket*, and is at work on a screenplay based on the series and on book number ten, *The Slippery Slope*.

Although this event is sold out, some donated tickets may be available for resale on the day of the event. Anyone interested in taking part in this unforgettable evening, benefiting a wonderful cause, should call City Box at 415-392-4400. Many thanks to Sydney Goldstein and City Arts & Lectures.

special thanks

To **Angela Krause** of **Ray of Light** for her generosity and gentle touch

To Board Member **Lynn Bunim** and SBC-Pac Bell for the recent computer grant

To **Daniel Reider** for designing new business cards for Center staff

For the following people who gave the Center's administrative offices a brand new look:

Abbey Carpets

Rebuilding Together

Duane, Eliana, Gilbert, Paul, Richard & Robert from **Milestones**

Rick Suarez and **David Marshall** of **Northern California Floor Covering**

Dave Weigel and **Superb Carpet and Upholstery Cleaning**

Hands On San Francisco and **Anne Symon** for the new paint job in our entry way

To the Following stores and restaurants who have generously donated to the Monthly Family Dinners at the Center:

AG Ferrari

Andrew & Company

Balboa Café

Bay Breads (Who donate bread and desserts EVERY MONTH!)

Bi-Rite Markets

Bryan's Market

Four Seasons

Meze's

Pasta Pomodoro

Plump Jack

Rose's

Whole Foods

Yabbie's



To the following businesses and organizations who donated tickets and services for our families:

"Hearst Castle"

National Geographic Theatre

Bay Area Theatresports

Bill Graham Presents

San Francisco Symphony

