

Community Update

Family Resource Corner

FamilyResourceCorner.com is now live!

The "Family Resource Corner" is a comprehensive website for all families and professionals seeking concrete, research based answers to a vast array of questions surrounding child development and parenting.



"Dimples Playland" is an interactive section created just for young children. Characters such as "Dimples the Duck", will teach children about hygiene, home safety, ABC's, basic math and much more. Interactive games such as "Color Time" will help children develop motion, awareness and kinetic skills.

Site information includes, but is not limited to the following:

- » Having a Baby
- » Growth Stages
- » Parenting
- » Teen Spot
- » Interactive Kids Corner
- » Quick Tips
- » Safety and First Aid
- » Online Classes
- » Demonstration Videos
- » Health and Nutrition
- » Discussion Forum

We encourage you to log on today and take advantage of all the information the site has to offer. A discussion board is posted for you to share your personal parenting experiences and tips. All postings are screened by an early childhood education specialist.

www.familyresourcecorner.com

Tampa Bay Lightning



Lightning Coach John Tortorella hosted 20 children from the CAC's summer program for a day of street hockey. Afterwards, Coach and the Lightning Bug joined the children for pizza and an autograph session with Coach and his wife, Christine, author of "Annie & the Little One," a self-esteem building book for kids.



Coach Tortorella posed with two CAC volunteers to thank them for helping make the event a great success.

Coach Tortorella's 3rd Annual Celebrity Fishing Tournament on September 8th benefited the Child Abuse Council and the Children's Home Inc. Lightning players joined in the effort to help abused and neglected children in our community.

Birdies for Charity

Join the Outback Steakhouse Pro-Am Birdies for Charity Contest and help raise funds for the Child Abuse Council! Guess the number of birdies made by PGA Tour Professionals during the Outback Steakhouse Pro-Am Tournament, April 14-20, 2008 and pledge one cent or more per birdie.

Call (813) 673-4646, ext. 223 for a pledge form, or download it from our website at: www.childabusecouncil.com

Outstanding Service Recognized



Paul D'Agostino, CAC's Executive Director, was presented with the Dr. Luanne Panacek Award for outstanding community service at the annual Children's Future Hillsborough Awards Breakfast.

Dr. Panacek, CEO of the Children's Board of Hillsborough County, was honored to recognize Paul's longstanding efforts to improve the lives of children and families in Hillsborough County.

Lennar Golf Tournament



Lennar raised over \$14,000 for the programs of the Child Abuse Council at its first annual golf tournament at River Strand, a premier Lennar community.



3108 West Azeele St. Tampa, FL 33609
www.childabusecouncil.com

For Parenting Information visit our new website:
www.familyresourcecorner.com

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FROM THE HEART

1977 2007

Child Abuse Council News
www.childabusecouncil.com

Winter 2007

www.childabusecouncil.com

30th

Child Abuse Council

30 YEARS PREVENTING TEARS

The Child Abuse Council is Celebrating its 30th Year Anniversary!

BUILDING A FAMILY TAKES A LITTLE FAITH AND A LITTLE HELP.

THIRTY YEARS PREVENTING TEARS
CHILDABUSECOUNCIL.COM

Building a strong family is no easy feat.

The Child Abuse Council aims to help every and any family in our community learn the tools necessary to create and maintain a healthy and happy family.

Over the years the Child Abuse Council's focus has shifted to include not only treatment programs, but prevention and education programs as well. By creating stronger bonds, the likelihood of abuse is decreased.

Who is on your holiday shopping list?

Holiday Store 2007

Give the gift of love.

Holiday Store is a community project that benefits the Child Abuse Council's children and families. At no cost to them, parents and caregivers in need come to our store to select toys for their children, ensuring that children have a brighter holiday season.

Last year we provided nearly 700 children and 250 families with gifts. This year we expect the need to be as great. We are taking toy donations up through December 8. Please support the Child Abuse Council's annual Holiday Store as a donor, volunteer or both! Our needs are particularly great for children ages 0 - 3 and 9 - 12.

SUGGESTED GIFTS:

♥ Arts and Crafts Sets	♥ Gift Cards- \$10 & \$20	♥ Early Learning Toys	♥ Developmental Toys
♥ Accessories for Girls ie. jewelry, purses, stationery, play make-up	♥ Watches	♥ Rattles	♥ Cars and Trucks
♥ Building Sets	♥ Children's DVD's	♥ Crib Toys	♥ Make Believe Play Sets
♥ Balls & Sports Equipment	♥ Portable CD Players	♥ Bath Toys	♥ Culturally Diverse Dolls
	♥ Books	♥ Preschool Play Sets	♥ Action Figures
	♥ Board Games/Cards	♥ Blocks	♥ Remote Control Vehicles

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From The Heart is published by the Development Department of the Child Abuse Council, a private, non-profit agency devoted to helping children and strengthening families in Hillsborough County.

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Paul's Corner



Dear friends:

As I enter my 30th year at the Child Abuse Council, I realize that so many things have changed since 1977. One of the biggest challenges parents have to face is protecting their children from the perils of the Internet. Technology brings a plethora of benefits to it's users, however it comes with great dangers as well. The Internet has become a convenient tool for predators to seduce children. With this becoming an escalating problem, there are a few things you can implement in your home to keep your children safe. Remember that all children are at risk.

- » Talk to your children about the dangers of the Internet
- » Locate your computer in a public area of your home
- » Utilize commercial programs available to restrict your children's usage of the web
- » Monitor your child's cell phone, which may have Internet access

Talk to your kids about the possibility of danger and make exploring the world of technology a family activity.

Paul

Thank You to our Champions for Children!

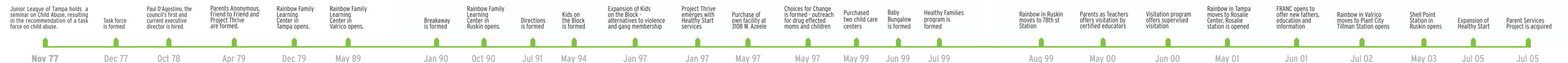


Debbie Gavalas, Paul D'Agostino, Dave Pelzer, Gayle Sierens, Cornelia Corbett, Richard Corbett, Monsignor Higgins, Tready Smith and Bretta Sullivan gather for a picture after a successful event.

Nearly 550 guests attended the 5th Annual Champions for Children Breakfast held at Raymond James Stadium. The Breakfast featured Dave Pelzer, Pulitzer Prize nominated author. Gayle Sierens, News Channel 8 Anchor, served as our event emcee. Longtime Council friends, Richard and Cornelia Corbett, served as the Breakfast's co-chairs.

Through the generous support of our community, more than \$300,000 was raised through pledges, sponsorships and a matching gift of \$150,000 by The William Stamps Parish Fund. Thank you to all those who supported the Breakfast. These funds are essential in order to continue our work of helping children and strengthening families in Hillsborough County.

The Child Abuse Council at a glance, 1977 to present



Programs Update

Healthy Start

A new smoking cessation curriculum, "Fresh Start", has been implemented county-wide offering pregnant women and teens the tools for successful smoking cessation.

Mothers who stop smoking at any point during their pregnancy increase their chances of delivering a healthy baby.

Mothers who smoke are twice as likely to deliver low birth weight infants, are at greater risk for diabetes, miscarriage, stillbirth, future infertility and their babies are at greater risk for Sudden Infant Death Syndrome and asthma.

"In the short time I have been teaching the material, seven of my clients have quit smoking," Suzanne Fuqua, Healthy Start employee.

Baby Bungalow

Baby Café is a new program taught by Certified Lactation Counselors. The program is offered at the Family Resource and Support Centers in Town n' Country, Brandon and North Tampa.

Baby Cafe offers a relaxed atmosphere where moms can receive help, support and encouragement on all aspects of breastfeeding and its impact on daily life.



For more information, please contact Maria Elena Velasco at (813) 356-1293, Ext. 297.

PSP Expands



Lorena Garcia, Mona Posinoff and Ethel Seiderman

The Parent Services Project is expanding from offering their services in 20 to 32 child care centers throughout Hillsborough County. Ethel Seiderman, founder and CEO of PSP, joined Hillsborough County's team for training.

Participants in this interactive workshop learned about the nationally acclaimed family support program. They were taught techniques to engage parents in their child's learning by offering support, information and the opportunity to plan family activities with their child care center.

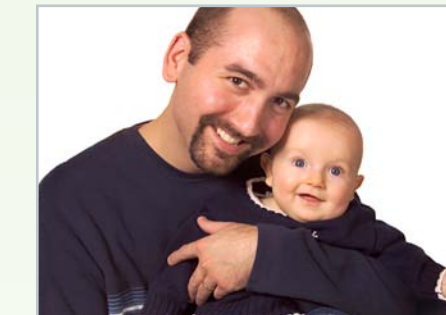
For more information, please contact Mona Posinoff at (813) 673-4646, Ext. 248.

Developmental Screenings



For more information, please contact Patricia Pead at (813) 356-1293, Ext. 245.

FRANC- Nurturing Parenting



The Nurturing Parents Program is a new service of FRANC beginning in November.

The Fathers Resource and Networking Center recently added a new program. The Nurturing Parents Program is a nationally recognized, 15-week course, which assists parents to develop stronger positive attitudes and nurturing parenting skills.

A formal evaluation assesses each couple's attitude toward topics like corporal punishment, power independence, expectations, empathy and role-reversal with a focus on love of life, respect for all living things, structure and discipline and laughter, humor and play. Classes are offered throughout Hillsborough County.

FRANC aims to raise fathers' awareness of their role and responsibilities and to promote responsible parenting.

Fatherlessness has become the norm. According to the National Center for Fathering, 72% of the U.S. population cited fatherlessness in the home to be the most significant family or social problem facing America.

Additional programs offered by FRANC include Boot Camp for New Dads, Nurturing Dads Course and Dads Dinners.

For more information, please contact John Roth at (813) 356-1293, Ext. 226.

Latest News

Volunteers at CAC

The annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon recently celebrated the time, talent and treasures offered throughout the year by our many beloved volunteers. The event was sponsored by Chase Paymentech Solutions. Special recognition was awarded in three categories:

Liz Kennedy Community Service Award
Leslie McHale

Corporate Volunteer Award
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Florida

"You Rock!" Youth in Philanthropy
Candice & Nikita Haytread



Candice and Nikita Haytread each volunteered over 80 hours this summer at CAC's Breakaway.

Upcoming Events

Holiday Store
December 11-13, 2007
Child Abuse Council

20th Annual Rainbow Ball
April 26, 2008
Red Rose Ballroom
Plant City

5th Annual GunnAllen Financial May Classic 5k & Family Fun Run
May 3, 2008
Hyde Park Village

Please call Shannon Sellards at (813) 673-4646, Ext. 225 for sponsorship opportunities.

Leave a Legacy



Over the years, many wonderful and generous friends have blessed the Child Abuse Council with charitable gifts and bequests. The Legacy Leaders Society celebrates that generosity and assists supporters who want to arrange a gift that will assure their philanthropic interest in the Council continues beyond their lifetime. Some ways to make a difference are to include the CAC as a beneficiary of your Will or living trust, a gift annuity, life insurance, IRA or 401(k) Plan.

Gearing Up for the Holidays



Donna Fryza and friends created 100 stockings for the Child Abuse Council's Annual Holiday Store.

Last year over 220 volunteers donated their time and talents to help the Council provide an extra special holiday for nearly 700 children.

For more information on volunteering during the holidays, please call Maria Lewis at (813) 673-4646, Ext. 244.

Baby Bungalow Spa Day



Children played outside on the playground while mothers received soothing Spa Treatments inside.

Baby Bungalow, a family resource center of the Child Abuse Council, was recently transformed into a day spa where over 50 mothers indulged in a day of spa services and relaxation as Council staff provided free babysitting.



Shannon Christaldi and Licette Lovelace organized the one-day fundraising event to bring awareness to Baby Bungalow as well as allow mothers a chance to be pampered and to network with other moms.

Licette and Shannon met at a Baby Bungalow developmental playgroup and have remained friends. Their friendship blossomed into a business partnership when they created babynewsbits.com, a reference site tailored to the needs of Tampa area mothers.

For more information about Baby Bungalow daily classes throughout Hillsborough County, please contact Patricia Pead at (813) 356-1293, Ext. 245 or visit www.childabusecouncil.com.