



familyconnections

Counseling resources with *family* in mind

THE CONNECTION

www.familyconnectionsinc.org

VOLUME 7 Edition 1 2011

CLINIC—Call for information about our counseling services:

Weirton Medical Center
Medical Office Building
651 Colliers Way, Suite 412
Weirton, WV 26062
Phone: (304) 723-3423
Fax: (304) 723-3426
E-mail:
admin@
familyconnectionsinc.org

BROOKE PLACE—Call for a referral for residential group treatment for girls:

P.O. Box 348
Tent Church Road
Colliers, WV 26035
Phone: (304) 527-3303
Fax: (304) 527-3306

This facility is funded in part under an agreement with the Bureau of Children and Families, WV Department of Health and Human Resources

Email:
brookeplace@
familyconnectionsinc.org



Hancock County Savings Bank Funds Computers



At a time when our computers and our software were beginning to cause some real difficulties with costly repairs and outdated programs, the Hancock County Savings Bank Charitable Foundation came to our rescue with a \$2,000 grant. Family Connections was included in a group of approximately twenty local charitable and community organizations who made application and were approved for funding for the 2010 cycle of grant applications. Funding for the foundation is derived primarily from contributions by Hancock County Savings Bank as part of their mission, which includes a commitment to supporting the dedicated work of community organizations.

As a result of the Foundation's assistance, Family Connections replaced several computers. For a nominal fee, we were also able to update our software systems through our association with the nonprofit technology organization, Tech Soup. Through the assistance of many donor partners, like Microsoft, Adobe, Intuit and Symantec, Tech Soup helps other nonprofits get technology resources they need to operate at their full potential.

Family Connections is gratified to be the recipients of assistance from Hancock County Savings Bank and Tech Soup. Thank you so much.

Back to School Brooke Place Wish List

Backpacks	Make up	60 -watt light bulbs
Pens & mechanical pencils	Toilet paper, paper towels	Laundry detergent, bleach & dryer Sheets
Notebooks & notebook paper	White towels & washcloths	
Markers	White, twin-size sheet sets	
Folders & binders	Underwear, all sizes	
Stretchy book covers	Mesh bags for large laundry baskets	
Craft items, e.g., beads, yarn, scrapbooking supplies, etc.	Laundry baskets with lids	
Construction paper	Batteries, all sizes	

Please contact Barb Jones at 304-527-3303 if you can help. Thanks so much!



Thank You for a Great Evening



On April 30, 2011 Family Connections held their fourth annual “There’s No Place Like Home,” gala event to benefit Brooke Place, Family Connections’ residential facility in Colliers

for adolescent females. This year, the event was held as a birthday celebration to commemorate Family Connections’ 35 years of service to children and families. Save the date for next year’s event — Saturday, April 28, 2012.

Our gratitude and thanks go out to the following: the Weirton Holiday Inn for providing the venue for the evening; Undo’s Restaurant for the steak dinners; the Weirton Daily Times, Brooke County Review, Hancock County Courier, Weirton and Wellsburg Chambers of Commerce and Top of WV web site for publicizing our event; DJ Bobby LaRosa for donating his evening to provide the music; Vicki and Gary Williams who gathered donations and filled many baskets for our raffles, auctions and door prizes; and Jean Bartholow, for making the candy for each place setting. Thank you for the efforts of our staff and our fund development committee, who provided many months of thoughtful planning, followed by setting up, working and cleaning up during the event.

Finally, we thank the many businesses and individuals who contributed to the event and to the many people who bought tickets and enjoyed the evening with us. We especially thank the following who contributed at our sponsorship levels: WV Professional Women’s Club at the Emerald level; Orphy Klempe, Jon and Jeannette Meriwether from Merco Marine and Hancock County Savings Bank at the Silver level; and, the Brooke County Rotary, Dewey Guida at Dee Jay’s, Jennifer Vail-Kirkbride, Tom Zielinsky, and Anne Guio at the Yellow Brick Road level. Our girls at Brooke Place are the direct benefactors and they thank you as well.

Outpatient Clinic Shares Space with Local Psychiatrist

Family Connections’ counseling services, located in Weirton Medical Center’s Medical Offices Building, and Brooke Place, our residential program for adolescent girls, complies with a myriad of state regulations, policies, and protocols. All contribute to and ensure the health, welfare and safety of those we serve. One individual who assists us in the work we do is Dr. Richard A. Ajayi.

Dr. Ajayi, a board certified psychiatrist who has a practice in cognitive medicine, has been associated with Family Connections since 2008 providing medication management and oversight for our Brooke Place girls. He, along with Jacqueline Jones McDaniel, Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner, visit Brooke Place to meet face to face with our residents and review their files. They are also available to us for consultation.

Dr. Ajayi’s association with Brooke Place fulfills a very important WV Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau of Children and Families regulation, that children who are prescribed certain medications are closely followed by a physician.

Utilizing our clinic site at the Medical Center Building, Dr. Ajayi with Jacqueline McDaniel, CRNP, see individuals from his practice two evenings a week. We are pleased have Dr. Ajayi and Nurse McDaniel share our space and hope we are assisting him with his practice as much as he assists us with our services.

Brooke Place-WVU Landscaping Project



In previous newsletters, we've been keeping you up to date about our collaboration with WVU and Professor Peter Butler's Landscape Architecture students who produced site designs for the development of the woody area surrounding Brooke Place, our residential treatment facility for adolescent girls. While we have records of the young women who have passed through our doors, we realize there are more satisfactory ways to recognize their contributions to our program and their successes in goal achievement, ways that might inspire girls in the future to make positive contributions as well. The idea for an honor garden was born, and has become the centerpiece of a wellness property development project that will include opportunities for exercise, athletics, gardening, and environmental education. To this end, the WVU students visited our site, surveyed the property, spoke to our staff and our girls, and ultimately developed a final design product which fulfills the initial phase of the project.

Some of the proposed exercise and athletic designs include trails, swings, and a multi-purpose court for badminton, volleyball, and basketball. Gardening is one of the surest ways to encourage our girls to make healthier eating choices. The environmental education component is one of the exciting bonuses of partnering with WVU. Outdoor classroom activities could include water conservation, habitat development, and watershed flow.

We are initiating the next phase which is putting the theoretical plan to its practical application. A local architect will be secured and the plan will be partitioned into phases with careful thought as to "what comes first." We will search for grants and donations to assist us in accomplishing the step by step phases of this large project.

If you find there is something in this wellness project with which you can assist, we will certainly welcome your support!

MISSION STATEMENT

Family Connections is committed to helping individuals function to the best of their abilities by engaging the resources that exist naturally within their family and community. Interventions provided by Family Connections are theory-based and are guided by the principle that the individual is best treated within the context of their family. Family Connections is dedicated to the care, welfare, and respect of families and the individuals who comprise them.

family connections, inc.

P.O. Box 348

Colliers, WV 26035

We're on the Web!
Now you can donate online!
www.familyconnectionsinc.org

By giving a contribution in memory of or in honor of a family member or friend, many generous people have found a way to express their caring spirit while investing in the lives of those served by Family Connections.

**In Honor Of
EVELYN RAPP**

In Memory Of

ANDREA KAILSZ

By Rev. & Mrs. Gene Sheppard

EILEEN PRATT

By Carolyn & Alvin Schafer

JOAN RAPP DOBRZANSKI

By

Cathy Sobel; Peg Cartus; Jennifer Kirkbride; Elaine Cipoletti; Deanna Weber; Tom Zielinsky; Anne Guio; Wayne & Susan Frankenstein; Karl & Pat Longenbach; Dennis Pease; Beth Schoy; Vicki Pleasant; Linda Boyer; Tina Stewart; Lisa Shepard & Dave Cavanaugh; Beth Morrison; Mark Ferrell; Mark Irvin; Jeff & Heather Collins; Linda Kellough; Katie & Jessa Reisner; Alvin & Carolyn Schafer; John P. & Barbara Jones; Linda Pratt