



# The Society for the Protection & Care of Children

September 2010

## SPCC Programs Receive 2010 Losos Prize for Excellence Award

SPCC's Teenage Parent Support Program (TAPSS) and Building Healthy Children (BHC) have captured national attention for receiving the 2010 Losos Prize for Excellence Award. SPCC is being recognized for demonstrating creativity and innovation in helping to realize the Parents as Teachers Born to Learn vision; which is that all children will learn, grow and develop to realize their full potential.

In addition to a cash award to further the purpose of Parents as Teachers (PAT), SPCC will receive an expense-paid trip to accept the award at a ceremony during the Born to Learn Conference in November 2010 in St. Louis. SPCC will receive a visit from a National Center representative, as well as publicity around a local ceremony honoring SPCC, specifically TAPSS and the Building Healthy Children Program.



The reason we have been chosen to be honored through the Losos Prize for Excellence is in part due to TAPSS' 18-year history of providing high quality services to pregnant and parenting teens and incorporating PAT into services in a way that effectively addresses the unique challenges and barriers for teen parents. When the Monroe County Department of Human Services and the United Way of Greater Rochester released the opportunity for funding in 2007 Building Healthy Children, was awarded this funding in part due to SPCC's years of experience working with teen parents and PAT helped further address common barriers. This work was then strengthened through a grant that SPCC's TAPSS program was awarded three years ago from the Administration on Children and Families to develop Building Healthy Children (BHC).

In collaboration with Mt. Hope Family Center, the University of Rochester Medical Center Social Work and Pediatrics Departments, the Monroe County Departments of Human Services and Public Health and the United Way BHC is providing and evaluating an integrated approach to evidence-based home visitation (EBHV) targeting low-income teen and young adult parents. Parents as Teachers home visitation combined with intensive Master's Level social work services to address the frequent histories of trauma is provided, along with Interpersonal Psychotherapy for treatment of depression when identified. In addition, Child-Parent Psychotherapy is offered when insecure attachment relationships are identified. The Incredible Years (IY) parenting education group curriculum is also offered to all participants as their children reach age two. In summary, this program utilizes multiple evidence-based home visitation programs, that target young parents of infants and toddlers, and addresses past trauma, mental health concerns, domestic violence, self-sufficiency and relationship challenges that increase the risk of child maltreatment. The program combines all of these services with parenting education and support through Parents As Teachers.

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## A Day at the Zoo...

The Teenage Parent Support Services Program (TAPSS) along with the Building Healthy Children Program (BHC) hosted a zoo play date at the Seneca Park Zoo on August 11, 2010. This event brought 15 young parents and their 18 children to the zoo. The parents and their children enjoyed watching the elephant bath and sea lion show as well as the opportunity to build friendships with other families. TAPSS and BHC provided transportation, zoo tickets and a pizza lunch for everyone.



## Family Fun at “Bounce It Out”

On August 19<sup>th</sup> Action Against Child Maltreatment (AACM) treated families with children between the ages of 4-12 to a day of genuine family fun. Neil Butera, Chairman of AACM and an SPCC board member was instrumental in AACM’s support of this event. Below are a few of Neil’s comments about the Bounce It Out event.....”

“Yesterday was a phenomenal day. It really was the best event I’ve been part of in terms of seeing the rewards of what AACM does. Bounce It Out is the perfect venue for the kids to simply escape from their tough lives and just be kids. To see how excited they were to have, as one child exclaimed wide-eyed, ‘as much pizza as we want?’ just makes us realize how different life is for these kids. They were all covered with popcorn, pizza sauce, and fruit punch, which was hysterical! This was a fairly inexpensive event and the kids obviously got to do something that they absolutely loved!”

Thanks to AACM and Neil for providing this day of fun for the families served by SPCC.



## On the Playing Field

On July 17<sup>th</sup> a group of the families served by SPCC enjoyed a night at The Marina Auto Stadium to watch the Rochester Rhinos versus the Carolina Rail Hawks soccer game. Thanks to Action Against Child Maltreatment (AACM) for making this night possible. Families enjoyed a pizza dinner at the park prior to the game and then the children were invited to go onto the field to cheer for the Rochester Rhinos as they were introduced to the fans. AACM provided each child with a T-shirt for the game (see photo).



Neil Butera and Nino Pilato, board members of AACM were responsible for coordination and facilitation of this event, while AACM covered all of the cost (see photo). Neil said “I could feel the struggle with the majority of these folks so it felt really good to give them something they would never be able to do on their own. One of the family’s kids was so excited when I told them that we had pizza and drinks for them, it made me realize how much AACM’s support really meant to all of them.”

Thanks to AACM for making these two events possible.



## SPCC’s Annual Agency Picnic



The staff of SPCC and their families enjoyed a day of “fun in the sun” at Laurie Valentine’s park like property. Not to be biased but..... the Staff of SPCC have an abundance of beautiful young children. We all watched as the children thoroughly enjoyed themselves while swimming and playing with toys in the sand and pond.

We extend a special thank you to Laurie and Jerry for sharing their “piece of paradise” with SPCC. We truly appreciate their willingness to host SPCC’s Annual Picnic. In addition we are grateful to Jerry for being the grill master and to SPCC’s supervisors for making all of the yummy salads.

## Youth Give Back to the Community

Katie Diehl and Nicole Waddington prepared homemade beef bourguignon and chocolate soufflé out of Nicole’s house, where their restaurant the Pink Flamingo Café is run. For a small fee, these young community conscious entrepreneurs prepared and served lunch to SPCC’s Family Trauma Intervention Program (FTIP) staff. The proceeds from this luncheon were donated back to SPCC to assist with the cost of a trip to Seabreeze for the FTIP teen group. As season ticket holders to Seabreeze, Nicole and her friend Katie took it upon themselves to send the teens in our FTIP group to the amusement park for the day! Way to go Nicole and Katie!

Thank you for making a difference in these teen’s summer and thank you Janet, Nicole’s mother and SPCC social worker, for supporting these young women in their community service project.



## Cigar Smoker

Please join us on **Thursday, October 14th** for a Cigar Smoker to benefit SPCC. The event will be held at One, 1 Ryan Alley, Rochester, New York beginning at 6:00p.m.

The registration form is available on our web site.  
Pre-Registration Cost: \$60 p/p (\$75 at the door).  
Includes: 2 cigars per person, 2 drink tickets, and assorted appetizers.

We hope to see you there!



## Angel Party



**Celebrate the Season While Making a Child's Holiday Brighter**

Save the Date for a

Girl's Night Out at Oak Hill Country Club

Wednesday, December 8, 2010

7:00 p.m.

Hors d'oeuvres

Cash Bar

Please email Paula at [pessler@spcc-roch.org](mailto:pessler@spcc-roch.org) to be added to our mailing list and have an opportunity to sponsor a child this holiday season.



## 2010 Direct Service Champion Award

On June 3, 2010, Bonnie Allen, SPCC's Clinical Supervisor for the Teen Age Parent Support Program, received the 2010 Direct Service Champion Award in honor of her extraordinary efforts to identify and meet the needs of pregnant and parenting teens at SPCC. The award was presented by The Perinatal Network of Monroe County, Inc.



Congratulations, Bonnie!

## Working as a Community with Families Impacted by Domestic Violence



On September 16, 2010, SPCC hosted "Working as a Community with Families Impacted by Domestic Violence," A Safe Havens Community Training.



The program included a presentation by Judge Victor Reyes, District Court Judge in the 10th Judicial District located in Pueblo, Colorado. Also presenting was Chuck Derry, who has worked to end men's violence against women since 1983. Chuck co-founded the Gender Violence Institute in Clearwater, Minnesota in 1994.

Praxis International presented, "Will You Hold My Child...", a 45 minute interactive play which illustrates how interventions can protect children and/or battered women, and effect an abuser's use of intimidation, coercion and violence. It offered a deeper understanding of the complex dynamics created by an abuser, and in particular, demonstrated how destructive the abuse is to the relationship between a mother and her children.



**SPCC. . . Supporting children, strengthening families - with your help.**

**THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION AND CARE OF CHILDREN**

SPCC  
148 South Fitzhugh Street  
Rochester, New York 14608

Phone: 585-325-6101  
Fax: 585-325-6960

*Current Resident or:*

NON PROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE  
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ROCHESTER, NY  
PERMIT # 985

SPCC Programs Receive 2010 Losos Prize, continued

Through a randomized controlled trial, the program is being rigorously evaluated, and results will facilitate systemic change in service delivery toward evidence-based models that are most effective for high-risk young families. The broad objectives for the systems level area are:

1. Create a broad community awareness of the importance of early, preventive, evidence based, home visiting services for new parents.
2. Put in place a well established, and streamlined processes for receiving referrals from and providing enrollment information back to prenatal and pediatric practices and other community referral sources.
3. Widely disseminate evaluative findings that support investment in EB home visiting at various community forums and community periodicals.
4. Develop a sustainability plan to support permanency of infrastructure changes.

Building Healthy Children is now also partnering with Nurse Family Partnership to address the above mentioned objectives and to strengthen each model of service to best serve young parents in Monroe County. SPCC is extremely honored to receive this recognition and thrilled to be part of such an exciting collaborative. Monroe County is making huge strides in meeting the needs of young parents.