



FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER
ST. CROIX VALLEY

Growing Kids by Growing Families

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United Way
St. Croix Valley



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Would you like to publicize how your business supports our community?
Call Keri or Kristin at (715) 684-4440.



FAMILY MATTERS

Supporting families in the
St. Croix Valley since 1998

Winter 2017



Save the Date!

Reach for the Stars: Caribbean Riviera

Sunday, April 30
4:30-8:30 p.m.

River Falls Golf Club

Join us at our annual gala for a Caribbean-inspired meal, guest speakers, auctions and raffles.



Find us on
Facebook

Like us on Facebook to get updates about classes, registration deadlines, and links to child development resources:

www.facebook.com/frcscv

Help us reduce costs by receiving this newsletter electronically. To update your preferences, contact Keri at info@frcscv.org



Supporters gathered at the home of Bill and Ann Findlay this fall.

Investing in our future was the theme when Family Resource Center St. Croix Valley board member Bill Findlay and his wife Ann hosted a gathering at their home this fall. The couple has been supportive of the Resource Center since its inception, with Ann having participated in the committee that worked to form the organization. The event was a fundraiser for the Bright Futures Long-Term Fund, an endowment-like fund that was established with the St. Croix Valley Foundation in 2006.

Trudy Popenhagen was among the guests that evening, and she shared a story about her late aunt Mona Faye, who made a bequest to the Family Resource Center St. Croix Valley upon her passing in 2015. Trudy said that as her aunt was getting on in years, she decided she wanted to do something more to support the work of nonprofit organizations. "She said, 'Would you suggest someone that helps with kids?' because that was really her first love," Trudy recounted. "I knew about the Family Resource Center and I knew about the great programs they have, and I knew that they would take care of any donation that she was willing to give."

Board Vice President Aaron Mork then made an appeal to guests for their support, stating, "Many of the families we work with look just like yours or mine, but some of our families face challenges including poverty, substance abuse, homelessness, mental illness, and learning to parent as a teenager. Providing parents with the support needed to be the best parents they can be helps their families as well as the community at large." (Continued on page 4)

Alexis Cook-Bowen recently celebrated her 8th birthday and, instead of gifts, she asked her friends to bring a donation for the Family Resource Center St. Croix Valley. "She feels she is lucky to have everything she needs, and wanted to help our community," said her mother Jessica Cook.

"We are grateful for Alexis' desire to share with area families through collecting donations on her birthday," said Executive Director Patty Draxler. "Her gifts will be much appreciated by families who participate in our programs, and we are touched by her generosity."

The Family Resource Center has an ongoing need for donation of supplies. If you or your civic group would like to sponsor a donation drive, please contact Kristin Thompson at kristin@frcscv.org to request a copy of our wish list.

Donor Spotlight: Alexis Cook-Bowen



Contributors Make a Long-Term Investment in Families

715-684-4440

info@frcscv.org • www.frcscv.org

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The mission of the Family Resource Center St. Croix Valley is to *strengthen children, families, and communities by offering education, resources, and support.*

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NEWSLETTER

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Please notify us if your mailing address has changed. For an electronic version of this newsletter, email info@frcscv.org or call Keri @ (715) 684-4440. Thank You!

From the Director's Desk

Change is in the air! We certainly feel it during the transition of seasons in Wisconsin. We should also expect change as an organization grows, and I have always been thankful for positive change. I love John F. Kennedy's quote on change as it is really a great one for leaders of growing organizations. He said, "Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future." As Family Resource Center St. Croix Valley grows and changes, we want to acknowledge and be thankful for our past and present, while always looking to the future. So, in this autumn season of change, my thoughts to you come in the form of many "Thanks!"

First, I would like to thank the Board of Directors, past and present, who have given time, talent, and gifts to FRCSCV. I especially want to thank and welcome Erik Johnson as our newest member of the board. Erik is an Assistant Professor in the Stage & Screen Arts Department at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls.

Thank you to staff. Obviously, the staff is key to all the programs we provide. It is with a bit of sadness that we say goodbye and extend well wishes to two staff members: Betsy Byker and Sky Holt. Betsy was our Parent Educator/Coordinator for many years and Sky worked with us as a Parent Educator. FRCSCV has had the good fortune of consistently having a great staff of people whose dedication and expertise complement the work beautifully and this was true for Betsy and Sky. I also want to thank and extend well wishes to Jo Griffin who was placed at FRCSCV through Experience Works. Thanks to each of you for your time with FRCSCV.

The Board and I have reflected upon our staffing changes and took the opportunity to look at the organization with fresh eyes. After an organizational assessment, we made the decision to restructure the organization and elevate current leaders to new positions. Congratulations to Robbyn Bowman, Parent Educator Lead -- Polk County, Susan Hodnefield, Parent Educator Lead -- Pierce/St. Croix counties, and Marla Butler, Parent Educator Lead -- Data Management. We have also recently added Kristine Brede to our Parent Education team. Kristine has many years of experience, particularly in Polk County, and we are very excited to welcome her. All staff play a key role in our organizational success. The board and I say "THANKS!"

I would also like to acknowledge and thank our businesses and community partners that support FRCSCV. Within the newsletter you will see a wide variety of ways to get involved. Some examples include: newsletter sponsorship, hosting a fundraiser on our behalf, or perhaps you are a business who participates in employee giving for our benefit. I hope that with the variety of opportunities available, something will speak to your heart.

Finally, I want to thank each and every one of you for your past support of FRCSCV and remind you to keep this local organization in mind when you are making your year-end gifts. There is no better feeling than knowing your gifts are making a direct impact in your local communities!

Happy Thanksgiving!



Patricia Draxler, Executive Director



Volunteers Needed!

We are seeking volunteers to assist our Baldwin office with light housekeeping, preparation of materials and supplies, and occasional mailings. Some projects can be done offsite. At times, we also have need for someone who is handy with tools or a paintbrush.

Please contact us at 715-684-4440 or info@frcscv.org if you are interested in helping out or would like more information. Thank you!



FRCSCV's Grandchildren Honor Roll

CHUCK & MARY SUE ASH of Hudson, WI

Grandchildren: **Christian & Charlie Ash** of Fridley, MN
Elizabeth & Gracie Strandberg of Duluth, MN

BRAD & BETSY BYKER of Osceola, WI

Grandchildren: **Ava Schueller & Lydia Rober't** of Osceola, WI
August Byker of Soldotna, AK

SAM & TERESA CARI of Hudson, WI

Grandchildren: **Clara & Evan Cari** of Hudson, WI
Taylor, Carson & Caroline Cari of Hudson, WI
George, William & Charlie Cook of Hudson, WI
Nell Cari of Deephaven, MN

BOB & CINDY CAMPBELL of Hammond, WI

Grandchildren: **Finley & Jordyn Campbell** of River Falls, WI

THOMAS & AMY CASEY of Woodville, WI

Grandchild: **Asher Casey** of Woodville, WI

DANIEL & PATRICIA DRAXLER of Amery, WI

Grandchild: **Leif Wanken** of Northfield, MN

JOHN & MARY DYKSTRA of Roberts, WI

Grandchildren: **Sydney & Jonah Thompson** of Roberts, WI
Alex & Sam Wilkinson of Madison, WI

CHRISTINE ENGLISH of Hudson, WI

Grandchild: **James English** of Hudson, WI

ANN & BILL FINDLAY of Baldwin, WI

Grandchildren: **Maggie, Ian, Caden & Thane Findlay** of
US Military Academy, West Point, New York

KEN & MOLLY GALEWYRICK of Amery, WI

Grandchildren: **Olive & Rye Weinberger** of Victor, MT
Great Nephews: **Wyatt & Colon Hebb** of Cloquet, MN

MELVIN & VIVIANNA HANSON of Downing, WI

Grandchildren: **Bridget Draxler** of Monmouth, IL
Breanna Draxler of Manhattan, NY
Brooke Draxler of Mounds View, MN
Trish Meyers of Madison, WI
Christopher Hanson of New Richmond, WI
Rhonda Rassbach of Downing, WI
Bo Standaert of Downing, WI
Treena Bonte of New Berlin, WI
Tara Bonte of Spring Valley, WI
Great Grandchildren:
Izabella & Peyton Rassbach of Downing, WI
Landon & Nolan Standaert of Downing, WI
Amelia & Stella Meyers of Madison, WI
Rowen Hanson of New Richmond, WI
Leif Wanken of Northfield, MN

GAIL & EDMOND HOLROYD, III of Arvada, CO

Grandchild: **Elin Williamson** of Amery, WI

DEVEREAUX & ROSE LALOND of Rice Lake, WI

Grandchild: **Evelyn Young** of Hammond, WI

SHARON & GARY LOVELL of Hudson, WI

Grandchildren: **Finn Russell & Raeya Anne Norton** of Woodbury, MN

JAY & BETTY MONSON of Baldwin, WI

Grandchildren: **Kaleb & Bella Drinkman** of Baldwin, WI
Nella Vankeuren of Amery, WI

KAREN MATTON of Clear Lake, WI

Grandchildren: **Mason & Hana Uebel** of Roberts, WI

BARBARA NELSON of Emerald, WI

Grandchildren: **Finn, Erin & Nolan McCarthy** of Eagan, MN

ROGER & JENNY OLSON of Hudson, WI

Grandchildren: **Keegan, Francis, Brennan & Clair Foster** of Hudson, WI
Otis & Mavis Olson of St. Paul, MN

DAVID & DORTHEA PRUNTY of Hartford, SD

Grandchildren: **Clara & Walker Boyle** of Woodville, WI

DR. JAMES QUENAN & DR. DANIELLE BUSSE-QUENAN of Amery, WI

Grandchildren: **Alex, Maddie & Francesca Quenan** of Libertyville, IL
Jonathon, Anna, Sean & Kate Quenan of Arlington Heights, IL
Clara Thoreson of Austin, TX
Connor, Josie, Ava & Colton Botz of New Richmond, WI
Tyler, Drew, & Max Botz of Eagan, MN
Gavin Botz of Eagan, MN
Kaelyn & Tristan Olson of Baldwin, WI
Khelsy Pilacinski of Baldwin, WI

LANCE & SHARON REYZER of Roberts, WI

Grandchildren: **Carmen Reyzzer** of Woodville, WI
Evan & Coraline Reyzzer of River Falls, WI

SUEANN & JAMES TAYLOR of Woodbury, MN

Grandchild: **Jackson Taylor** of Baldwin, WI

GAIL & GERALD TESSMAN of Amery, WI

Grandchildren: **Jessie Maule** of Denver, CO
Sarah Maule of Madison, WI
Tyler Maule of Chicago, IL
Nick & Erica Tessman of Woodbury, MN
Casey & Rachel Miller of Vadnais Heights, MN

S. MARK & JACKIE TYLER of Woodville, WI

Grandchildren: **Rhyan, Roslyn & Wesley Nichols** of Baldwin, WI

LOU & KATHLEEN WILLIAMSON of Amery, WI

Grandchildren: **Hans & Elin Williamson** of Amery, WI
Quinn Williamson of New Richmond, WI

LORETTA YOUNG of Eau Claire, WI

Grandchild: **Evelyn Young** of Hammond, WI

HONOR YOUR GRANDCHILDREN

Honor your grandchildren for their birthdays, for their special achievements or milestones, or simply for the joy they bring to your life!

Your name and your grandchildren's names will appear in four issues of this newsletter when you donate \$100 or more to the Family Resource Center.

**Please notify Kristin at 715-684-4440 or kristin@frcscv.org to add a new grandchild to your list*

CALENDAR FOR WINTER 2017 GROUPS



BABY & ME (Register at any time by calling 715-684-4440)
A play and discussion hour for parents and their infants (birth to one year). Baby & Me classes are provided by Family Resource Center St. Croix Valley as a component of United Way St. Croix Valley's Success By 6 partnership.

- Amery** Wednesdays 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.,
Amery Hospital & Clinic,
Birthday Suites Waiting Room
- Baldwin** Wednesdays 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.,
Western Wisconsin Health,
Conference Room 1 or 2
- New Richmond** Mondays 5:00 – 6:00 p.m., St. Luke's Lutheran
Church, 365 W. River Dr. (Sponsored by
Westfields Hospital & Clinic)
- Osceola** Thursdays 5:00 – 6:00 p.m., Osceola Medical
Center, Physician Education Room
- River Falls** Fridays 10:30 – 11:30 a.m., River Falls Area
Hospital, Classrooms B & C
- St. Croix Falls** Tuesdays 1:30 – 2:30 p.m., St. Croix Regional
Medical Center, O.B. Waiting Room



YOUNG PARENT This program for teens who are pregnant or parenting includes twice monthly group meetings and home visits. Participants receive support from Parent Educators and their peers and are eligible for elective credit toward graduation.

Young parents can be referred to the program by their high school guidance counselors or county agencies, or can sign up by contacting the Family Resource Center directly at 715-684-4440.

- Baldwin** 1st and 3rd Thursdays 4:30 – 6:00 p.m.,
Family Resource Center, 857 Main St
- Balsam Lake** 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 4:30 – 6:00 p.m.,
Polk County Government Center



PLAY & LEARN (Register beginning Monday, December 12 at 9:00 a.m. by calling 715-684-4440)

Play & Learn provides an opportunity for toddlers and preschoolers to interact with their parents and other children (ages 1-5). Parents can also discuss parenting strategies, dilemmas, and everyday happenings with a Parent Educator and other parents going through similar situations.

Winter Play & Learn begins the week of January 9th and runs through the week of March 13th.

MORNING PLAY & LEARN

- Amery** Mondays 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.,
Amery Public Library, 225 Scholl Ct.
- Baldwin** Thursdays 9:30 – 11:00 a.m.,
Family Resource Center, 857 Main St.
- Ellsworth** Wednesdays 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.,
Ellsworth Public Library, 312 W. Main St.
- Luck** Tuesdays 9:30 – 11:00 a.m.,
Luck Library, 301 S. Main St
- New Richmond** Wednesdays 10:00 – 11:30 a.m., St. Luke's
Lutheran Church, 365 W. River Dr.
- River Falls** Mondays 10:00 – 11:30 a.m., River Falls
United Methodist Church, 127 S. 2nd St.
- Roberts** Tuesdays 10:00 – 11:30 a.m., Hazel Mackin
Community Library, 311 W. Warren St.
- St. Croix Falls** Wednesdays 10:00 – 11:30 a.m., St. Croix
Falls Public Library, 230 S. Washington St

EVENING PLAY & LEARN

- Hudson** Tuesdays 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.,
YMCA - Hudson, 2211 Vine St.

Spring Play & Learn registration begins Monday, March 20 by calling 715-684-4440.

The office will be closed December 23-26, and January 2 due to the winter holidays.

(Contributors Make a Long-Term Investment in Families – Continued from Page 1)

Aaron cited research conducted by the Federal Reserve Bank that most effective form of economic development comes when we invest in our children. “For every dollar invested, according to Mr. Arthur Rolnick of the Federal Reserve, the return is \$12,” he remarked. “For example, our total investment in a family that’s involved in home visiting for 3 years is approximately \$9,000. With a 12 times return on your investment, the total return to the community is \$108,000.”

All donations received as part of the event were matched up to \$4,500, thanks to the generosity of Xcel Energy and an anonymous donor, resulting in nearly \$10,000 invested in the Bright Futures Long-Term Fund. It is anticipated that, with adequate investment over time, this Fund will provide increased financial sustainability for future work of the Family Resource Center St. Croix Valley.

Whether it is a gift today to the annual fund or Bright Futures Long-Term Fund, your support is an investment in families and the future of our community. In addition to cash gifts, the Family Resource Center also accepts electronic funds transfer (EFT), closely held stock, mutual fund shares, real estate, life insurance, and retirement plan assets.

Please contact us with any questions at 715-684-4440.



Pat and Donna Hayes have hosted an annual wine tasting as a benefit to the Family Resource Center since 2008.

Tenth Annual Wine Tasting to be Held February 9

Liquor Haus owners Pat and Donna Hayes had already been talking about doing a wine tasting when they were approached by area businessman Mark Tyler with an idea for a Valentine’s event to benefit for Family Resource Center St. Croix Valley. “He wanted to have a couple’s event with people dressing snappy and having a good time,” Pat recalled. That was 10 years ago, and the Liquor Haus Wine Tasting has been an annual outing for many ever since.

In recent years, the event has raised more than \$7,000 in support of Family Resource Center programs for local families. This year, Donna has said she hopes to raise \$10,000 for the 10th annual event. To help boost fundraising, the Liquor Haus will be holding a raffle for a “Year of Wine” as part of the event, where the winner will receive a free bottle monthly for one year.

The 10th annual Liquor Haus Wine Tasting will be held on Thursday, February 9 from 5:30-9 p.m. at the Historic Woodside Place. Reserve your tickets today (\$50 per person) by contacting Donna at (715) 684-2578 or stopping in at the Liquor Haus, located on Hwy 63 in Baldwin.

Yes! I want to help the Family Resource Center St. Croix Valley give children the best start possible!

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

My check, payable to FRCSVC, is enclosed in the amount of:

\$25 \$50 \$100

\$250 \$500 Other

I will set up a recurring monthly gift with my bank in the amount of \$ _____

If you wish to give using a credit card, please visit our website at www.frccsv.org to make a secure online gift.

I want my gift to fund:

- Home Visits
- Parent-Child Groups
- Greatest Need
- Bright Futures Long-Term Fund
- Grandchildren Honor Roll
(for a gift of \$100 or more, please send us the names and locations for the grandchildren you would like to honor)

My employer will match my gift; please contact me.

I would like to give in honor / memory (please circle) of a loved one: _____
(Please provide contact information if you wish for us to notify someone of this gift).

I would like to make a gift through my will or estate plan. Please contact me about becoming a member of the Legacy Circle.

Thank you for investing in families!
Please detach this form and mail to:
Family Resource Center
St. Croix Valley
PO Box 2087, 857 Main St.
Baldwin, WI 54002

