

MAKING IMPRESSIONS ON GENERATIONS



The Community Place of Greater Rochester 2005-2006



ONE HUNDRED YEA

Participation in society can mean many things to different people. It can mean a college exploration program for an inner-city teenager, a job opportunity for a single mother on public assistance, or affordable housing for a family that helps them reduce living expenses and purchase health care coverage. The ability to participate in the many opportunities our society has to offer, however, is not the same for everyone.

The Community Place of Greater Rochester (CPGR) helps people from all walks of life, including the disadvantaged and marginalized, fulfill the many possibilities that exist in our society. People do not look to us for handouts; rather, they look to us for the tools and support they need to break through barriers and stand up on their own. Many times all it takes is one opportunity, one resource, or one piece of good advice for people to begin to build a better life for themselves and their community.

100 Years of Community Solutions

CPGR's work started when the Association for Practical Housekeeping (APH), the earliest predecessor of The Community Place, was established in 1907. Settlement



1907

The Association for Practical Housekeeping is formed.

1915

More than 20,000 individual service offerings are reported by the Housekeeping Center.

1916

53 Lewis Street is purchased as the Housekeeping Center's new home.

1918

The Genesee Settlement House is incorporated.

1926

The Housekeeping Center changes its name to Lewis Street Center.

1955-56

Lewis Street Center reports 636 members. The Genesee Settlement House reports 1,257 members.

1958

Eastside Community Center is established on Breck Street.

RS OF COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS



houses like the APH formed to serve immigrants and other underrepresented members of society. Lewis Street Center (which the APH changed its name to in 1926), Genesee Settlement House (formed in 1918), and Eastside Community Center (established in 1958) were vital contributors to the settlement house movement in Rochester. The merger of Genesee Settlement House and Eastside Community Center in 2001 to form The Community Place, and the addition of Lewis Street Center a year later, combined the strengths and history of each organization and helped keep the settlement house movement in Rochester alive.

Today people from all segments of society – young children, teenagers, adults, families, the aging, and individuals with disabilities – receive our services. We primarily serve those living in the northeast sector of the city of Rochester, but many of our programs branch out into the greater Rochester area. By understanding the needs of all the communities we serve, adapting to meet those needs, working together with other agencies to ensure our clients receive the best services possible, and remaining fiscally responsible and efficient, we hope to continue our mission well into the future.

1981

Lewis Street Center moves to a new facility at 120 Ontario Street.

1992

Lewis Street Center celebrates its 85th anniversary.

1995

A \$1.4 million addition to the Dr. Freddie Thomas Learning Center is completed.

2002

The Carter Street Center is extensively renovated.

1976

Eastside Community Center moves to 145 Parsells Avenue.

1990

An affiliation of area neighborhood centers raises \$16 million for major renovations to their facilities.

1994

A \$2.4 million renovation of 145 Parsells Avenue doubles the Eastside Community Center's space.

2001

Genesee Settlement House and Eastside Community Center merge to form The Community Place. Lewis Street Center joins in early 2002.

IMPROVING EXISTING PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Individual Service Offerings	2005	2006
Family Services	4,355	2,531*
Early Childhood	1,964	1,839
Youth Development	1,947	1,761
Aging Services	926	985
Developmental Disabilities	322	317
HOST Program	231	173
Total	9,745	7,606*

*In 2006 our reporting methods changed to no longer include one-time assistance programs in our total numbers.



Growth and Vision

Our facilities are located in the neighborhoods we serve, so we are able to stay in tune with the needs of the community around us and quickly adjust our services to better meet those needs. By maintaining a neighborhood-based approach to service, we can offer the best and most relevant services possible to everyone, including those without reliable transportation.

In addition to improving our existing programs and services, we have become a managing partner for two grassroots community organizations, providing them with administrative and fundraising support. Since 2004 we have partnered with The Rochester Step-Off Educational Foundation, Inc. (RSO), a youth development organization that focuses on the art of step and offers young people academic, social, and community development opportunities while engaging them with the world of higher education. RSO utilizes hundreds of volunteers in schools around the city and throughout the greater Rochester area, and since its inception in 1994 has disbursed more than \$175,000 in scholarship money to participants. More recently, The Community Place partnered with Families and Friends of Murdered Children and Victims of Violence, Inc. (FFMCVV), an organization that provides support and resources to victims of violence and their families. Partnerships with these organizations will help ensure that they are able to continue serving the Rochester community effectively and efficiently.

To ensure more individuals and families have decent, affordable housing and to help grow the social and economic infrastructure of our community, The Community Place has also formed two limited liability corporations to help advance our Housing Opportunities for Sustainability and

Transition (HOST) program. The corporations are responsible for acquiring, renovating, and managing properties in our service area and offering them at affordable rates to responsible individuals and families.

A Collaborative Approach

Seeking partnerships with local best-in-class service providers remains an integral part of our strategy for success. If we cannot provide a service effectively and efficiently, we partner with other organizations so our clients have access to the best services possible. This collaborative approach leads to innovation and efficiency, and builds a broad, solid foundation from which we can work.

Fiscal Responsibility

Staying successful in an increasingly competitive and uncertain economy is difficult for any company, but this is especially true for nonprofits. The Community Place relies on fiscal responsibility and operating efficiency to ensure our continued success now and into the future. During the past two years we have lowered our administrative and management costs to approximately 16% of operating expenses. Cutting these costs means more money is available for direct programming. We are also expanding our asset and revenue base to ensure fiscal vitality and decrease our reliance on grants and funding that may not be available in the future.

We are proud of our 100 years of service and look forward to continuing our work with individuals and families in our community. With a dedicated and forward-thinking staff and board of directors and strong partners and supporters, we will move into our next 100 years of helping those we serve participate in all our society has to offer.



Roderick Jones, President and CEO



Ross P. Lanzafame, Board Chair

LOCAL PROGRAM AND SERVICE DELIVERY POINTS

- ★ 145 Parsells Avenue
- ★ 57 Central Park*
- ★ 500 Carter Street
- 4 53 Lewis Street
- 5 136 First Street
- 6 61 Davis Street
- 7 64 Ontario Street
- 8 8-10 Dake Street
- 9 103 Parsells Avenue
- 10 122 Parsells Avenue
- 11 127 Parsells Avenue
- 12 132 Parsells Avenue
- 13 152 Parsells Avenue
- 14 441 Parsells Avenue

*Administrative headquarters

- ★ Primary service location
- Secondary service location
- Residential/commercial neighborhood development



HIGHLIGHTS AND GROWTH

During the past two years The Community Place has grown and adapted to meet the changing needs of the community we serve. The disadvantaged and marginalized members of our community face new challenges and hardships every day, and we look to find creative, effective ways to help them overcome these challenges. The following highlights show our growth and innovation during the past two years.

Managing Partnerships

The Community Place is now the managing partner of two grassroots community organizations, the Rochester Step-Off Educational Foundation and Families and Friends of Murdered Children and Victims of Violence. The partnerships will help the organizations improve operational efficiencies and obtain new funding sources.

Fiscal Improvements

Administrative and management costs have been lowered to just 16% of operating expenses, freeing up more money for direct programming.

Increasing Employment Opportunities

Our Family Services Unit has initiated talks with local businesses to provide more job opportunities to our clients and others who may not otherwise hear about or be considered for them.

HOST Program Expansion

Our Housing Opportunities for Sustainability and Transition (HOST) program now has acquired and renovated six homes and two apartment buildings, one of which contains two commercial storefronts. We now have 26 total units of affordable housing for individuals and families.

The Beacon Centers Youth Development Program

We have introduced the Beacon Centers Youth Development Program, which along with our *Pathways to 21* platform offers more comprehensive services and better prepares youth for college and the world of work.

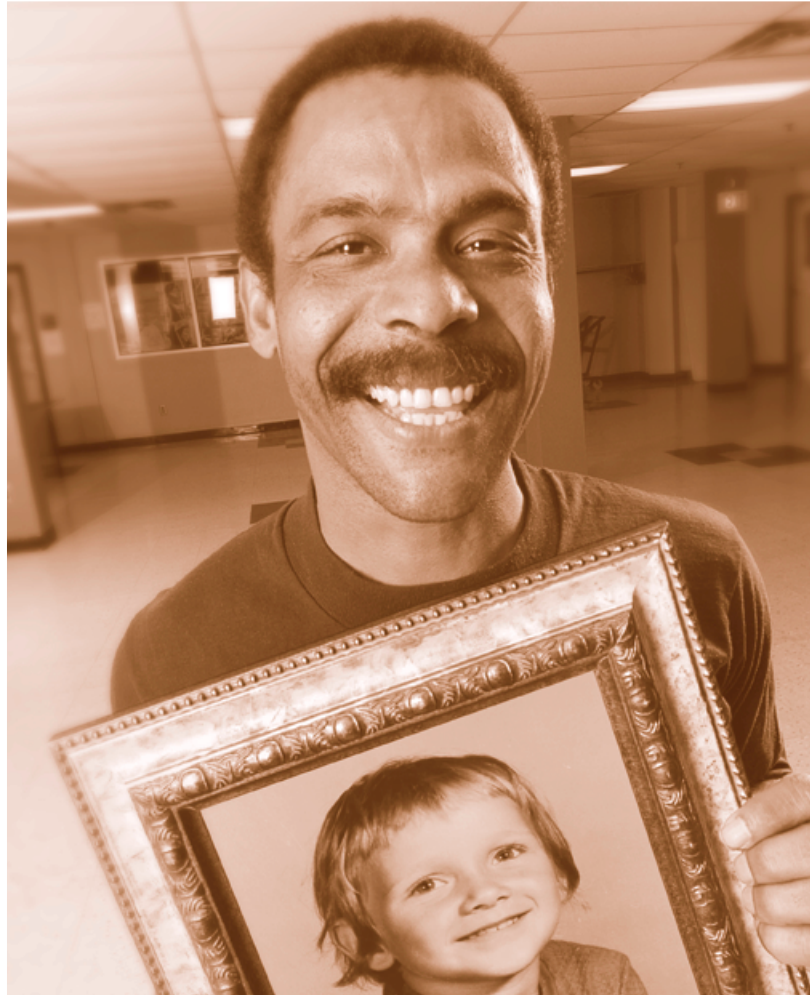
Economic Development Support

A new part of the HOST program is aimed at providing support to entrepreneurs and business owners to enhance the economic viability of our community. We are currently running a pilot business incubation program in one of our commercial facilities.



FAMILY SERVICES

In the early 1900s we helped immigrants assimilate into American society by offering educational and skill-building opportunities and health services. Since then we have been updating and adding services to meet the changing needs of our community. Today Heriberto and other individuals and families receive the tools and resources they need to build a better life and a better community.



OPPORTUNITIES TO BUILD A BETTER LIFE

We have been providing support to people like Heriberto since 1907. The needs of our community and the challenges its members face have changed throughout the years, but our focus has not. We believe every person and family should have opportunities to build a better life, regardless of their current social, economic, or educational standing.

Each year hundreds of families utilize our **Family Support Services**, which provide a wide range of advocacy, counseling, and referral services. We also provide employability and work-related training, financial management training, and support groups so when an opportunity arises, our participants are ready to meet it head on.

Short-term crises are a reality for many families and can have a devastating impact on the well-being of all their members. To help families cope with these situations, our **Family Emergency Services** provide necessities like food, clothing, utility and rent assistance, vital household items, and more.

People like Heriberto know what it is like to be given a chance; each week he volunteers his time at our two food pantries.



*In 2006 we changed our reporting methods to no longer include one-time assistance programs in our total numbers.

- Partnerships**
- Baden Street Settlement House
 - Catholic Family Center
 - Charles Settlement House
 - Foodlink
 - Ibero American Action League
 - Monroe County Legal Assistance Corporation
 - Salvation Army
 - SWAN

EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES

Settlement houses have long provided a positive, nurturing environment for young children. Childcare services offered by our former agencies allowed parents to work while knowing their children were in a good place. Now we offer comprehensive early childhood services that reach not only children, but parents and caregivers as well.

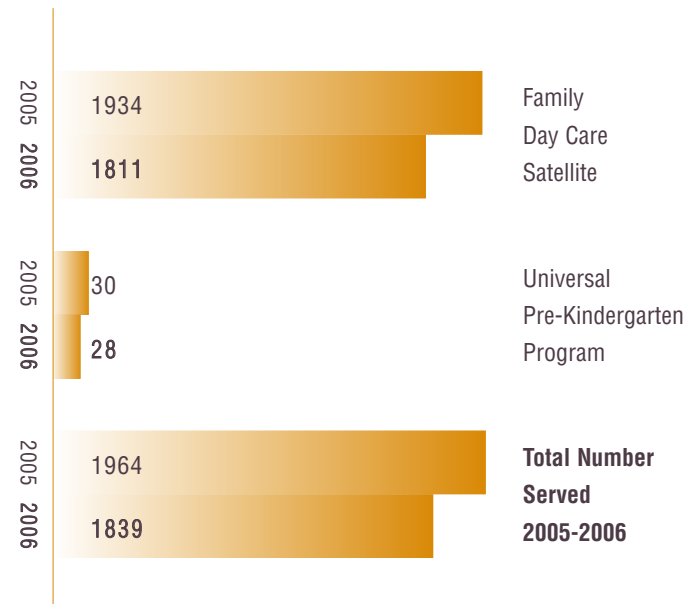


A D V A N T A G E S EARLY IN LIFE

Educational and developmental opportunities early in life are critical to the future well-being of children. Our **Early Childhood Services** offer a holistic approach by working with children, their parents, and their caregivers.

Angelena and other four- and five-year-olds in our **Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) Program** grow academically, socially, and emotionally, and because we work directly with each child’s parents, learning doesn’t end in the classroom. Our UPK program is also one of the few in Rochester that provides transportation for participating children, eliminating a major barrier for many working parents.

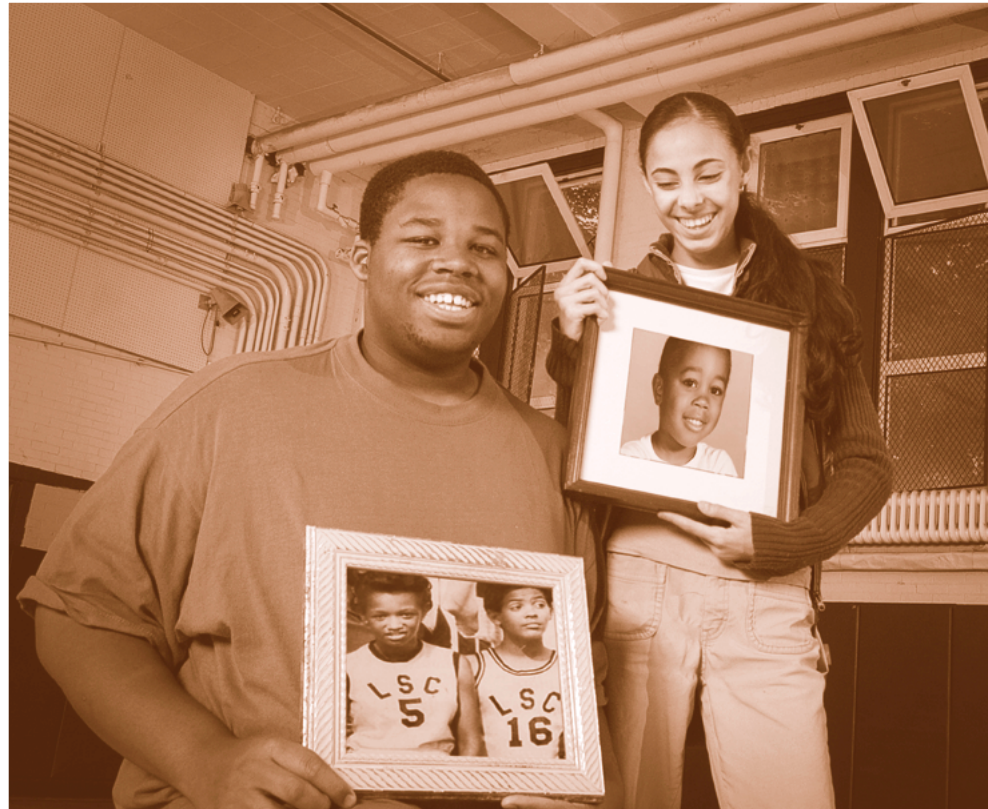
Childcare providers utilize our **Family Day Care Satellite** to make sure they are providing the best services possible. We work collaboratively with several Family Childcare Satellite Network agencies to administer the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), which reimburses childcare providers for nutritious meals and snacks they serve to children. We recruit and monitor childcare providers to ensure their sites meet CACFP guideline compliance and provide support if needed. We also offer licensed childcare providers, as well as those interested in becoming licensed, training classes covering health, safety, and more.



- Partnerships**
- Child Care Council, Inc.
 - The Children’s Institute
 - Edgerton Childcare Services, Inc.
 - Foodlink
 - Monroe County Department of Day Care Registration and Compliance
 - Rochester Childfirst Network, Inc.
 - Rochester City School District

YOUTH SERVICES

Providing youth with constructive activities and recreation in a safe environment has long been an important part of the work of settlement houses. Our wide range of youth services gives young people the opportunity to have fun and grow while preparing for higher education and the world of work.



HELPING TEENS NAVIGATE CHALLENGES

Malvin and Anne Marie, like all teenagers growing up today, must meet demands from school and extra-curricular activities, deal with peer and environmental pressures, and confront issues with friends and family, all while enjoying their time being kids. Our **Youth Services** help teens navigate these challenges while giving them the tools and skills they will need to be successful in the future.

The **Beacon Centers** at The Community Place are designed to give young people social and academic support in a safe, structured environment during out-of-school time. The Beacon Centers, along with our **Rochester After School Academy (RASA)**, **Community After School Academy (CASA)**, and other youth development programs, aim to prepare teens like Malvin and Anne Marie for college, work, and life.

The Community Place offers many other services to youth, including a low-cost **summer camp** and **case management services** for young people and their families. We also are responsible for managing and monitoring collaborative services provided by a wide range of agencies.



- Partnerships**
- Area colleges and universities
 - Children's Institute
 - City of Rochester
 - Foodlink
 - NYS Office of Child and Family Services
 - Rochester AmeriCorps
 - Rochester City School District
 - Rochester-Monroe County Youth Bureau

A G I N G S E R V I C E S

Seniors are living longer, more productive lives. Our Foster Grandparent and Senior Companion Programs have consistently grown since their inception, as more elders are using their time to give back to their community. Social activities and health and wellness programs for seniors also continue to be an important offering of settlement houses.



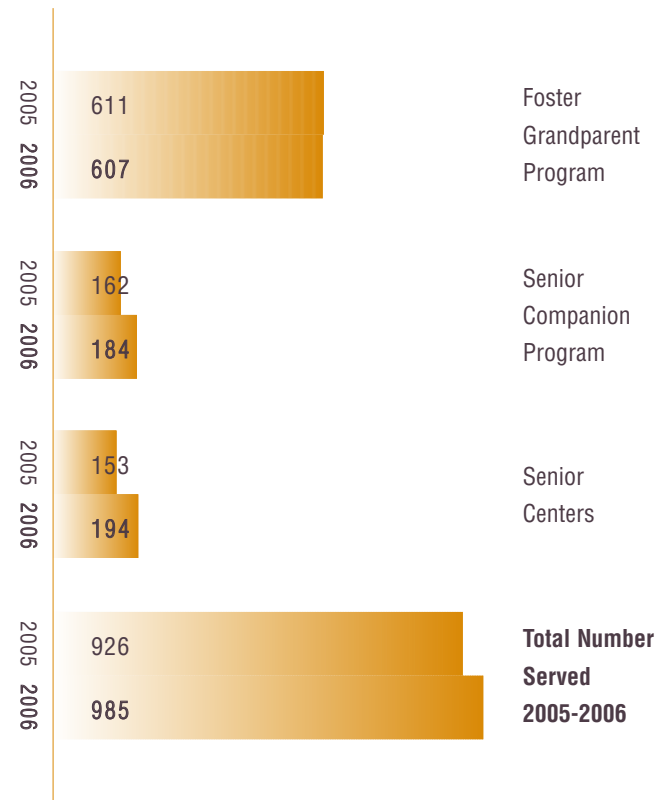
ENRICHING LIVES

Espedito still has a lot to give: his wisdom, his time, and his kindness.

As a volunteer in the **Foster Grandparent Program**, Espedito is able to enrich the lives of the children with whom he works. Our Foster Grandparents work in more than 35 area schools and childcare centers, giving extra support to hundreds of children each year.

Volunteers in our **Senior Companion Program** provide seniors and the frail elderly at area adult day programs, senior centers, and individual homes with a variety of services that help them live independently longer. Senior Companions help prepare meals, transport elders, and provide caregiver respite. All our Foster Grandparents and Senior Companions are 60 or older and meet income eligibility requirements.

The extensive offerings of our **Senior Centers** help elders stay healthy and socially active. We offer nutritious meals, exercise and health programs, social gatherings and day trips, and more. We also have caseworkers on hand to give support to those who may need more individualized care or are homebound.



- Partnerships**
- Action for a Better Community Head Start
 - Catholic Family Center
 - IBERO American Action League
 - Jewish Family Services
 - Lifespan
 - Rochester City School District
 - Unity Health Systems
 - ViaHealth

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SERVICES

For 100 years we have focused on giving people a hand up, not a handout. Our developmental disabilities services give individuals with disabilities the skills and tools they need to be more independent and successful. Our services also offer their families support, guidance, and respite.



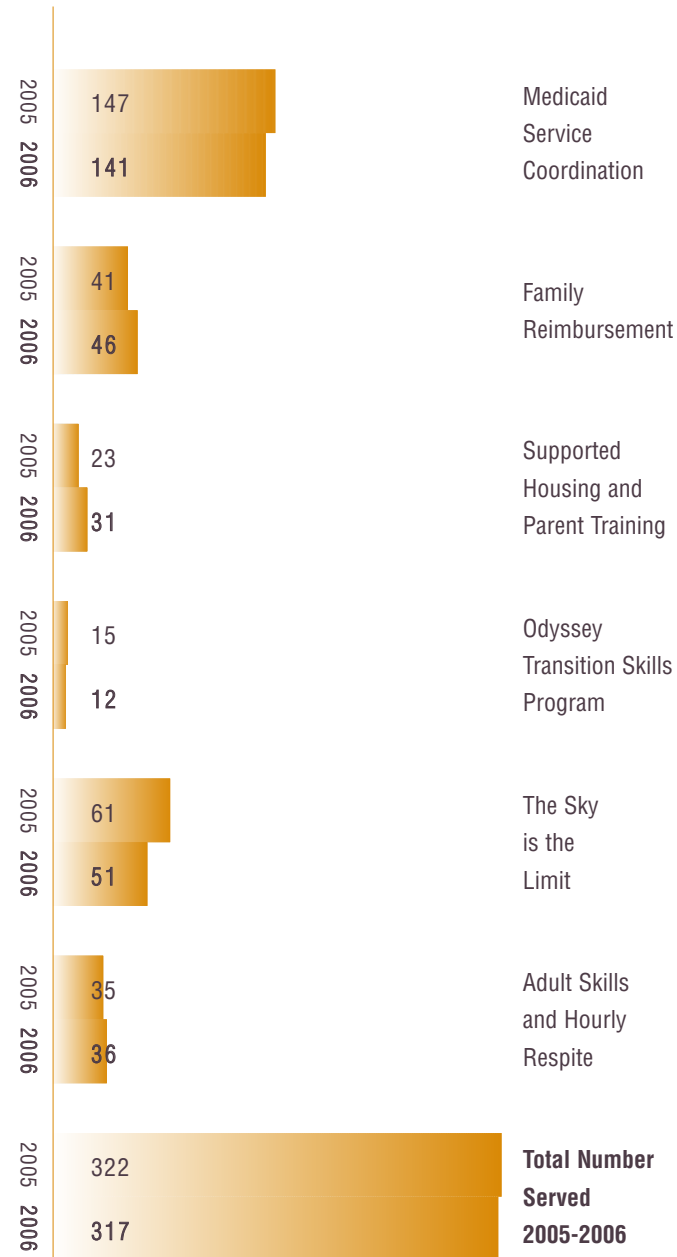
HELP TO LIVE INDEPENDENTLY AND THRIVE

Individuals with developmental disabilities do not always enjoy the same opportunities that others do, but that doesn't mean they should not.

Salima and other youth in our **The Sky is the Limit** program participate in developmental and recreational activities that improve social skills and personal wellness. Other youth, especially those in jeopardy of losing their day or school placement, are offered transitional support and life option exploration through our **Odyssey Transition Skills Program**.

Individuals with developmental disabilities often face additional challenges, so our **Medicaid Service Coordination** develops, implements, and monitors Individualized Service Plans and provides advocacy and referral services for each individual. This assistance helps participants live independently and thrive, just as our **Supported Housing Program** does.

The families of individuals with developmental disabilities often need additional support and sometimes face social isolation. Our **training programs for parents and guardians** provide weekend respites, support groups, and other services to ensure the whole family remains healthy.



Partnerships

- Boys and Girls Club of Rochester
- Multicultural Agencies
- United for Developmental Disabilities (MAUDD)
- NYS Department of Social Services
- NYS Office of Mental Health
- NYS Office of Mental Retardation
- Urban League of Greater Rochester

H O S T P R O G R A M

Building the strength of our community has long been our mission. The HOST Program decreases transience and spreads shared values established by the members of the community. It also enhances the economic strength of families and businesses and helps money stay in neighborhoods longer. These investments in our community will ensure community stability for years to come.



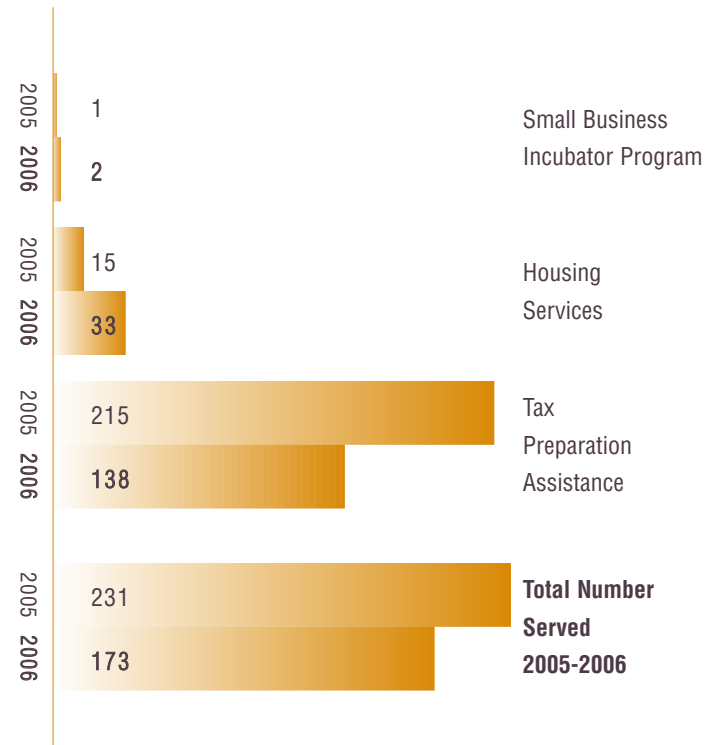
FOSTERING COMMUNITY STABILITY

The fabric of communities is woven by people like Mary Beard. After her landlord passed away and her house became uninhabitable, she was faced with the possibility of having to move out of the neighborhood. She was, however, a neighborhood fixture, so The Community Place offered her the opportunity to rent one of the houses in our growing **Housing Opportunities for Sustainability and Transition (HOST) Program**.

The HOST Program reduces transience, helps stabilize families, and strengthens neighborhoods by acquiring and renovating neglected properties in our service area. After renovations are complete, the properties are rented to responsible residents at a low cost.

There are currently six houses, an apartment building with 13 residential units and a commercial laundry facility, and a mixed-use apartment building with six residential units and two commercial storefronts in the program. All of the buildings are in close proximity to our centers, so the people who live in them have easy access to our other programs and services.

In order to build the community's economic infrastructure and create sustainable economies, the HOST Program also includes a small business incubator program and free tax preparation assistance. By supporting business development, we can keep money in the neighborhoods longer and help improve the overall quality of life in the community.



Partnerships

- 85-87 Alexander Street Corporation
- C.A.S.H. Coalition
- Monroe County Office of the Aging
- North East Area Development, Inc.
- Providence Housing Development Corporation
- United Way of Greater Rochester

STATEMENT OF UNRESTRICTED FUNCTIONAL PUBLIC SUPPORT, REVENUE, AND EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2006

	PROGRAM SERVICES	SUPPORTING SERVICES (MANAGEMENT & GENERAL/FUNDRAISING)	Total
Public Support and Revenue			
Government Agencies	\$1,665,593	\$466	\$1,666,059
United Way of Greater Rochester, Inc.	43,041	—	43,041
Food subsidy	986,833	—	986,833
Service Fees	388,725	—	388,725
Contributions	142,276	7,004	149,280
Rent	88,593	85,972	174,565
Other	11,262	23,061	34,323
Net assets release from restriction:			
– United Way of Greater Rochester, Inc.	1,317,796	155,272	1,473,068
– Other	—	10,000	10,000
Total Public Support and Revenue	\$4,644,119	\$281,775	\$4,925,894
Operating Expenses			
Salaries	1,509,102	595,699	2,104,801
Providers' fees	1,168,772	—	1,168,772
Depreciation	306,735	108,728	415,463
Employee benefits and payroll taxes	265,358	121,268	386,626
Occupancy	212,272	138,976	351,248
Professional fees and services	152,995	42,660	195,655
Travel and conferences	141,953	31,076	173,029
Specific assistance	85,192	26,159	111,351
Provision for doubtful accounts	—	106,000	106,000
Donated materials	104,955	—	104,955
Supplies	67,617	11,632	79,249
Telephone	38,288	27,281	65,569
Interest	14,944	29,165	44,109
Postage and printing	21,811	14,567	36,378
Food and beverage	17,715	4,143	21,858
Minor equipment purchases	12,110	2,363	14,473
Dues and subscriptions	1,183	4,586	5,769
Other	26,762	59,535	86,297
Total Operating Expenses	4,147,764	1,323,838	5,471,602
Excess (deficiency) of Public Support and Revenue over Operating Expenses before Allocation of Management and General Expenses	496,355	(1,042,063)	(545,708)
Allocation of Management and General Expenses	(1,043,497)	1,043,497	—
Excess (Deficiency) of Public Support and Revenue over Operating Expenses	(547,142)	1,434	(545,708)



THE COMMUNITY PLACE

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M&T Bank
Maxion Family Charitable Foundation
Monroe County Department of Social Services
Monroe County Office for the Aging
New York State Child and Adult Care Food Program
New York State Education Department
New York State Medicaid
New York State Office for the Aging
New York State Office of Children
and Family Services

New York State Office of Mental Hygiene
New York State Office of Mental Retardation
& Developmental Disabilities
P.D. Oviatt Fund
Preferred Care
QUAD A
RG&E
The R.P. Fedder Family
Rochester Area Community Foundation
Rochester Children's Nursery
Rochester Housing Authority
Rochester Museum and Science Center
Rochester-Monroe County Youth Bureau
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Eric Thomas, *Director, Marketing and Communications*





About the Photographs

The pages in this report feature photographs of individuals and families who currently utilize our services. The framed photographs they hold are archival photographs taken during the past 100 years of people served by The Community Place and its former organizations: Lewis Street Center, Genesee Settlement House, and Eastside Community Center.

About the Cover

Our rich legacy of serving the Rochester community is personified by Richard Brindisi, a Lewis Street Center alum. Richard, who spent countless days at the center as a boy and young man, is also celebrating his centennial. He turned 100 in November, 2006.



Thanks to the following companies for their generous support and assistance in producing our 2005-2006 biennial report:

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STRENGTHENING C O M M U N I T Y
O N E P E R S O N , O N E F A M I L Y A T A T I M E



The Community Place of Greater Rochester

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How to Help

There are many ways individuals and companies can help CPGR in its mission of strengthening our community. You can provide monetary, product, or service donations; volunteer in one of our many programs; or help us get the word out about CPGR and our mission.

Please call us at 585-327-7200
or visit www.communityplace.org for more information.