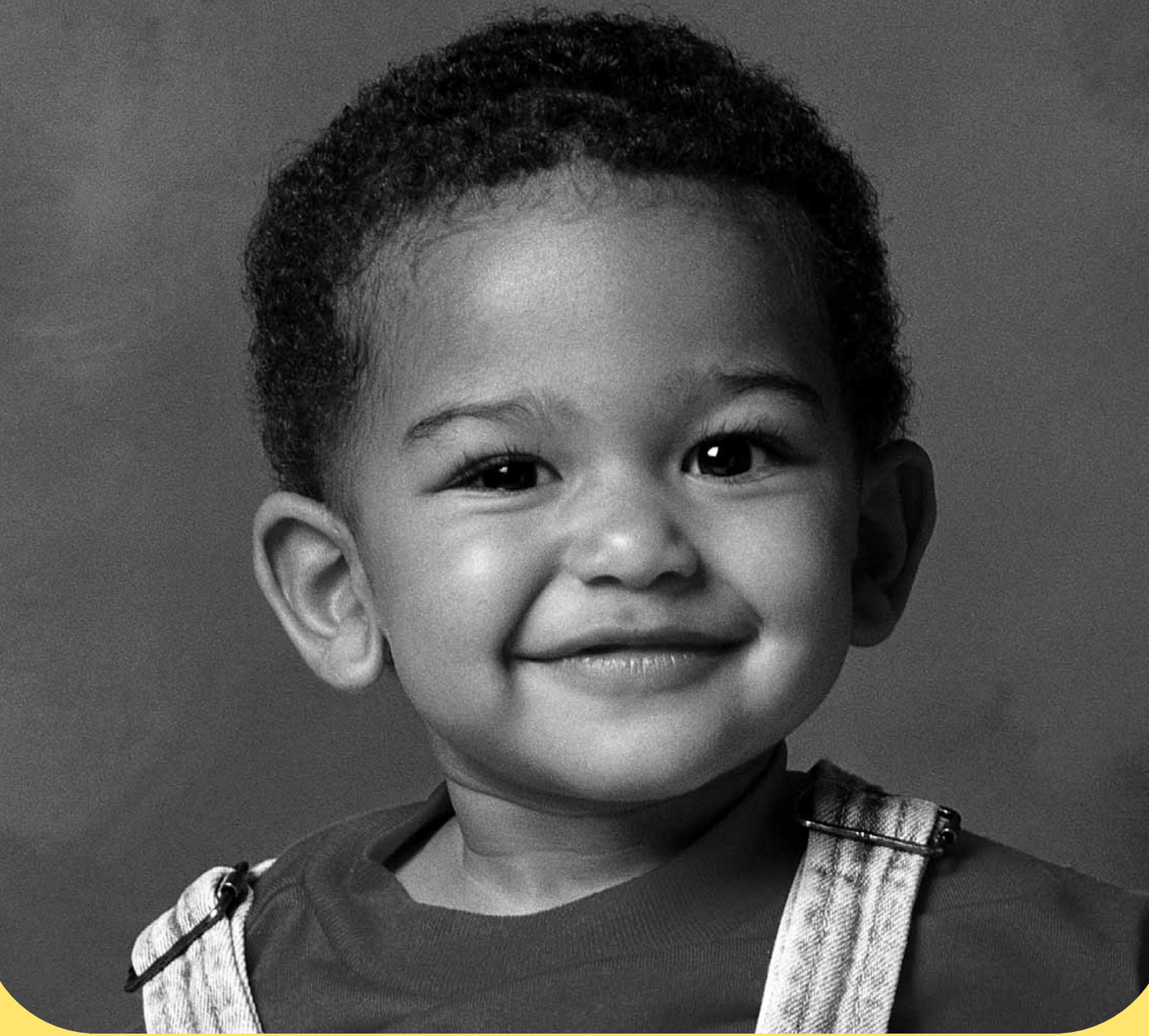


The New York Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children



ANNUAL REPORT 2007



Founded in 1875 – The First Child Protective Agency in the World

FOUNDED IN 1875, The New York Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (The NYSPCC) is the first child protective agency in the world. Throughout its 132 year history, The NYSPCC has met the urgent needs of New York City's most vulnerable children through the development of new and innovative programs. It is with this same spirit of innovation, concern and compassion for the City's children that The NYSPCC seeks to meet the challenges that lie ahead. ●

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Our Mission

The mission of The NYSPCC is to protect children and strengthen families through mental health, legal and educational services.



HOW WE PREVENT THE ABUSE AND NEGLECT OF CHILDREN:

Mental Health Services

- Provide court-ordered therapeutic supervised visitation services to children and their families in a safe and supportive setting
- Counsel children who have endured the trauma of child abuse or neglect
- Provide group counseling and sexual abuse prevention workshops to “high-risk” children in New York City schools
- Support the families of New York City during times of crisis and trauma with mental health services and information



Legal Services

- Provide mediation services to resolve issues that prevent children from leaving the foster care system and to expedite their move to a loving, permanent home



Education

- Promote healthy parenting through guidance, research and education
- Educate professionals about child abuse and maltreatment
- Provide resiliency restoration training to child welfare agencies to help staff during times of stress, grief and loss
- Advocate for legislative action that protects children and strengthens families

WHAT MAKES THE NYSPCC UNIQUE:

- **The first** child protective agency in the world—over 132 years of **trailblazing** in child protection and abuse prevention services
- Excellent **relationships** with social service providers and the court systems in New York City
- **Flexibility**—as an independent non-profit—to develop and implement enhanced levels of service to children and families
- **Warm, caring and dedicated** professionals



Dear Friends,

THE NYSPCC HAD ANOTHER AMAZING YEAR—reaching over 4,200 children, parents, caregivers and professionals who needed our mental health, legal and educational services. Our commitment to eliminating child abuse and neglect remains continuous and steadfast.

ONE EXCITING DEVELOPMENT in 2007 was the launch of a sexual abuse prevention workshop, for children ages five through nine, *Safe Touches: Personal Safety Training for Children*. Our goal was to train 1,000 children in 2007, but the workshop proved so successful that from inception through December 31, 2007, clinicians provided training to over 1,700 children in the New York City public school system.

THE NYSPCC also paid special attention to raising awareness in New York City and throughout the country about how to prevent child abuse and neglect. The NYSPCC's Executive Director, Mary L. Pulido, Ph.D., gave interviews to multiple newspapers and magazines, including *The New York Times*, on issues including the lack of supervised visitation services in New York City, steps to take if you think a child is being abused, and managing secondary traumatic stress in the domestic violence arena.

IN SUPPORT OF OUR PROGRAMS, our annual Junior Committee spring event, "Reggae in May," was a smashing success. Over 150 dedicated young New Yorkers attended an evening full of energy, fun, Reggae music and gourmet cuisine. The evening gave us a great opportunity to highlight the important services The NYSPCC provides to New York City's children and families.

THE NYSPCC'S ANNUAL GALA was held in October, honoring Joan Ganz Cooney, the founder of Sesame Workshop and the creator of *Sesame Street*, as well as Merck & Co., Inc. for its role in protecting children through its global children's health initiatives. Ms. Cooney is a tireless crusader for the education and betterment of children, and Merck has worked for more than a century to discover, develop and market medicines and vaccines for children in need around the world. Their commitment to and impressive work on behalf of children dovetail with our strong conviction that the well-being and protection of children are the responsibility of everyone in the community. The evening was wonderful, raising \$400,000 to support The NYSPCC's programs.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, I thank the many friends of The NYSPCC for their continuing generosity and compassion that supports us in our critical work.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David R. Stack". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line extending to the right.

David R. Stack
President



Dear Friends,

THE NYSPCC'S MISSION to protect children and strengthen families is as relevant today as it was in 1875 when The NYSPCC was established as the first child protective agency in the world. Keeping our precious children safe from harm is of vital importance to the City and our community.

2007 BROUGHT ABOUT MANY POSITIVE CHANGES at The NYSPCC. We are especially excited about the launch of *Safe Touches: Personal Safety Training for Children*, a sexual abuse prevention program designed to educate children in grades K-3 about recognizing safe and unsafe touches. *Safe Touches* teaches body safety and helps children identify a trusted person they can tell if they have experienced an unsafe touch. There is a strong need for this program, and the response from children and educators has been tremendous.

THE NYSPCC WAS ALSO AWARDED a multi-year grant through the New York City Department of Youth and Community Development to provide services for fathers participating in our therapeutic supervised visitation program, Positive Parenting Plus (PP+). Enhancing services enables The NYSPCC to help parents repair and restore their relationships with their children. PP+ also received generous funding from the Sirius Fund and the van Ameringen Foundation to publish *The NYSPCC Professionals' Handbook—Supervised Visitation for High-Risk Families*. This handbook promotes best practice and facilitates program replication. The NYSPCC continues to be a national leader in the field of therapeutic supervised visitation.

WE ARE ALSO THRILLED that a five-minute film detailing The NYSPCC's historic role in establishing child protection services in the nation and the continued need for our services today was produced. The film can be viewed on our website, www.nyspcc.org.

AS THE NYSPCC CONTINUES TO GROW and strengthen our programs, we are more appreciative than ever for the strong support of our community and partners. All children deserve a bright, safe and happy future. Thank you for your dedication in helping us realize this goal.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary L. Pulido".

Mary L. Pulido, Ph.D.
Executive Director

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Executive Director

Mary L. Pulido, Ph.D.

THE NYSPCC IN THE MEDIA

In 2007, The NYSPCC was contacted by media to provide expertise on the prevention of child abuse and neglect.

- **The New York Times** prominently featured The Positive Parenting Plus (PP+) Program in an article, “In Custody Fights, a Hurdle for the Poor.” The article detailed the complex issues facing families who need access to supervised visitation services and cited The NYSPCC’s PP+ program as “among the best in the City.”
- Mary L. Pulido, Ph.D., was interviewed for **OPEN MINDS On-Line News Service**, a weekly publication devoted to developments in the behavioral health and social services fields. The article, “Demand for Supervised Non-Custodial Parent & Child Visitation Support Increasing,” describes The NYSPCC program and the need for supervised visitation services.
- **ParentGuide News**, a monthly publication in the New York metropolitan area serving parents who have children under the age of 12, published Dr. Pulido’s article, “Parent Alert—Steps to take if you think a child is being abused,” in the July issue.
- Also in July, an article written by Dr. Pulido entitled, “Secondary Traumatic Stress in Social Workers Responding to the 9/11 Terrorist Attacks,” was published in the national journal **Social Work**.
- Dr. Pulido also authored an article published in the December edition of **The Advocate’s Quarterly—The Newsletter of the Center for Survivor Agency and Justice**, entitled “The Costs of Caring: Managing Secondary Traumatic Stress in the Domestic Violence Arena.”
- The NYSPCC produced a five-minute film highlighting its long-standing history and current work with New York City’s children and families. The film, directed by John Rokosny and narrated by Emmy-award winning newswoman Deborah Norville, can be viewed on The NYSPCC’s website, www.nyspcc.org. ●

THE NYSPCC PRESENTS NATIONALLY ON CHILD WELFARE ISSUES

THE NYSPCC CONTINUES to lecture nationally on child welfare issues. In 2007, The NYSPCC trained approximately 350 professionals at the following national and state conferences:

- Mary L. Pulido, Ph.D., Executive Director, presented “**Support for the Caregivers: Preventing and Managing Secondary Traumatic Stress**” at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services—National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect.
- Dr. Pulido presented “**Providing Supervised Visitation to Mandated Parents: The Parent Coaching Model**” and “**Promoting Caregiver Resiliency—Preventing and Managing Secondary Traumatic Stress**” at the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children.
- Stephen Forrester, Esq., Assistant Executive Director, and Jenny Psaki, MS, Staff Mediator, presented “**The New York City Family Court Child Permanency Mediation Program**” at The Association of Family and Conciliation Courts.
- Mr. Forrester and Jorge Irizarry, J.D., Staff Mediator, presented “**The New York City Family Court Child Permanency Mediation Program;**” Catherine Lewis, LCSW, Director of Clinical Services, presented “**Making the Most of Family Visits in Foster Care: Coaching Parents, Strengthening Connections and Moving Towards Permanency;**” and Helen Woodbury, LCSW, Director of Supervised Visitation Services, and Jacqueline Otero, LCSW, Crisis Counselor, presented “**Providing Therapeutic Supervised Visitation for High Conflict Families: The Positive Parenting Plus (PP+) Program**” at Prevent Child Abuse New York’s annual conference.
- Ms. Lewis and Ms. Woodbury presented “**Providing Therapeutic Supervised Visitation for High Conflict Families: The Positive Parenting Plus (PP+) Program**” at the National Supervised Visitation Network conference.
- Ms. Lewis presented “**A Systemic Approach to Working with Children in Foster Care**” at The Ackerman Institute for the Family. ●

THE TRAUMA RECOVERY PROGRAM

ESTABLISHED IN RESPONSE to the terrorist attacks on September 11th, the Trauma Recovery Program initially provided crisis counseling, education and support services to parents, teachers and children in the communities of lower Manhattan most directly impacted by the attacks. Over time, our services have increasingly focused on the mental health care needs of the City's most vulnerable populations, including homeless children and families, and children served by the New York City Administration for Children's Services' (ACS) child protective, preventive and foster care systems.

THE NYSPCC PROVIDES a specialized therapeutic program for children who have experienced physical or sexual abuse or have witnessed family violence. In order to begin the healing process, a safe, supportive and nurturing place must be available to help children recover from these traumatic experiences. Through individualized, child-friendly counseling sessions, the clinician helps children more effectively understand and manage their emotions. Most children in our program have never received the mental health counseling needed to help them develop coping skills and recover from past abusive traumas. The NYSPCC clinicians have also found that individual sessions with the child's caretaker, in addition to family therapy sessions, improve therapeutic outcomes in all cases where family violence—including sexual abuse, physical abuse and domestic violence—has occurred.

IN 2007, the Trauma Recovery Program provided counseling to 86 children during 665 individual therapy sessions. In addition, 238 family therapy sessions took place for children, their caregivers and extended family members. The NYSPCC clinicians also conducted 300 collateral meetings with parents, caregivers, teachers, social workers, guidance counselors and foster care caseworkers.

CHILD EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM

ANOTHER COMPONENT of the Trauma Recovery Program is the Child Empowerment Program (CEP), aiding children deemed "at-risk" by the New York City public school system. At the request of teachers, parents and school counselors, the CEP provides in-class workshops and group mental health counseling to support vulnerable children's emotional stability and academic achievement. The CEP focuses on children who are vulnerable due to their prior history of abuse or neglect, experiences in the foster care system or loss of family members or friends through homicide, HIV or substance abuse.

GROUP TOPICS INCLUDE: understanding normal reactions to trauma; dealing with grief and loss; conflict resolution; stress management techniques; promoting healthy relationships; self-esteem; bullying prevention; teen dating violence awareness and prevention and anger management. In 2007, the Child Empowerment Program conducted 11 groups serving 169 children in five New York City public schools and one community-based after school program.

(continued on page 7)



Max

Max,* who just turned ten, has been in foster care since the day he was born. When his mother, Sue, was a teenager, she was sexually abused by her stepfather and became pregnant with Max. After she disclosed the abuse, and her pregnancy, Sue was placed into a mother-baby foster home. Sue was not able to provide the care that Max needed. Over the next seven years, Max experienced a great deal of attachment disruption as his mother came in and out of his life. Max was also moved from foster home to foster home. After being physically and sexually abused and witnessing domestic violence, Max was placed in a crisis residence with intensive mental health services. From there, he was moved to a therapeutic foster home, where he has resided for the last three years.

After being discharged from the crisis residence, Max began trauma-focused therapy at The NYSPCC. Initially, this was arranged as family counseling to strengthen the bond between Max and his mother, Sue. The trauma recovery clinician's initial work focused on helping Sue read and respond to Max's emotional cues and to respond to his longing for a closer connection with her. While Sue intermittently showed progress in her ability to "tune into" Max, she eventually stopped attending family therapy sessions.

The NYSPCC's clinicians continued to work with Max and focused on helping him cope with the inconsistent contact with his birth mother. Another treatment area focused on helping Max recover from the rage and hostility he encountered when he was abused. Collateral sessions also started with Diana, his foster mother. Max has found stability in Diana's home and has formed a close and loving attachment to her. Diana is eager to adopt Max.

Through treatment, Max has benefited from learning coping skills to manage his feelings of anger and shame around his birth family, and to understand his ambivalence about his upcoming adoption. Collateral sessions with Diana help her understand and attune to Max's emotional cues and needs and help her provide ongoing emotional support to him. Max has made significant progress through his treatment in The NYSPCC's Trauma Recovery Program. Trauma clinicians will continue to work with Max and Diana as they prepare to move forward with Max's adoption. ●

**All names in the case vignettes have been changed.*

THE TRAUMA RECOVERY PROGRAM

(continued from page 5)

SEXUAL ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAM

IN FEBRUARY 2007, The NYSPCC launched a new component of the Child Empowerment Program, a sexual abuse prevention workshop titled *Safe Touches: Personal Safety Training for Children*. *Safe Touches* focuses on sexual abuse prevention and promotes awareness to children in kindergarten through third grade.

USING COLORFUL PUPPETS, The NYSPCC's specially trained clinicians use role-play scenarios to help children recognize safe and unsafe touches, teach body safety and help children identify whom to tell if they have experienced an unsafe touch. The workshop emphasizes that if a child has been touched inappropriately, it is *never* the child's fault. Each child is given a copy of *You're in Charge!* or *Keeping my Body Safe!* activity and coloring books to be used with their parents and designed to reinforce the messages from the workshop.

THE NYSPCC's *Safe Touches* workshop has received overwhelmingly positive feedback and many elementary schools have asked us to present *Safe Touches* to their students. Demand for this program is constant, as educating children about their bodies and teaching them how to keep safe is of vital importance. Since inception through December 31, 2007, The NYSPCC provided 60 workshops serving 1,756 children.

CRISIS DEBRIEFING SERVICES

FROM 2006 TO THE PRESENT, The NYSPCC clinicians have provided crisis debriefing services to the New York City Administration for Children's Services' (ACS) staff after traumatic events occur, such as child fatalities, violence in the field against a staff member, or after handling horrific cases of child physical and sexual abuse. The NYSPCC also conducts bereavement groups following the death of an ACS staff member. The "Restoring Resiliency Response" protocol, developed by Dr. Pulido, has been utilized in these sessions. Providing a safe space for everyone to voice feelings about loss is important for team-building and setting up needed support systems instrumental in returning staff to previous levels of functioning. As "first responders" to child abuse and neglect cases in New York City, ACS staff needs support to continue their noble but difficult mission. In 2007, The NYSPCC provided 49 crisis debriefing sessions to 271 ACS staff members. ●



POSITIVE PARENTING PLUS (PP+)

THE POSITIVE PARENTING PLUS (PP+) Program focuses on providing specialized and intensive therapeutic supervised visitation services to New York City's most vulnerable children: abused and neglected children in foster care and children involved in high-risk custody and visitation cases in family court proceedings. Supervised visitation services are designed to help parents who cannot have unsupervised access to their children due to a history of child physical or sexual abuse, domestic violence, substance abuse or mental illness. Rather than eliminating contact between a non-custodial parent and child, supervised visitation provides a one-on-one supportive setting where the relationship can continue while pending legal issues are addressed by the child protective and court systems.

THE NYSPCC HAS BEEN PROVIDING supervised visitation to New York City families since 1992. Its services allow visiting parents to spend time with their children in the presence of a Master's-level clinician. Families receive support from skilled clinicians to strengthen or repair their relationships with their children. Supervised visitation is intended to be a temporary remedy with most parents moving toward less restrictive or unsupervised visits with their child whenever possible. When that happens, PP+ provides a neutral place for the safe transfer of children during unsupervised visits when there are restrictions placed on the contact between parents.

OUR SUPERVISED VISITATION SERVICES are enhanced by therapeutic intervention. The PP+ program includes parenting skills workshops, individual parent "coaching" sessions for visiting parents during supervised visits with their children and, when needed, mental health counseling for children who have witnessed domestic violence. All families involved in supervised visitation receive these enhanced services. A program with this level of intensive supervised visitation services is unique in New York City. The NYSPCC is also committed to eliminating language and financial barriers to parent-child contact. The NYSPCC is the *only* agency in New York City providing bilingual (Spanish/English) services, seven days a week, and PP+ services are provided free of charge.

IN 2007, our supervised visitation services helped 181 families involving 274 at-risk children. A total of 848 supervised visits were provided for our families and the staff prepared 267 reports for the court regarding parent-child interaction. A total of 672 supervised transfers took place. Eleven full cycle parenting skills workshops were held for visiting parents. Other visiting parents also received their Certificate of Completion for cycles started in 2006 and ending in 2007. A total of 134 parenting sessions took place in 2007. ●



Natalie

Domestic violence commonly tears families apart. This was the case for Antonio and Sandra who separated after many turbulent years together, following a horrific fight. Antonio realized that Sandra would not continue their relationship, but he wanted to see his child. Natalie, age six, was close to her father and missed him very much.

The Family Court referred the family to The NYSPCC for supervised visitation services. Antonio acknowledged to The NYSPCC clinician that he had made mistakes as a partner and as a parent. He wanted to maintain his relationship with Natalie and learn how to be a better father to her. The NYSPCC clinician also met with Sandra and supported her with domestic violence resources. Sandra realized that she regretted the negative comments she made about Antonio to Natalie, and realized that it was important for Natalie to continue to have a relationship with her dad. Sandra wanted Natalie to be able to see Antonio, but worried about Natalie's and her own safety. She was also worried about the aggressive behaviors Natalie had recently shown at home.

The NYSPCC supervised visitation team worked with the whole family to help resolve these issues. The clinician worked with Antonio in parent coaching sessions before and after his visits with Natalie to improve his interactions with her and make the most of the time they spent together. Antonio also completed The NYSPCC's Parenting Education program and became involved with the Fathers' Support Group, where he was able to spend time reflecting on his role as a father and the kind of father he wanted to be to his daughter.

Natalie met weekly with an NYSPCC therapist for trauma recovery counseling. In these sessions, Natalie was able to discuss her conflicted feelings about her father. Sandra also met with the therapist to gain insight about Natalie's feelings and support her daughter as she began to face the trauma she experienced due to witnessing the violence in her family. After several months of supervised visits, Antonio and Natalie were granted unsupervised visits in the community by the court. A family member conducted the transfers to ensure Sandra's safety. Natalie and her mother continue to receive therapy at The NYSPCC. ●

CHILD PERMANENCY MEDIATION

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP with the New York City Family Court, The NYSPCC is piloting the City's first Child Permanency Mediation (CPM) Program. CPM mediates child protective proceedings where the Family Court has placed children in foster care due to parental abuse or neglect. Children and families referred to CPM are usually at a stage in the court proceeding when a decision must be reached about the child's permanent home. Mediation provides a forum where parents, attorneys, social service agency staff and other interested parties can focus on resolving problems that pose barriers to permanency for the child. In this non-adversarial setting, everyone can explore options and find mutually acceptable solutions that will facilitate a child's return to the family or expedite placement to another permanent home. CPM enables those participating in child abuse and neglect proceedings to focus on problem resolution, treatment, education and prevention. CPM also helps to avoid prolonged, contentious legal proceedings that can extend a child's stay in foster care.

BY IMPROVING COMMUNICATION among the various parties, mediation can minimize frustration, delay and conflict between parents and service providers. Because families are given an active and respected voice in overcoming obstacles to permanency, CPM can reduce their feelings of alienation, confusion, distrust and apathy. Parents who become more engaged in permanency planning for their children are better able to assist in a positive resolution.

THE PROGRAM BEGAN in early 2003 in the Brooklyn Family Court and proved so successful that it expanded to the Manhattan Family Court in January 2004. Expansion into the Bronx Family Court took place in June 2005, followed by the Queens Family Court in November 2005. In 2007, the Child Permanency Mediation program handled 255 cases and conducted 380 mediation sessions serving 428 children from 255 families. ●



Tommy & David

Tommy and David were in foster care for eight years when The NYSPCC received their case. They had been removed from their parents' home due to neglect. Ravaged by drugs, their mother had disappeared from their life. Their father, Alex, was angry and hostile towards the foster parents and all involved with the case. This attitude, combined with numerous changes in the caseworkers, therapists, and judges, caused the case to remain in court for eight years. The children were on an emotional roller coaster during this time, often anxious and upset about loyalty conflicts.

They were very attached to their foster parents—but loved their father as well. During mediation, The NYSPCC's mediators brought together all the people needed to come up with a solution. After two very emotional sessions, Alex and the foster parents embraced teary-eyed and ended their feud. Working with our mediators, they designed a plan for the father to attend significant family events, such as birthday parties, school plays and medical appointments. Alex realized how fortunate his children were to have such loving foster parents. Eventually, he admitted that he could not adequately care for the children, but didn't want to lose contact with them. An "open" adoption arrangement was agreed to. Alex will continue to play a role in their lives, and Tommy and David will have a permanent, stable and loving home. ●

EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

PROFESSIONALS WHO COME INTO CONTACT with children in the course of their everyday activities play a vital role in identifying and assisting children who are victimized by abuse or neglect. The NYSPCC provides training and education to professionals, in addition to the general public, on issues surrounding maltreated children. Law enforcement officials, teachers, social workers, doctors, nurses and other mandated reporters learn to recognize signs and symptoms of maltreatment and how to appropriately report it.

THE NYSPCC, approved as a training provider by the New York State Education Department, delivers the training by onsite lecture or by correspondence course. The NYSPCC has also written and published *The NYSPCC Professionals' Handbook: Identifying and Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect* as an adjunct to this program.

SINCE THE PROGRAM'S INCEPTION IN 1990, over 44,000 individuals have been trained regarding their legal responsibilities as mandated reporters of child abuse and neglect. In 2007, staff members made 46 presentations to professionals and the public reaching 900 practitioners and concerned citizens in New York City. The NYSPCC also provides testimony at public hearings and continues its advocacy efforts on behalf of child protection and related issues.

IN NOVEMBER, 2007, the Chief of the Crimes Against Children Bureau of the Kings County District Attorney's Office approached The NYSPCC to develop and launch a new program, SAFE (Sentencing Alternatives for Family Education), a multi-day training program for parents who are criminally charged with "endangering the welfare of a child" due to leaving their children alone and unattended either at home or in automobiles. SAFE will provide an alternative to criminal conviction and/or incarceration. Also collaborating on this program are the New York City Fire Department, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, and the New York City Administration for Children's Services. The NYSPCC will provide training on general safety issues that affect children (discipline, bathing safety, injury prevention, Shaken Infant Syndrome and the stages of child development) and child welfare and family court legal issues. The program will commence in early 2008.

RESEARCH

NEW YORK CITY MAYOR MICHAEL BLOOMBERG appointed The NYSPCC's Executive Director, Mary L. Pulido, Ph.D., to the New York City Child Fatality Review Team (CFRT). The CFRT was established to review all *preventable deaths* among New York City children ages one to 12 and to make recommendations for expanding the City's child safety efforts. The CFRT's first year of service concluded with a report on how to keep children safe from traffic accidents and while traveling. The first year findings and recommendations of the CFRT can be viewed at the following website:

<http://www.nyc.gov/html/doh/downloads/pdf/episrv/episrv-childfatality-book.pdf>.

PREPARING FUTURE LEADERS

EACH YEAR, The NYSPCC partners with Columbia University School of Social Work, New York University, Fordham University and the Hunter College School of Social Work by accepting social work students as interns. The students actively assist in one of The NYSPCC's program areas, including the Executive Office, Positive Parenting Plus and the Trauma Recovery Program. Through hands-on experience, guided by talented and seasoned NYSPCC professionals, students obtain valuable knowledge and experience that will prepare them for future employment in a social service agency. Educating students in the child abuse protection and prevention field, in addition to other social service fields, is a part of The NYSPCC's mission and is imperative for the continuation of valuable and highly needed social services. During 2006-2007, The NYSPCC trained five MSW interns. ●

As the first child protection agency in the United States, The NYSPCC maintains the most comprehensive and oldest set of records on child abuse and neglect cases and laws for maltreated children. The George Sim Johnston Archives, named in memory of a long-standing member of The NYSPCC's Board of Directors, contains a wealth of original and compiled material on the origins, history and development of the child protection movement from 1875 to the present day.

The Archival holdings include:

- Microfilm copies of The NYSPCC cases from the organization's incorporation in 1875 to the present, including more than 600,000 files concerning over 2,000,000 children
- Newspaper clippings of note concerning child protection issues including 15 bound volumes regarding The NYSPCC's efforts regarding child labor as it pertains to children working in the theatre
- Annual Reports of child protective statistics and case summaries

In the past decade, Archive photos, records, advice and consultation have been used for several feature length documentaries, short films, dissertations and books dealing with children's rights. The NYSPCC has also participated in three major museum exhibits: The New York Historical Society, The Museum of the City of New York and the Hoboken Historical Society. In each exhibit, The NYSPCC received a prominent position telling the story of The NYSPCC and its founding of the organized child protection movement.

In 2007, 25 professional and private inquirers received assistance from the archivist at The NYSPCC. The NYSPCC's archivist also addressed the Italian Genealogical Group on the history of The NYSPCC, aspects of Italian immigration and the protection of children and the Italian-

American community in New York. The Archives also received credit and appreciation for its contribution towards the publication of a book on tennis great Althea Gibson, published by a Canadian company focusing on the promotion of adult literacy. Research by The NYSPCC's archivist provided key information to the authors of *Vom alten Schlag*, a book commemorating the centennial of the Vienna Child Protection Center, that enabled them to highlight the pioneering efforts of Lydia von Wolfring, an early correspondent and honorary member of The NYSPCC. ●



Etta Wheeler



Elbridge T. Gerry

"In the winter of 1873, in a New York neighborhood called "Hell's Kitchen," a rooming-house janitress told a church worker, Etta Wheeler, about a case of horrific child cruelty. Dedicated and compassionate, Mrs. Wheeler made discrete inquiries and was determined to rescue the abused child. Mrs. Wheeler approached the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and pleaded for help. Within 48 hours of her initial report, an investigation was conducted, a petition filed by ASPCA Counsel Elbridge T. Gerry, a protective removal effected, a hearing commenced, a temporary placement arranged and a criminal prosecution prepared. Thus, The New York Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children was born, with Mr. Gerry at its helm."

FINANCIAL CONDITION SUMMARY**ASSETS**

| | | |
|----------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| Cash | \$ | 788,564 |
| Investments at fair value | | 27,753,234 |
| Other assets | | 998,179 |
| <i>Total Assets</i> | <i>\$</i> | <i>29,539,977</i> |

LIABILITIES

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|----|-----------------------|
| Accounts payable and accrued expenses | \$ | 93,720 |
| Other liabilities | | 64,737 |
| <i>Total Liabilities</i> | | <i>158,457</i> |

NET ASSETS

| | | |
|--|------------------|--------------------------|
| Unrestricted | \$ | 24,852,261 |
| Temporarily restricted | | 294,318 |
| Permanently restricted | | 4,234,941 |
| <i>Total Net Assets</i> | | <i>29,381,520</i> |
| <i>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</i> | <i>\$</i> | <i>29,539,977</i> |

FINANCIAL ACTIVITY SUMMARY

OPERATING REVENUE

| | | |
|---|-----------|-------------------------|
| Contributions | \$ | 976,160 |
| Government contracts | | 578,670 |
| Special events | | 382,369 |
| Investment return | | 1,429,846 |
| Other support and revenue | | 26,462 |
| <i>Total Support and Revenue</i> | \$ | <i>3,393,507</i> |

OPERATING EXPENSES

| | | |
|--|-----------|-------------------------|
| Supervised visitation | \$ | 674,719 |
| Trauma recovery | | 736,133 |
| Child permanency mediation | | 576,591 |
| Professional education | | 209,284 |
| Archives | | 95,360 |
| General administration | | 419,147 |
| Special events | | 248,511 |
| Fundraising | | 278,246 |
| <i>Total Expenses</i> | \$ | <i>3,237,991</i> |
| <i>Excess of Operating Revenue Over Operating Expenses</i> | | <i>155,516</i> |
| Legacies | | 28,358 |
| Investment return – non-operating | | (1,751,701) |
| Adjustment to post-retirement benefit liability | | (689,144) |
| Increase in temporarily restricted net assets | | 23,253 |
| Increase in permanently restricted net assets | \$ | 142,864 |

NET ASSETS

| | | |
|---------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| Decrease for the year | \$ | (2,090,854) |
| Beginning of year | | 31,472,374 |
| <i>End of year</i> | \$ | <i>29,381,520</i> |

On October 29, 2007, The NYSPCC held its Annual Gala Dinner Dance at The Pierre Hotel in New York City. Honorees Joan Ganz Cooney and Merck & Co., Inc. exemplified the highest level of commitment to enhancing children’s lives. Emmy-award winning newswoman Deborah Norville was the Emcee for the evening. Our Gala Co-Chairs Juju Chang and Neal Shapiro, Susan and Richard H. Lenny, and Sherrie and David Westin, did a fabulous job, as did The NYSPCC’s Board Member, Tatiana Papanicolaou, who chaired the Silent Auction. The evening was a success, raising \$400,000.

Special thanks to all who contributed to the silent auction, Mattel/Fisher-Price who gave each guest “Elmo Knows Your Name” dolls to take home to a child and to Tourneau, Remergent and Talbots for their wonderful gift bag items. The Hershey Company, one of The NYSPCC’s most dedicated sponsors, again provided the guests with delicious chocolates and beautiful crystal kiss-shaped candy dishes filled with “Thank You” Hershey’s Kisses. The Gala was a wonderful night to remember! ●



On May 8, 2007, the Junior Committee of The NYSPCC hosted “Reggae in May,” a cocktail party benefiting The NYSPCC’s programs protecting New York City’s children. It was held at ASTRA in New York City. Highlights of the evening included gourmet cuisine by Charlie Palmer of Aureole, Reggae rhythms by Winston Irie and the Collective Security Band, and a super silent auction. Many thanks to Stephen Czeck for designing the event invitations and Advantage Title for sponsoring the live music performance. The evening raised over \$23,000 for The NYSPCC. ●

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The NYSPCC's continued commitment to protecting children and strengthening families would not have been possible without the generous support of individuals, foundations, corporations and government agencies that share the mission of ensuring the safety and well-being of New York City's most vulnerable children.

Thank you for supporting The NYSPCC's critical, life-saving work.

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