



Greetings,

Welcome to another edition of TEAM's newsletter. TEAM has had lots of successes recently from the start of a new Family Resource Center to placing domestic violence victims into new apartments. I invite you to learn more about these achievements in the stories below. We welcome your comments and questions at dstroman@teaminc.org.

Richard J. Knoll, TEAM CEO

TEAM Launches New Family Center

Early next year, TEAM will open a brand new Family Resource Center in the same building as its Early Care & Education Center in Ansonia.



The new resource center will offer trainings and playgroups where local parents can develop strengths to promote their children's healthy development. Center professionals additionally plan to hold workshops on family and parenting issues both on site and at elementary schools in Ansonia, Derby, and Shelton. The center will work with Ansonia's new Boys & Girls' Club, Tinney Center, and Ansonia Community Action to treat children seen by those groups who have special issues.

TEAM is creating the new center after much discussion and agreement with local parents, community leaders, and local providers to families and children, who felt it worthwhile to have a location for parent education and trainings in the Valley.

In the center's first year, TEAM hopes to help 45 or more parents improve their parenting skills.

TEAM extends a very warm thanks to the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven for its grant to start and support the new center through 2009. To learn more about the new Family Resource Center, please call David Morgan, TEAM's Child Services Director, at 734-8609, ext. 32.



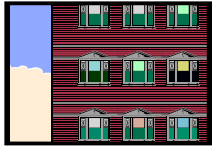
Kids Screened, Learn Teeth Care

Six dental hygiene students and their instructor from the University of New Haven visited TEAM's Early Education Center in Ansonia in early November to screen preschoolers' teeth and teach the children dental care. At various "stations" in the Center gym, the preschoolers learned about the different sides to dental care, playing with supersized "teeth"; through a pretend trip to the supermarket where they discovered food choices that "make teeth happy", i.e. healthy; and dressing up like dentists in coats and gloves and using oversized dental tools. At the end of the event, the dental hygiene students recommended children with tooth problems to the dentist and gave out parent information. Before next year, the UNH students will have screened and instructed all of TEAM's 200+ preschoolers in dental care.

Two More Find Homes through Beyond Shelter

A client of TEAM's Beyond Shelter will move into a new apartment likely in early January 2007 thanks to a new addition to the program called Beyond Shelter Plus (Housing Repair Voucher Program).

Funds for Beyond Shelter Plus allow landlords to renovate



apartments, then rent them to program participants at reduced rents. Jaime Fields, the program manager, has had a landlord and building inspector assess an apartment recently as part of the program. If

approved, the Valley area apartment will go to a domestic violence victim from The Umbrella.

A second client of Umbrella received an apartment through Beyond Shelter Plus in October.

The Plus program has been attracting more attention from local landlords recently. The list of landlords willing to rent in exchange for the repairs offered through the program has been growing, Fields said. Moreover, local Valley residents have donated numerous furniture items that will go to future Plus apartment residents. The Plus Program is funded through the generosity of the TD Banknorth Charitable Foundation.

TEAM Revamps Website

TEAM has redone its website, www.teaminc.org. The new website is a great way to find out about TEAM's programs in affordable preschool care, elderly support, eviction prevention, and more. The site discusses the special pluses of TEAM's many programs, each program being discussed on its own page; at the bottom of those pages are phone numbers and names of TEAM personnel to contact for anyone wishing to take advantage of that TEAM service. Furthermore, the site's Partnerships page lists links to other local groups serving the needy and distressed. The simplified design of the new website lets pages load quickly on the screen while sidebar and picture menus make it very easy navigating page to page.

So why not pay a visit to www.teaminc.org?



Energy's Back!



TEAM's Energy Assistance is up and running once more. Low income families and individuals may apply from now thru April 14th for help to lower their winter heating bills. To set an energy appointment, residents of the Valley can call 736-5420; in Milford, 783-3253; Orange, 891-2154 Woodbridge, 389-3429; and Bethany, 393-2100, ext.124.