



Family Building Blocks

Keeping Children Safe & Families Together in Marion & Polk Counties | Winter 2011



Jamie & Madison

"The day I planned to bring Madison home, Salem Hospital went into lock-down...my biological father had planted pipe bombs across Salem, including the hospital," Jamie.

Jamie grew up in a dangerous environment. As a single mother, she feared she would repeat the abuse she endured as a child. Before Madison's birth, Jamie was referred to FBB by a counselor. With help from FBB teachers and home visitors, Jamie learned to lovingly care for her newborn daughter and take the steps necessary to establish a positive support system.

"FBB helped me as a first-time mom in many ways; making sure our needs were met and giving me the confidence and the tools to become the kind of parent I wanted to be."

As Madison grew, she began attending FBB's Therapeutic Classroom and blossomed in our nurturing environment. Today, Madison is a delightful, bright five-year old who is thriving in her kindergarten class while Jamie is pursuing a degree in nursing. She works hard every day to create a strong foundation for Madison and her younger brother, Caden. Without FBB, Jamie fears she would have replicated for her children the abuse and violence that she experienced as a child.

"Being able to break the cycle of abuse that I now realize has gone back more than two generations is amazing. I am very proud of my accomplishments and have great hopes and dreams for my children," Jamie.

POP QUIZ!

Take the same quiz 800 guests took at our fall Dream Builders Luncheon. More luncheon highlights on page 2!

- How much of a human's brain is developed at birth?
 - 5%
 - 40%
 - 50%
 - 80%
- How much of a human's brain is developed by age 3?
 - 50%
 - 65%
 - 80%
 - 100%
- What statistics do criminal justice authorities use to predict future needs for prison beds?
 - Number of recent drug arrests
 - High school drop-out rates
 - Third grade reading scores
 - Current number of boys at MacLaren Youth Correctional Facility

How did you do? 1. b 2. c 3. c



Holiday Parenting Tip:

The holiday season is full of family traditions. Tell your children family stories and encourage them to talk about what they remember from past holidays. Consider giving a book to each child in your life to promote early literacy.

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Sue Miller, Executive Director

Chelsea's Place

2425 Lancaster Drive NE
Salem, Oregon 97305

Gracie's Place

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Salem, Oregon 97304

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www.familybuildingblocks.org



How do you turn 800 people into 150,000 in 7 days?

As I played with my four grandchildren recently, all of whom were under the age of 3, it struck me that they represent the answer to our country's fiscal crisis. Granted, they won't be a "quick fix" but they and their young peers have the potential to reduce our national deficit, increase our international competitive edge and improve the well-being of virtually all Americans!

Since 2 of the 4 can't talk and 3 aren't potty trained, how could I draw this conclusion? No, it wasn't due to sleep deprivation! What I know is that if we invest in our infants, toddlers and preschoolers and support their parents, we can have a stronger work force, more taxpayers, improved health, fewer prisoners and a higher quality of living for us all. The worn out adage that "our children are our future" now takes on new meaning and urgency.

Research conducted by some of our country's top economists, neuroscientists, health providers (see page 5), business associations and retired military leaders all draw this same conclusion. Our public policies and private investments must respond to this evidence. It is irrefutable.

So, how do we get lawmakers and private donors to invest in programs to support families raising young children? As I said at our recent Dream Builders Luncheon, if each of our 800 guests explained this return on investment to three people, and then those people talked to another three people the next day, and so on, we would reach 150,000 people in a week. Then we would reach the tipping point when our community would embrace and invest in our youngest and most vulnerable assets. There is not a day to delay!

Round of applause, please, for our fall luncheon sponsors . . .

Presenting Sponsors

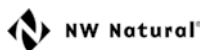


Supporting Sponsors



Portland General Electric

Dream Builder Sponsors



In-kind Sponsors



Volunteers

The of Our Program



Peter Howland has been instrumental in stocking our food pantry with donations from the Marion Polk Food Share.



Jenny Gilchrist volunteers at Chelsea's Place in an infant/toddler Therapeutic Classroom. Her favorite part of the day is rocking and reading with a toddler.

"It's so gratifying to watch the children develop from crawlers to walkers, to enjoy interacting with books and to use language with confidence."

- Jenny Gilchrist, Volunteer

Volunteers donate over 2,000 hours per month!

Help Wanted

Table Captains - Host a table of your friends at our Polk County Dream Builders Luncheon March 8th. Help spread the message of keeping children safe and families together with your friends, neighbors and co-workers.

FBB Auxiliary - Give the gift of volunteer hours by joining FBB's Auxiliary. This group of women meets every 4th Monday of the month to provide support for the work and mission of FBB.

www.familybuildingblocks.org/volunteer or contact Julie Hilty at 503-566-2132 ext. 254 or email jhilty@familybuildingblocks.org.



FBB Teacher, Allison Manzano and Therapeutic Classroom volunteer, Karen Casian peeled over 100 apples for the Gracie's Place Family Harvest Fest.



FBB interns Angela Sutton (Portland State); Erin Bolen (Western Oregon); Carolyn Cava (Willamette); and Becca Taylor, Dana Kropf and Craig Johnson (Corban) enjoy the Fall Dream Builders Luncheon with FBB Internship Supervisor Jenn Columbus.

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS

Aug. 15 - Oct. 31

Chelsea's Place Classrooms & Support

Melanie Backer
Tom Bailey
JoAnn Bell
Jamesetta Berger
Blanchet School
Erin Bolen
Cheryl Burnham
Vicki Cadwallader
Denis Carnaby
Chemeketa Baseball
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Megan Hodson
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Lori Jones
Steve Kenney
Kay Lefley
Sophia Macaitis
Sarah & Allison Mansur
Cassi Marfin
Mike McFetridge
Mika Myers
Kay Myklebust
Natsumi Neilsen
Caro Nicholl
Kathy Odenthal
PGE

Krista Richey
Melody Ross
Bambi Rux
Marty Thomson
Michael Thomson
Carol Van Brocklin
Karen Van Cleave
Kathie Van Ronzelen
Ana Villalvazo
Catie Wheat
Audrey Wheeler
Kelsey White
Alice Wilkinson
Maggie Zimmerman

Gracie's Place Classrooms & Support

Katalin Balogh
Jo Bateman
Sharon Broeker
Kim Buller
Katy Canales
Ileanna Carlile
Karen Casian
Nacole Cavette
Vicki Champ
Judy Hooper
Maria Combs
Johanna Dakopolos
Peter Howland
Suzanne Hyatt
Lori Jones
Maureen Donnellan
Karen Farmer
Laurie Hain
Josefina Garcia
Laura Gasca
Yesenia Gonzalez
David & Laurie Green
Melanie Hill
Heidi Hogan
Solveig Holmquist
Kim Johnson
Lori Jones
Amber Kelly
Allison Koehnke
Jane Lamb

Sophia Macaitis
Mary McMullen
Jane Orlowski
Renata Riley
R. Taylor
Sarah Westfall
Kathy Yunker
Maria Zamora

Welcome Baby Program

Cody Blankenship
Connie Bork
Meredith Dameron
Nikki Freepons
June Hickerson
Jan Morgan
Jane Orlowski
Donna & George Sperry
Vicki Willis

Reruns for Kids

Genesis Acuna
Diana Allowitz
Jackie Barker
Jean Baumann
Sharon Broeker
Lynda Bush
Kirsten Collins
Karen Farmer
Amanda Foley
Laurie Hain
Trish Hanna
Dyna Hermann
Megan Hodson
Heidi Hogan
Jill Jacobs
Peggy Klein
Meika Koletar
Emily Kraschel
Nick McDonald
Cindy Mueller
Nordstrom
Arlene Pate

Jody Rowell
Rebecca Saavedra
Karen Sewell
Linda Stonebrook
Carol Textrum
Carol Van Brocklin
Kathie Van Ronzelen
Cecelia Trevino
Oscar Trevino
Krystina Zepeda
Ashley Zuniga

Interns

Chemeketa Comm. Coll.
Jessica Cruickshank
Annie Martin
Christina Matson
Corban Univ.
Heather Anderson
Craig Johnson
Angie Jones
Courtney Kendrick
Dana Kropf
Patricia Martinez
Beth Schreiber
Becca Taylor
Oregon State Univ.
Jami Mersch
Portland State Univ.
Tierny Olson
Angela Sutton
Western Oregon Univ.
Erin Bolen
Fatima Garibay
Willamette Univ.
Anna Akins
Carolyn Cava
Rachel Frenzel
Anna Li
High School Students
McKay High
Paola Garcia
Andrew Lam
North Salem High
Amy Beasley

Regis High
Emily Odenthal
Sprague High
Angela Botek
Tyler Dayton
Saurabh Mahajan

Family Night

Anna Akins
Patrice Altenhofen & Family
Bruce Anderson
Cheryl Burnham
Gordon Burnham
Comcast
Rachel Frenzel
Craig Johnson
Courtney Kendrick
Dana Kropf
Daniel & Theresa Lindquist
Melanie Ronai
Becca Taylor
Umpqua Bank
YMCA Kids Zumba

Development

Pamela Abernethy
Mike Ainsworth
Patrice Altenhofen
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Bruce Anderson
Melinda Armstrong
Jacob Bailey
Roxanne Bailey
Gladys Blum
Nate Boderman
Donna Burgess
Mark & Cheryl Burnham
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Lillian Busch
Ross Carey
Christopher Casebeer
Matt Casebeer
Linda Chase

Jenn Columbus
Catherine Davis
Julie Davis
Leslie Dinsdale
Michelle Fleener
Deana Feres
Susan Goodman
Kathy Gordon
Theresa Greco
Amy Green
Jim Green & Kathy Lelack Green
Pam Grove
Jodi Hack
Barb Hacke Resch
Jason Herber
Todd & Desiree Holcomb
Mark Hoyt
Jen Hume
Josh Jensen
Brian Johnston
LeAnn Keim
Allison Koehnke
Justin Kruse
Paul Kylo
Marlene Lulay
Bryn Lynch
Jeanna Madlener
Carrie Maheu
Heather Mains
Trudy Martin
Wes & Wendy McWhorter
Sue Miller
KK Burrell Monaghan
Sue Moore
Lyle Mordhorst
Cindy Mueller
Mary Musick
Brent Neilsen
Jenn Nicolli
Cheryl Nordhagen
Rob & Shelly Norton
Nancy Parks
Thomas Paterson
Janice Primus-Wickett

Lena Prine
Kathy Pugh
Debbi & Dave Rehbehn
Melanie Ronai
Rich Schultz
Victoria Shinn
Toni Simpson
Sam Skillern
Denny & Deanna Smith
Kirk Sund
R. Taylor
Marty Thomson
Dave VanBossuyt
Conrad Venit
DJ and Gabi Vincent
Jim Vu
Adrienne Waltman
Tom Wells
Sarah Westfall
Jean Wheat-Palm
Janet Wilson
Dick Withnell
Andrew Wynings
Pete & Kelly Yunker

Auxiliary

Lynda Agen
Annie Battee
Darla Brown
Patty Castlerline
Vicki Chamber
Clare Chedester
Terri Elmore
Brenda Fogel
Diane Hawkins
Tina Hill
Trina Horsey
Thelma Jacoby
Sandy Manning
Pat Mausen
Debbie Miller
Gay Riesterer
Helen Shepard
Marjorie Stoltzfus
Catie Wheat

Holiday Gift of Hope

WISH LIST

- Baby formula (Similac Sensitive & Regular)
- New children's socks & underwear
- Children's coats, hats, gloves & boots
- Board books suitable for infants & toddlers
- Books in Spanish (infant-preschool)
- Bus passes
- \$20 grocery store gift cards
- Pre-paid gas cards
- Energy gift cards from PGE



Help our families survive unexpected emergencies like the inability to pay utility bills, buy infant formula and diapers, or access emergency medical care.

Yes, I would like to give families Hope for the Holidays

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift of: \$ _____

\$25 = a week of infant formula \$100 = a utility bill

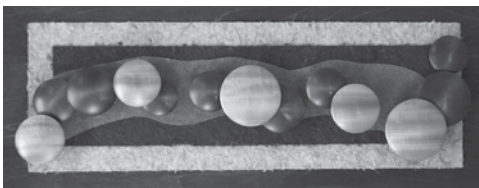
\$50 = diapers for 2 months \$200 = groceries for a month

Mail to: Family Building Blocks • 2425 Lancaster Drive NE • Salem, Oregon 97305

Your Winter "to do" List

Gaty Art Sale

December 3rd & 4th



Artist Ted Gaty of Eola Hills Designs is hosting an art sale from which 100% of the proceeds will benefit Family Building Blocks. The sale is from 10:00 am - 5:00 pm at Eola Hills Designs, 711 55th Avenue NW in Salem. His exquisite wood sculptures will be priced to sell from \$40 to \$300. For a preview of the artwork, visit www.familybuildingblocks.org/art

Free Santa Photos

December 10th



On Saturday, from 10:00-12:00 and 1:00-3:00, Santa and Mrs. Claus (a.k.a. Grubby and Laurie Hain) will be at our Reruns for Kids store. Stop by for a free photo with Santa and enjoy holiday treats and refreshments at the Reruns' Open House.

Gingerbread Gala

December 16th



This formal event is an evening for adults to enjoy and discover some of Salem's nonprofit organizations. Hosted by FBB's Young Leaders Council and Salem Area Young Professionals. Tickets are limited! For more info www.familybuildingblocks.org/gala

This is not a fundraising event.

Turning Gold into Lead

At Family Building Blocks we believe that by intervening as early as possible in a child's life, we can make the biggest impact on their future. Research continues to support this belief.

A recent ACE (Adverse Childhood Experiences) Study reveals a powerful relationship between our emotional experiences as children and our physical and mental health as adults and makes clear that time does not heal all wounds. The ACE Study was conducted by Kaiser Permanente's Department of Preventive Medicine in San Diego with over 17,000 patients and it studied eight categories of childhood abuse and family dysfunction (i.e., domestic violence, alcoholism, chronic depression, criminal behavior).



Two of the most important findings from the study were that traumatic childhood experiences: 1) are vastly more common than recognized or acknowledged; and 2) have a powerful relationship to an adult's health a half-century later.

The study found that those patients with increased childhood trauma were more likely to smoke, become obese or depressed, suffer from lung disease, contract hepatitis or an STD, attempt suicide and use intravenous drugs. For example, a male child with a high score for childhood dysfunction was 46 times more likely to become an IV drug user.

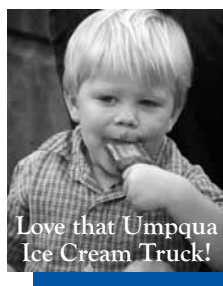
"Clearly, we have shown that adverse childhood experiences are common, destructive, and have an effect that often lasts for a lifetime. They are the most important determinants of the health and well-being of our nation."

- Vincent J. Felitti, MD, *The Relationship of Adverse Childhood Experiences to Adult Health: Turning Gold into Lead*

But the good news is that we can prevent this "reverse alchemy" of turning the gold of a newborn infant into the lead of a depressed, diseased adult. This is the mission of Family Building Blocks.



Lending a Hand



Family Night at the Carousel

FBB families delighted in free carousel rides, face painting, dancing and food at the fall Family Night sponsored by Umpqua Bank. Special thanks to Comcast employees for manning the grill, NW Natural for the tents, Tim's Cascade for the chips, Pearly Whites Family Dentistry for providing dental screenings and the YMCA for ZUMBA.



Several work crews from PGE spent time at Chelsea's Place this fall painting, landscaping and preparing crafts for home visits.

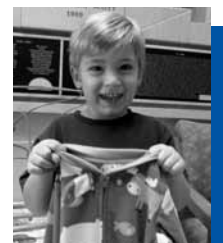
The FBB Auxiliary helped FBB raise over \$4,460 at the Woodburn Company Stores Shopping Extravaganza. Auxiliary members Debbie Miller, Thelma Jacoby and Terri Elmore volunteered at the event.



Extreme Reruns Make-over! Thank you Nordstrom employees for spending a day at our Reruns for Kids consignment store.



E.Z. Orchards donated \$1,900 from their FBB Harvest Weekend in October.



Con Lynch donated all his "baby" clothes to the children at FBB. He's a big boy now!

Thank You for Caring

We are honored to recognize those of you who donated financially to Family Building Blocks.

(August 18 - Oct 31)

Businesses:

ABC Window Cleaners
& Building Maintenance
AKT
American Ballet Academy
Asplundh Tree Expert Co
Cherry City Transmission
Dallas Glass & Window
Eagle Web Press
Green Acres Landscape
Heltzel, Williams, Yandell, Roth,
Smith, Petersen, & Lush PC
International Line Builders, Inc.
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LifeSource Natural Foods
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Saalfeld Griggs P.C.
Salem Nurse-Midwives Inc.
South Town Glass
TelecomPioneers
Valley Credit Union
West Coast Bank

Foundations:

Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
George & Laura Kreitzberg Foundation
Oregon Academy of Family Law Practitioners
Safeway Foundation
U.S. Bancorp Foundation

Community Organizations:

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Salem Networking Team
United Way of Columbia-Willamette
Willamette University -
Community Service Leadership

Individuals:

Pamela Abernethy & Chris Fletcher
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Cathy Aime
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M.C. & Renate Bickert
Gina Biehl
Bill Swift
Lillian Bladine & Ken Clark



"We are very happy to help support a non-profit organization that addresses early, supportive and caring programs for those in need." - Karl & Maggie Zimmerman

"AKT chose to support Family Building Blocks because we want to support the effort of keeping children safe and families together."



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Satya & Peyton Kline
Don & Shirley Knepp
Daryl Knox
Jason Koehnke
Jeff & Kim Koehnke

How Will You Be Remembered?



"FBB means so much to us! Having been involved in this wonderful cause for several years only makes us more eager to contribute long term and help families become healthy and positive contributors to society. What an honor it is to be a part of such a positive and long lasting organization that truly makes a difference." - Ross & Suzanne Carey

Thank you Ross and Suzanne for including FBB in your estate plan. For more information on how to leave a legacy gift to Family Building Blocks, please contact Andrew Wynings at 503-566-2132 ext. 223 or awynings@familybuildingblocks.org.

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Rob and Sally Miller Family
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In Honor of

Suzanne Carey & Margaret Daniels

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Ty and Jamie Hildebrand
Sally and James Moore

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If you want to add someone to our mailing list, if you received multiple copies, or if you want to [receive the newsletter electronically](#), please contact Desiree Hilliard at 503-566-2132 ext. 230 or dhilliard@familybuildingblocks.org. Thank you.

Upcoming Events

"Sharing Our Dream" Tours:

Wednesday, Dec 7 @ 11:30 am - *Chelsea's Place*
Wednesday, Jan 11 @ 11:00 am - *Gracie's Place*
Tuesday, Jan 17 @ 11:30 am - *Chelsea's Place*
Tuesday, Feb 7 @ 11:00 am - *Gracie's Place*
Wednesday, Feb 22 @ 11:30 am - *Chelsea's Place*

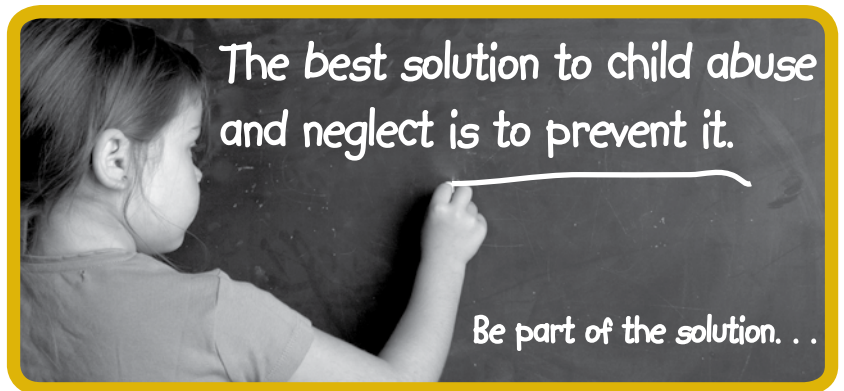
Polk County Dream Builders Luncheon

Thursday, March 8th @ noon
West Salem Foursquare Church

Uncorked Wine Auction

Saturday, May 12th @ 5:00 pm
Zenith Vineyard
www.uncorkedwineauction.org

Polk County Dream Builders Luncheon March 8, 2012



To make a reservation or become a table captain or sponsor, contact Julie Hilty at 503-566-2132 ext. 254 or jhilty@familybuildingblocks.org.

Things Are Looking Up!



Congratulations to these FBB parents!

- Charissa went back to school for her GED so she can help her children with their homework.
- Katie passed her driver's license exam and is now saving to buy a car.
- Adam was just hired full-time; his recent medical training has paid off!

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