Adoption Program Receives 4 MARE Awards!

The 20th Annual MARE (Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange) Awards Ceremony was held Dec 1st, 2017. This event recognizes the exceptional work done by agencies and individual social workers to accomplish a common goal of finding permanent families for waiting children. With that being said, we are pleased to announce that Child & Family’s Adoption Program received several awards again this year!

Here are the winners:

**Families’ Choice Award:** Rachel Carvalho (Fall River)

**Outstanding Dedication and Commitment to Waiting Families and Children:**
Sarah Fletcher (Fall River) and Kathy Dantas-Dwyer (Lawrence)

**Outstanding Number of MARE-Assisted Placements:**
Lawrence office and an individual award to Nathalie Gil (Lawrence)

**Outstanding Agency Collaboration with MARE:** Fall River office

*Congratulations to all and thank you for doing the amazing work that you do to find loving families for children!*

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Hometown Heroes

**Carney Charitable Foundation**
for donating $5,000 to support the Holiday Hope Project

**Prince Henry Society**
for distributing Thanksgiving dinners and collecting toys for needy families

**Four Year Old Avery**
who made & sold sugar scrubs and donated the $350 she earned to provide “gifts for the children”

**Southcoast Behavioral Health**
for distributing Thanksgiving dinners

**Holy Name Church**
for donating toys, gift cards and personal care items for Holiday Hope

**Taber Academy Teachers and Students**
for sponsoring 23 families for Holiday Hope

**ABC Disposal**
for sponsoring 97 individuals for Holiday Hope

**Russell Oagles - Five Star Collision**
for donating 36 new winter coats, hats & gloves for children

**Trucchi’s Supermarket**
for holding a coat drive this winter

**Members of the SouthCoast Chamber**
for volunteering their time to wrap for Holiday Hope

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For more information, please visit us online at: www.child-familyservices.org
The holidays can be the best time of the year; yet can also be the most stressful time as well. Because of the generosity of our supporters, over 500 individuals and families received the gift of HOPE this past holiday season.

Child & Family Services wishes to thank everyone who contributed to the 365 Days of Hope Gala and Holiday Hope Project. Once again, the great people of this community came together to make sure children and families had a brighter holiday season.

Whether you purchased a ticket, sponsored our event, bought a gift for a child, shopped for an entire family, or volunteered your time, YOU MADE A DIFFERENCE!

We are truly grateful for your kindness and generosity and wish you a Healthy, Happy, and Prosperous New Year!!
The following was written by Makhi, a 12 year old client of our Therapeutic Mentoring Program.

“There are many people that can be considered influential in this world. There are teachers, politicians, doctors, musicians, artists, and sport athletes that can have an impact on someone’s life. My most influential person is Stanley Pierre. In this essay, I will tell you why.

Stanley is my mentor. He works at Child and Family Services. This means he works with families that are broken or struggling. He is very good at his job and is very nice. I am one of his many clients. He treats all of his clients the same and loves all of us equally.

First off, Stanley helps me with trouble in school and at home. When I get into major trouble he will come to pick me up. This is not part of his job. He always asks what happened and why it happened. He has a habit of making me admit to things I don’t like to admit to, which only mom knows how to do. He helps me to get work done at school and teaches me how to react to certain actions or comments without getting upset.

Secondly, Stanley teaches me about life. He is kind enough to even help me manage my money. He helps me with my social skills and how to respond in a kind way before I react and do something I might regret. Though I don’t always agree with him, he never gives up on me and I’ve been with him for 3 years. He is very easy to talk to even when he’s disappointed. He is also generous of himself with my family. I think he is all around a great person.

Lastly, he has great style. He teaches me how to respect my body. He helps me understand how I can conserve my money to buy things I want. He puts into perspective the importance of a healthy diet. He makes me understand how to handle and deal with racial situations.

In conclusion, I state that my influential person is my mentor. One day I hope to be more like him and maybe I’ll become a better man. I know there will be more influential people in my life but for now he is my most influential person.”

In loving Memory of
Stanley Pierre 12/03/2017

South Coast Towing Donates $15,000!

Christopher Medeiros, owner of South Coast Towing Inc., New Bedford, recently donated $15,000 to support mental health programs at Child & Family Services. The donation was a result of his annual “Cares for Kids” event held in November.

“A donation of this magnitude goes a long way to enhance our programs that provide direct services to those in need,” stated Susan Remy, Director of Development. “We are honored that Mr. Medeiros chose to support the vital work we do in the community to heal and strengthen the lives of children and families.” He has donated $30,000 in 3 years!!

“We are fortunate to have such a support system of sponsors, friends and family that have come together for another successful event, stated Mr. Medeiros. “We are blessed to have people like this in the world that come together to raise funds for CFS to assist the unfortunate families that they help each and every day. I am thankful for all the sponsors, donations, attendees, and to the staff at CFS. Without all of you, the 3rd annual South Coast Towing Cares for Kids event would not have grown into such a success event. We will be holding a 4th event next year and can’t wait to see everyone again.”

“Again, thank you from the bottom of my heart for making a difference in a child’s life,” said Mr. Medeiros. “May God bless these children and their families.”
Monthly Giving Program

Right now...
...a child is getting bullied at school and is considering suicide
...someone is suffering with a mental illness
...a child needs a permanent home
...someone is a victim of violence
...someone has lost all hope in life

Would you like to invest in a cause that can truly change a life for the better? By becoming a monthly donor, you will be part of our exclusive 365 Society, investing in the work that we do to 365 days a year. Your contribution will have a meaningful impact on the children and families that receive crucial services from us each and every day. All funds received through our Monthly Giving Program will go directly to support the work we do to heal families affected by mental illness, violence, and trauma.

With your charitable monthly donation, you are choosing to make a remarkable difference. Your ongoing support will not only bring Hope, but will Help, Heal and Strengthen the lives of children and families. Thank you!

Learn more online: https://child-family-services.org/monthly-giving-program/

Our Mission
...to heal and strengthen the lives of children and families

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