Our Philosophy:

We Believe in the profound importance of the childhood experience as a foundation for the well-being of our society.

Our Vision is that every child will be valued, respected, and will have opportunities to succeed.

We Specialize in early childhood, physical rehabilitation, autism spectrum, ADHD, and comprehensive behavioral health services.

We Provide therapeutic services for children from birth to young adulthood.

Our Mission is to maximize the potential of children.

Our Core Values:

RESPECT
Respect all children and adults as having intrinsic worth.

DIVERSITY
Acknowledge and seek to understand diverse values, beliefs and cultures.

COMPASSION
Exercise compassion and sensitivity when interacting with others.

INTEGRITY
Demonstrate integrity, honesty and ethical conduct in all activities.

WELLNESS
Support physical, mental and spiritual health.

COLLABORATION
Partner with families and other community resources.

INCLUSION
Accept and value the strengths and contributions of everyone.

RESILIENCY
Foster positive perspectives and assist with reducing the impact of risk and trauma.

Our Leaders:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
July 2016 – June 2017

Michael Neubauer, President
Karen Kraus Phillips, Vice President
Carol Renz Blake, Secretary
James V. Garlick, Treasurer
Brad Postema, Asst. Treasurer
Craig Allison
Dr. Kathleen Benson
Michael Butler
Dr. Susan Criswell
Luke Davidoff
Keith Donati
Ray Moluski
Gary Seib
Lisa Smith Presta, Esq.
Erin Siegrist
Homer Smith
James P. Stoik

Community Impact: 3,335 children served
Dear Friends & Supporters,

As we look back at the most recent year of service, we are proud to be part of an organization that has remained devoted to our mission to maximize the potential of children for the past 93 years. The unparalleled commitment and compassion of our staff and Board of Directors has made a lasting impact on the lives of thousands of children across the region.

By continuing to invest in children and their families, the Achievement Center strengthens the building blocks of our community and makes our society healthier, one child and one family at a time. Our collective team dedicates their energy and skill to each child and family who seeks and receives our insight, guidance and wisdom. The Achievement Center advocates for children and offers our expertise to serve them.

Moving forward, we will continue to focus on meeting the unique needs of children and adolescents who are experiencing emotional, physical, developmental or behavioral challenges and remain a support system for each family’s physical, mental and spiritual health. Through clinical expertise, a sincere love for children and a desire to help others, our talented and experienced professionals will provide infants, children, adolescents, and young adults with individualized therapy to build upon their strengths to reach above and beyond their expectations.

To all our dedicated donors and friends, thank you for the important role that you play in making our mission possible. The support from the community enables us to provide high quality therapeutic services across a broad spectrum of programs. Together we are improving the lives of children and families who entrust us with their care.

Sincerely,

Charlotte Rerko
Executive Director

Michael Neubauer
Board President
A Look Back

This has been a tremendous year for the Achievement Center in serving our clients, engaging our donors, and helping our community. Here’s a snapshot of what we accomplished during the 2016-2017 fiscal year:

**INTENSIVE FAMILY COACHING:**

The Achievement Center was invited to participate in a one-year learning initiative by Erie County Department of Human Services, Community Care Behavioral Health and West Virginia University. The Achievement Center is one of three participating agencies in Pennsylvania.

Intensive Family Coaching (IFC) is a parent training intervention for children with severe behavior problems. This therapy places an emphasis on improving the quality of caregiver-child relationships and interactions. IFC is successful because it helps parents and children learn by doing.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TRANSITION:**

After an extensive executive recruitment effort, the Achievement Center’s board of directors named Charlotte Rerko as the agency’s new executive director in April. Rerko succeeded Rebecca Brumagin, who retired in May after twenty eight years as the Achievement Center’s leader.

Charlotte Rerko helped the agency close-out the 2016-2017 fiscal year with a renewed sense of purpose and a strong vision for the coming year. Charlotte has a variety of experience in the field of behavioral health, a servant-leader mentality and a strong passion for humanity. Under Charlotte’s leadership, and with her vision, the Achievement Center will continue to grow as a highly respected provider of therapeutic services for children and families.

**COMMUNITY SCHOOLS:**

The Achievement Center was one of 19 respondents to a proposal for development of a community schools initiative in conjunction with the Erie City Public Schools and United Way of Erie County.

According to a statement from United Way, “The community schools model is a strategy for organizing school and community resources around student success. A community school is both a place and set of partnerships between the school and other community resources. Its integrated focus on academics, services, supports and opportunities leads to improved student learning, stronger families and healthier communities.”

The Achievement Center was selected as the Lead Partner for Edison Elementary through an open RFQ process and an assessment of student/family needs. As Lead Partner, the Achievement Center helps to mobilize community assets and coordinate resources to provide after-school and family programming directly into school buildings. The Edison Elementary Corporate Partner, GE Transportation, helps provide financial resources and funded the hiring of the Edison Elementary Community School Director, Tami Krzeszewski-Conway.
Empowering Family Connection

PARENT CHILD INTERACTION THERAPY
Thanks to the generosity of the Erie Insurance Giving Network, our Parent Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) program received a $22,000 grant to purchase new audio/visual equipment.

Parent Child Interaction Therapy is a parent training intervention that teaches parents and/or caregivers specific behavior management techniques for use with their child. Designed for young children ages 2-8 with significant emotional or behavioral problems, PCIT empowers parents to make changes that improve their relationship with their young child and the overall family dynamic.

PCIT audio equipment aids the therapist in supporting parents/caregivers during therapy sessions through ear buds. The clinician is able to observe and verbally offer instruction to help promote effective behavior management techniques. The video equipment lets clinicians review sessions with parents and/or caregivers for training purposes. These tools support the success of PCIT as it aims to increase a child’s ability to manage frustration, build the child’s self-esteem, and improve the child’s ability to comply with parental requests.

MICHAEL’S FAMILY SUCCEEDS WITH PCIT

What are Michael’s challenges?
He has tantrums, trouble listening, a hard time with manners and is hyper.

How has PCIT helped Michael?
Fewer and less severe tantrums, his listening has greatly improved and he now uses proper manners. Michael has become more creative and is happier since beginning PCIT.

How has PCIT helped you as parents?
We are able to help Michael to listen to and understand commands. We have established boundaries at both our homes and have better communication between us – mom and dad. We have developed the skills to help Michael and we were taught how to play with Michael in a loving, positive way.

How is the real-time technology helpful?
We are able to get the immediate help and direction we need to interact properly and effectively with Michael. If we have an issue or question we can resolve it quickly right during the session.
2016-2017 Financial Information

Our Supporters

$1 - $99

Janna Klinedinst
Bill and Sherry Kohler
Mary Kushner
Ken and Kathleen Langford
Margaret and Gerald Luthringer
Clarence Madison
Barbara Mazon
Dan and Brenda McBride
Lisa Mikolajczak
Kevin Miller
Jeffrey Mitchell
Larry D. and Charlotte A. Neizmik
Jeffrey and Julie Niccola
Julie Nye
Sara Pagni
Paul Lorei Portraits
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Deborah Pifer
Stacey Piper
Martha Postema
Lisa and Tim Presta
Colleen Prittie
J.D. and Carol Lee Restifo
Patricia Rowley
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David J. Schumacher
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Shannon Shaffer
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Mike Sparks
Charles and Edith Stansbury
Ben and Colleen Stumpf
Dianne Tate
Laura Tery
Rod and Judith Troester
Warren State Hospital
Faith Wentz
Janet Wittmann
Merle E. and Phoebe Wood
Tammy Wright
Janice Yoder
John and Marion Zaphiris

The generous support from the community enables the Achievement Center to provide high quality therapeutic services across a broad spectrum of programs.

Services Delivered

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<tr>
<th>SERVICE DELIVERED</th>
<th># OF CLIENTS</th>
<th># DIRECT SERVICE HOURS</th>
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<td>Early Childhood Erie Services</td>
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<td>Mental Health Erie Services</td>
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<td>Rehabilitation Erie Services</td>
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<td>Reading Now</td>
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<td>Corry Services</td>
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<td>Crawford Services</td>
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<td><strong>Total Clients</strong></td>
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Financial Information Unaudited

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<td>Erie County Mental Health/Mental Retardation</td>
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<td>Contracts with other agencies</td>
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<td>Fund Raising, Grants and Miscellaneous</td>
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<td>Program Service Fees</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Operating Revenue</strong></td>
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“This year, the agency applied for and received eligibility from Pennsylvania to receive Educational Improvement Tax Credit funding from designated businesses. This is the first year the agency has been eligible and as a result, received funding from two area businesses to support literacy programs.”
Programs & Services

The Achievement Center is a leading provider of quality therapeutic services for children ages birth to young adulthood.

With a highly trained clinical staff and support team, the Achievement Center works to meet the unique needs of children and teens with behavioral, emotional, mental health, developmental and physical challenges.

**EARLY INTERVENTION**

**PHYSICAL REHABILITATION**

**THERAPEUTIC RECREATION**

**SPECIALIZED OUTPATIENT THERAPY**

**BEHAVIOR ANALYTIC SERVICES**

**FAMILY BASED MENTAL HEALTH**

**BLENDED CASE MANAGEMENT**

**READING NOW**

**SUMMER THERAPEUTIC ACTIVITIES PROGRAMS**

**CLEFT PALATE INSTITUTE**

**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH REHABILITATION SERVICES**

**COMMUNITY SCHOOLS LEAD PARTNER AT EDISON ELEMENTARY**