Achievement Center
Above and beyond

Framing Our Future Together

Calendar for 2013-2014
Annual Report for 2012-2013

Framing Our Future Together
Framing our Future:

Framing. In photography, images are framed for many reasons. The frame itself helps to draw attention to the subject, it provides context for the image, a sense of depth and often intrigues the viewer to look more deeply.

In business, framing is quite similar. The framework of an organization encompasses many facets; from image, to the need met by a product or service, to the efficiency of an organization and the innovations developed for future growth.

Framing in the business sense is necessary, it provides focus. I am excited to have a hand in “Framing Our Future” as we look ahead to what is in store for the Achievement Center’s next 90 years. The agency’s framework has brought about new initiatives, cultivated teamwork, a commitment from staff, and the mindset for strategic planning. Our agency has grown, expanded services, added new staff, developed satellite locations and most recently, our Erie offices relocated to an interim space as we continue to gain the support needed to frame our new home together.

Growth and change can be a challenge. With plans in place to help position our organization for the future, we are excited to think about the new possibilities for our agency. Many Achievement Center staff have worked diligently helping formulate these plans that will serve to guide us in the years to come. It is the basis of our framework that we continually evaluate the needs of children and families in our region, helping to focus our energies to maintain the Achievement Center’s health, as a thriving and growing organization.

A special thanks to all the Achievement Center children, adolescents and families who have been a part of our 90 year history. Through your dedication and hard work, we are inspired. Special thanks to agency staff, board and volunteers for their continued support over the years. Because of your passion for children and their families, the Achievement Center is a valuable part of our community’s framework, helping children and adolescents build upon their strengths to reach above and beyond their expectations!
**OUR MISSION** is to maximize the potential of children.

**OUR VISION** is that every child will be valued, respected, and will have opportunities to succeed.

**OUR PHILOSOPHY**

**WE BELIEVE** in the profound importance of the childhood experience as a foundation for the well-being of our society.

**WE PROVIDE** therapeutic services for children from birth to young adulthood.

**WE SPECIALIZE** in early childhood, physical rehabilitation, autism spectrum, ADHD, and comprehensive behavioral health services.

**OUR VISION**

- Support physical, mental and spiritual health.
- Partner with families and other community resources.
- Accept and value the strengths and contributions of everyone.
- Foster positive perspectives and assist with reducing the impact of risk and trauma.

**OUR MISSION IS TO MAXIMIZE THE POTENTIAL OF CHILDREN.**

**OUR CORE VALUES ARE:**

- **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.

- **RESPECT**
  Respect all children and adults as having intrinsic worth.

- **WELLNESS**
  Acknowledge and seek to understand diverse values, beliefs and cultures.

- **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.
Early Intervention:

A child's early years are crucial for development and learning. Early Intervention services provide support to children with delayed developmental skills in one or more areas such as cognition, communication, fine and gross motor skills, adaptive behavior, and daily living skills. This service is available to children from birth to three-years-old.

Services and treatments may include: Physical and Occupational Therapy; Speech-Language Pathology (Bilingual Services); Specialized Instruction; Audiology Screening; Vision Training; Nutritional Services/Feeding Oral-Motor Intervention; Family Training and Support; Aquatic Therapy; Behavior Intervention; Sound Recognition/Sign Language Training; and Orthotic Consultation. Services are provided in the child’s natural environment, including the home, childcare center, and/or community.

NWPA Cleft Palate Institute

The Achievement Center’s Erie office is also home to the NWPA Cleft Palate Institute. The agency provides oversight for services offered through the Institute and provides clinical direction and administrative support for its monthly clinics. Cleft Palate Institute provides care for individuals presenting various clefting and facial differences. For more information, visit www.ErieCleftPalate.com or contact 814-314-0048.

Quick fact: 63% of the clients discharged from the agency's Early Intervention program no longer need services because their developmental goals have been met.
OUR MISSION IS TO MAXIMIZE THE POTENTIAL OF CHILDREN.
Physical Rehabilitation:
Helping children with physical disabilities increase independence and improve their day to day functions. Through physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech/language therapy and therapeutic recreation, children ages 3-21, work to master the skills needed to improve self-sufficiency and increase their involvement at home, school, neighborhood and community.

Family feedback:
“I am so satisfied, happy and thankful to these therapists. Their compassion, professionalism and dedication have helped my son. They are wonderful.”

Achievement Center
Above and beyond
Therapeutic Recreation Services: Recreational and leisure activities are the “work” of childhood. The Achievement Center’s Therapeutic Recreation program provides a wide range of opportunities for children and teens with physical disabilities to stay active and involved in their communities. Whether it’s attending wheelchair basketball practice or a weekly swim lesson, children and teens build on their skills and work toward improving their daily function while staying fit, developing lasting friendships, and having fun. Additional program services include: Achiever’s Club, Adapted Sports, Cooking Group, the Family Program, Teen Group, and Winners on Wheels.

Family feedback: “I have recommended others to the Achievement Center. I have seen awesome results.”
Young Children’s Mental Health Services:
The Outpatient Mental Health program treats children who are experiencing emotional, relational and/or behavioral problems. Our goal is to provide treatment to these children and young adults by helping them develop skills to handle thoughts, behaviors and stressors in a healthy, positive way. Our therapists work to empower kids and young adults, affirm their value and give them the skills to deal effectively with their own emotions. Treatment options include: individual, group, and family psychotherapy, psychiatric evaluation, and medication management.

Outpatient Services include:
• PCIT (Parent Child Interaction Therapy – teaching parents a variety of techniques to use with their child)
• Pet Therapy (animal assisted therapies)
• Play Therapy (children use play materials/toys to represent and express their feelings and situations that have occurred in their lives)
• Safe Start (designed for young children who have seen or experienced violence, abuse, or any form of trauma)

Family feedback: “The Achievement Center was always there for my daughter and me.”
OUR MISSION IS TO MAXIMIZE THE POTENTIAL OF CHILDREN.
Family Based Mental Health:
Family Based Mental Health (FBMH) services offer a unique mixture of family therapy, case management, emergency services, and support for families who want to improve the functioning of their child, and learn to better cope with their child’s special mental health needs. Our goal is to help families stay together. FBMH provides intensive, in-home mental health services. Treatment is individually tailored and delivered by a team of two therapists. You know your family best, so our team works closely with you to enhance your family’s strengths. Together, we’ll define a treatment plan that best meets the individualized needs of you and your child. FBMH services are for children up to the age of 21 who have a serious mental health or behavioral concern.

Quick fact: 80% of parents participate in learned activities/strategies and are involved in helping their child succeed.
OUR MISSION IS TO MAXIMIZE THE POTENTIAL OF CHILDREN.
Blended Case Management (BCM) Services:
Blended Case Management (BCM) Services: BCM supports the physical and behavioral health needs of children and adolescents. By addressing all areas of concern for the child/adolescent and family, BCM helps to build upon family strengths, laying a foundation that promotes positive family interactions, skill building and healthy coping mechanisms. Blended Case Managers help identify services, coordinate access and evaluate your ongoing needs. By working together, you'll begin to build a responsive network of support. BCM is for any child or adolescent up to the age of 18 (or up to age 21 if the young adult is in school on an Individualized Education Plan) who has the following:

• Diagnosis of a serious mental illness or emotional disorder. Has involvement in or a need to become involved with other children's services
• Recent hospitalization(s)
• Possibility of an out-of-home placement

Quick fact: BCM provides professional assistance to locate, advocate and coordinate services for your child and family.
OUR MISSION IS TO MAXIMIZE THE POTENTIAL OF CHILDREN.
Lake Erie Autism Diagnostic Educational & Research Services (LEADERS):
LEADERS encompasses a range of services available to families with children who are diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) or with children where ASD is suspected but not yet diagnosed. Services are primarily based in Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) but can include other evidence-based practices. LEADERS provides both diagnostic screening as well as comprehensive treatment planning to meet the unique needs of every child. Treatment addresses the core deficits of ASD – namely improving functional language, improving social skills, and reducing repetitive or otherwise problematic behaviors.

Family feedback:
“It’s the best thing that has ever happened to us!”
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- **01**
  - APRIL FOOL'S DAY

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  - GOOD FRIDAY

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- **04**
  - EASTER SUNDAY

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**OUR MISSION IS TO MAXIMIZE THE POTENTIAL OF CHILDREN.**
Psychiatric Services:
Outpatient Psychiatric Services are available for children ages 5-21, as a complement to the other behavioral or counseling services that clients receive at the Achievement Center or other community providers. The Psychiatric Services department consists of Licensed Psychiatrists and a Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner, who are skilled at assessment and medication management of children with varying diagnoses.

Psychiatric Services include:
• Ongoing Psychiatric Services: Evaluation and follow-up medication management for children and adolescents who are in need of specialized medical care for behavioral or emotional concerns.
• Psychiatric Consultation: One-time consultation between our psychiatric staff and a child’s primary care physician (PCP), in order to aid the PCP in diagnostic assessment and medication management for his/her patient.

Family feedback:
“We have always been very happy with all of our services and the staff here.”
OUR MISSION IS TO MAXIMIZE THE POTENTIAL OF CHILDREN.
Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT):

Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) is a parent training intervention that teaches parents/caregivers specific behavior management techniques for use with their child. PCIT is designed to treat young children, ages 2 ½ - 8, with emotional and behavioral problems. PCIT places an emphasis on improving the quality of caregiver-child relationships and interactions. As the first provider of PCIT in Erie County, the Achievement Center has an experienced team of staff who are trained specifically in PCIT techniques to best serve the needs of families.

Family feedback:
"Thank you for teaching me not to scream. You helped my mom and me to listen and play together."
Taking Flight:
Is your child or adolescent having difficulty at school, maintaining friends or experiencing feelings of hopelessness? The Achievement Center’s Taking Flight program provides specialized Outpatient Mental Health Services, Behavioral Health Rehabilitation Services (BHRS), and Summer Therapeutic Activities Programs to children and their families who are at risk for emotional or behavioral problems.

Through individual, school-based, group, and family psychotherapy, psychiatric evaluation, and medication management, Taking Flight services help children/adolescents with: Anxiety, Mood Disorder, Adjustment Disorder, Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD), Reactive Attachment Disorder, and Depression. The goal is to provide treatment that will meet the needs of children and families so that they can function successfully at home, in school, and in the community.
OUR MISSION IS TO MAXIMIZE THE POTENTIAL OF CHILDREN.
**Project Access:**

The Achievement Center’s newest service Project Access helps to raise awareness about hearing loss in Erie County so children who are deaf or hard of hearing may have access to educational programs, community events, and social gatherings.

**Services include:**

- **Signing Circle Time** (for children, ages birth – four, with any degree of hearing loss, their siblings, and children of deaf adults. Circle Time will help to enhance their language and communication skills by learning basic signs through songs, books and play).

- **Signing Time Academy - Sign Language Classes for Parents & Professionals** (participants 18 years or older will learn basic signs necessary for communicating with children and adults who have hearing loss and use sign language to communicate. They will learn about the deaf culture and American Sign Language to broaden their perspective when interacting with people who are deaf).

- **Independent Communicators** (Children ages 12-18 with any level of hearing loss, will learn the skills necessary to communicate in the “hearing world” independently. They will learn about their hearing loss, how it affects them on an individual basis, and what communication strategies they need in order to be independent when interacting in the community, i.e., ordering in restaurants, making appointments, going to the movies, shopping, asking for directions, requesting an interpreter, etc).
OUR MISSION IS TO MAXIMIZE THE POTENTIAL OF CHILDREN.
Bridges:
Do you have a child who can't sit still? One who walks, runs or climbs when others are seated or talks when others are talking? Does your child become easily distracted, have trouble socializing, or display impulsivity? The Achievement Center offers a full range of therapeutic services for children diagnosed with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). ADHD is one of the most common mental disorders in children. Services in the Bridges program include: Behavioral Health Rehabilitation Services (BHRS), Outpatient Medication Management, Outpatient Therapy and Summer Treatment Program (STP).

Family feedback:
“Excellent staff!”
Our mission is to maximize the potential of children.

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Labor Day

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Pet Therapy:
The Achievement Center uses animal assisted therapy in many of the agency’s programs. Dogs are often used to help treat a variety of diagnoses. Whether it’s a group activity at LEADERS summer program or a one-on-one session in our Outpatient program, a therapy dog provides a calm environment which often helps build a positive rapport between the client and the clinician. Therapy dogs offer unconditional love and affection to the children and adolescents we serve, “Can Kimmy come to my house?” Therapy dogs also serve as a means of motivation. Dogs that participate in summer treatment programs are often a reward for children who have reached a certain goal throughout the week. The reward of time spent grooming, walking, or playing with a therapy dog has been highly effective, “This is my lucky day I have a Kimmy Coupon!” You might also see dogs at work with children in the agency’s Physical Rehabilitation program, which serves children with physical disabilities. These dogs are trained specifically to assist with a variety of daily living tasks, like turning on lights or opening doors. These skills help provide greater independence for the client.
OUR MISSION IS TO MAXIMIZE THE POTENTIAL OF CHILDREN.

COLUMBUS DAY

HALLOWEEN

OUR MISSION IS TO MAXIMIZE THE POTENTIAL OF CHILDREN.
CARF (Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities) is an independent, non-profit organization focused on advancing the quality of services at the request of health and human service providers. CARF accreditation signals a service provider's commitment to continually improving services, encouraging feedback, and serving the community. Since 1970, the Achievement Center has maintained CARF accreditation.
Our mission is to maximize the potential of children.
December 2014

Financials from 2012-2013

A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free; within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

In New York a copy of the latest annual report can be obtained from the organization or from the Office of the Attorney General by writing the Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271.

5 counties

Erie County
Forest County
Warren County
Crawford County
Chautauqua County, NY

3,574 children served

Early Childhood Erie Services .......... 841
Mental Health Erie Services .......... 2,219
Rehabilitation Erie Services .......... 245
New York Services ...................... 138
Crawford Services ...................... 159
Warren Services ...................... 150

236,723 hours of service delivered

Early Childhood Erie Services ....... 18,409
Mental Health Erie Services ....... 154,462
Rehabilitation Erie Services ...... 6,573
New York Services ...................... 2,264
Crawford Services ...................... 28,304
Warren Services ...................... 26,711

$9,021,612 medical assistance
$1,302,332 contracts
$399,379 united way
$168,968 fundraising, grants, misc
$232,516 program service fees
$1,454,210 investments
$863,283 capital campaign

$13,913,468 total agency

Financials from 2012-2013

*Unduplicated services.
OUR MISSION IS TO MAXIMIZE THE POTENTIAL OF CHILDREN.
Framing Our Future Together

Above and beyond ($1,000 & over)
*Includes pledges and donations to the Beyond Expectation! Capital Campaign.

DONORS:
July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013
Beyond Expectation! Capital Campaign Donors:
Louis F. Colaizzo*
James and Marianne Carlucci*
Richard Burt*
Dennis and Rebecca Brumagin*
Mr. Scott and Mrs. Stephanie Cabelo*
James and Marianne Carlucci*
Louis F. Colaazzo*
Roger and Marcia Dell
Steven and Linda DeHart
Keith and Linda Donat
Chip and Amy Dufala
Brad and Ellen Eastwood
Erie Insurance
Erie Manufacturing Company
Fralo Industries, The Victor Group, Frank Victor
Lorianne Feltz
Jim and Connie Garlick
Dr. Carol and Mr. Richard Gleichsner
Angela Hadzega
Tom and Susan Hagen
Vincent and Ann Halupczynski
Leo Heintz
Cindy and Bob Hessinger
William and Martha Hilbert
William M. Hilbert, Jr. and Becky Hilbert
Robert Ingram
Insurance Management Company
Judy and Terry Jones
Mr. John and Deirdre Kearns
Keith Kennedy
Ray and Lori Moluski*
National Fuel Gas Company
Foundation
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Larry D. and Charlotte A. Neiznik*
Michael and Aimee Neubauer*
Dr. Brian and Mrs. Jennifer Ng
Northwest Savings Bank Charitable Foundation, Inc.*
NWPA Cleft Palate Institute
Gerald and Dionne Oakley
Greg Phillips and Karen Kraus Phillips*
Mr. Charles Walczak*
Attorney Russell and Mrs. Robin Warner
Wedgewood Investors, Inc. Daniel Teed*
Welder's Supply Company
Mark H. Rainy
Dr. William C. and Mrs. Joyce Wilhelm*
Steve Wilcoxen
Greg and Shannon Wohlford
Ann Zaprazny*
Chris Zimmer*

SKY'S THE LIMIT ($500 - 1999)
Mr. David and Mrs. Diane Blake
Building Systems, Inc.,
Timothy J. Schaaf and Daniel J. Schaaf
Mr. and Mrs. Sean and Renee Cain
Circus Saints and Sinners Club of America, Ron Sundy
Thomas and Barbara Schaeffer
William T. Spaeder Company,
Tim Spoeder

SOARING TO NEW HEIGHTS ($100 - $499)
Anonymous (2)
John Agostini
Diane M. Alcorn
American Legion Post #494
Ronald Avione

Bianchi Honda,
Lou and Debbie Pareco
Sandra L. Bock
Brian W. Bolash, Esq.
Larry Bores
Barbara Buccigrossi
Sheila Bryan
Les Caldwell
Chico's Travelers Inn, Inc.
Bill and Gwen Cole
Maria Cruz
Joseph Czerski
James and Emily Czerpak
Charles Daly
Mr. and Mrs. James Dammeyer
Mike N’ Dangelo’s Italian Restaurant
Donelle A. Davey
John R. Deimling
Connie Dembiski
John and Sue DiPlacido
Karen Duvall
Lynn Rupp
Davina Fujimoto
Dr. C. Raymond and Diana L. Schaney
Mr. and Mrs. Tim Shuttleworth*
Sherry Silver
MSgr. L. Thomas Snyderwine
Jim and Sharon Stolk

Wedgewood Investors, Inc.,
Mr. Charles Walczak*
Attorney Russell and Mrs. Robin Warner
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Dr. William C. and Mrs. Joyce Wilhelm*
Steve Wilcoxen
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Ann Zaprazny*
Chris Zimmer*

Chico’s Travelers Inn, Inc.
Bryan Saluba

SoAring to new

The Erie Community Foundation
Dr. James and Mrs. Patricia Thomas
Michael and Debra Thompson
Dr. and Mrs. William B. Trice
Dr. Jack and Mrs. Heidi Utley
Mr. Charles Walczak
Wedgewood Investors, Inc.,
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*As of August 1, 2013.

Cle and Penny Austin
Dr. Jeffery and Mrs. Carol R. Blake
Chris and Patricia Bloomstine
John and Colleen Bloomstine
William and Carol Bloomstine
Robert Boorum
The Reverend Dr. Samuel W. Bourne and Ann E. Bourne
Adam and Carissa Bratton
Jeffrey and Amy Brinling

Steven and Linda DeHart*
Keith and Linda Donat*
Chip and Amy Dufala*
Brad and Ellen Eastwood*
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Erie SeaWolves
Erie Manufacturing Company
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