Message from the Executive Director

Thank you for taking time to read this annual report and learn more about the Achievement Center. In 2013, we are celebrating our 90th anniversary. Founded in Erie County in 1923, we began serving children with physical disabilities in various locations throughout the City of Erie. In the mid-1950s, we purchased the facility at 101 East Sixth Street on Perry Square in downtown Erie. The building served us well for almost sixty years but with the addition of early childhood services in the 1970s and children’s mental health services in the 1990s, we outgrew the facility many years ago. As we have grown, we have needed to supplement space at various other locations around the city and although those locations have helped us meet some of our basic needs, we have not had adequate space to provide therapy for children and their families at the main agency and at our Erie-based satellites.

We are fortunate to have a neighbor who has been supportive of us in many ways. Erie Insurance originally sold us the building at 101 East Sixth Street back in the 1950s and through their interest and expansion efforts have now repurchased the facility. The Achievement Center has been actively searching for larger space for the past few years and with the sale of our building in January 2012, our search efforts went into high gear. Our plan is to move to a larger facility that we will renovate to create the treatment rooms we so greatly need.

This is an exciting time for us and we are looking forward to the future as we move into a larger facility that will house our Erie-based clinical services and overall agency administrative services. We will be looking to the community to help us with this endeavor and hope that when we embark upon a capital campaign that you will consider supporting us with a donation.

For 90 years we have gone above and beyond in helping the very special children in our community who have needed us – whether they are children with physical disabilities, developmental delays, Autism Spectrum Disorders, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity with Co-occurring Disorders, children who have experienced significant trauma, young children with mental health diagnoses or adolescents with emotional and behavioral issues – the Achievement Center has been there for them.

We look forward to sharing more of our story as the journey continues. Please enjoy reading our annual report and I hope that you learn more about the inspiring children in our community who have received our clinical support.

My best to you and your family,

Rebecca

Achievement Center Board of Directors

James P. Stoik, 
President
Dan Teed, 
Vice President
Msgr. Thomas Snyderwine, 
Secretary
James V. Garlick, 
Treasurer
Charlotte A. Neizmik, 
Asst. Treasurer
Carol Blake 
The Rev. Dr. Samuel W. Bourne, BCC
Michael Butler 
Stephanie Hall Cabelof 
Jim Carlucci 
Keith Donati 
Cindy Hessinger 
Ray Moluski
Mike Neubauer 
Karen Kraus Phillips 
Lisa Smith Presta, Esq. 
Lynn Rupp 
Diana Schaney 
Patricia A. Thomas 
Debra Thompson

Achievement Center
Honorary Board Members

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Judith A. Jones
John Malone
Thomas J. McCarthy, Esq.
Elizabeth R. McLaren
Robert A. Peacock
James R. Roehm
Frank N. Scalise
Mrs. William B. Trice
Heidi Utley
Dr. William C. Wilhelm
Merle E. Wood
Barbara Zurn
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.

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.

OUR MISSION
is to maximize the potential of children.

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

WELLNESS -
Support physical, mental and spiritual health.

COLLABORATION -
Partner with families and other community resources.

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

INCLUSION -
Accept and value the strengths and contributions of everyone.

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

Memorials

In Memory of:
Sarah Elizabeth Anderson
Mary Renz Anderson

In Memory of:
Mrs. Dorothy Churchill
Chris Primavere and Nick Viglione, Charter School of Excellence

In Memory of:
Mr. Donald R. Corey Sr.
Nancy Chevalier
Jane Corey
Lord Corporation
Orrie-M Club of Eriez Magnetics
Charles and Rosalie Schlaufman
David and Susan Sutherland

In Memory of:
Mrs. Elinor Gray
Lou and Barbara Presta
Jim and Ruth Watson

In Memory of:
Mrs. Rita Heinlein
Richard and Elyn Demetter

In Memory of:
Ms. Julie King
Atty. T. Warren and Judith Jones

In Memory of:
Attorney Thomas J. McCarthy
William Coleman
Chuck Giewont/Fairview Township
Sewer and Water Authorities
Atty. T. Warren and Judy Jones
Richard and Joan Stewart
Edgar and Jeanne Ward
Robert and Jane Zawadzki
David and Barbara Zurn

In Memory of:
Joyce Osborn
Gordon A. Osborn
“Throughout the last 9 months, we have watched Addison’s speech and vocabulary dramatically improve. Our Speech Therapist was not only caring and patient with Addison, she was helpful and informative to us as parents in providing the knowledge, tools and techniques in assisting Addison’s speech and cognitive development. Addison now looks forward to her weekly therapy sessions and can now even say “Mary’s coming!”

*Early Intervention* is an amazing organization to work with and the results we have seen in our daughter were above and beyond our expectations. We not only will recommend this service to anyone, but will encourage others to spread the word of our great experience. Many family members and friends rave at the improvement they notice in Addison’s speech, and we are proud to share our wonderful experience with Early Intervention and the tremendous results achieved for our daughter.”

### October 2012

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**Our Mission**

is to maximize the potential of children.

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**October Events:**

- **October 31:** HALLOWEEN
- **November 1:** PNC Bank Trail of Treats Warren Mall
- **November 2:** PNC Bank Trail of Treats Meadville Mall
- **November 12:** PNC Bank Trail of Treats Meadville Mall
- **November 16:** PNC Bank Trail of Treats Meadville Mall
- **November 23:** PNC Bank Trail of Treats Meadville Mall
The Achievement Center has touched our family in a special way since we arrived in Erie. As parents, we were very apprehensive regarding our daughter’s abilities as she embraced challenges. We did not know how she would be able to participate in routine youth programs that she was introduced to thanks to Bernie O’Connor, Faith Wentz, and the wonderful staff in the recreational therapy programs. Such opportunities unknowingly guided us forward as a family throughout the past seven years. To our surprise, the Achievement Center provided paths into wheel chair basketball, sled hockey, waterskiing, and unbiased socializing opportunities that Sarah thrived within as she grew with this invaluable organization. Not only did Sarah benefit from attaining increased self-esteem with these therapeutic growth programs, we as parents were awakened to her being able to push her limitations beyond her comfort zone and watched her grow and excel. Her new friendships blended with her growth and the memories from the Achievement Center will remain within our family for years to come.

**November 2012**

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Daylight Savings Time Ends

**Election Day**

Veteran’s Day

Thanksgiving Day

Our Mission

is to maximize the potential of children.
“The Achievement Center continues to exceed our expectations and capture our hearts!
We love every single one of our friends here.”

**December 2012**

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Our Mission
is to maximize the potential of children.

- **Christmas Day**
- **New Year’s Eve**
- **First Day of Winter**
“I am grateful for the wonderful relationship created between Jada and her therapist Laura. Laura patiently works with Jada and our family in a positive and nurturing manner.”

January 2013

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Our Mission is to maximize the potential of children.
The good work of the therapists in the Birth to Three Year Old program continue to push Da’Zjar so she is stronger.

I am thankful to have the Achievement Center in our lives.”

**February 2013**

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_Our Mission_

is to maximize the potential of children.
“The therapists at the Achievement Center are amazing! We were new to this area when we first contacted the Achievement Center and made our choice to use them based on credentials; however, we have remained with them for years because of who they are and how they do what they do. Initially we needed help deciphering some troubling and mysterious behaviors in our young children and have since come away with life changing strategies to help not only them, but to change our entire family life. The Early Intervention and LEADERS therapists have taken the time to listen to us and decipher what was going on, helping us to make effective changes in our home to better accommodate the boys’ needs. The therapists are not only dedicated in what they do, but are wonderful people too. We wouldn’t go anywhere else.”

March 2013

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Daylight Savings Time Begins

ST. PATRICK’S DAY

First Day of Spring

EASTER SUNDAY

Our Mission
is to maximize the potential of children.
Our Mission  
is to maximize the potential of children.
“Thanks to everyone at the Achievement Center for helping me all these years. Without them I could not do all the things I can do today.”

**May 2013**

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**Cinco De Mayo**

**Mother’s Day**

**Memorial Day**

**Our Mission**

is to maximize the potential of children.
“Thomas has benefitted from various Achievement Center services for many years. They have definitely helped to improve his quality of life and ours as a family. Miss Annette in particular has helped Thomas recover from several set-backs and has taught him skills needed for greater independence. Every time he sees her, his face lights up like Christmas morning.”

June 2013

Our Mission
is to maximize the potential of children.
“

We have been very impressed with the services that our son Andrew has received at the Achievement Center. He started receiving services at just a few months old. The therapists have been fantastic and we don’t know where we would be today without them.”

**July 2013**

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**Our Mission**

is to maximize the potential of children.
Because of the caring clinicians both Zaden and Zander have made great progress since they began services at the Achievement Center.

**August 2013**

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*Our Mission*

is to maximize the potential of children.
If not for the programs, sports, and activities run through the Achievement Center by Bernie, Faith, and the rest of the staff, these kids would get very little exercise and would not make all the great friendships that come out of these programs. I am so very grateful for all the programs and the staff that help give my son a positive attitude and at the same time, keep him in shape.

Our Mission
is to maximize the potential of children.
“We have been very pleased with the care our son has received from all of his therapists beginning with Early Intervention and continuing through his care in the Physical Rehabilitation program. All his therapists OT, PT, and SLP, were knowledgeable, professional, helpful, and friendly. We felt that they genuinely cared for our son and were invested in his progress.”

**October 2013**

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_Columbus Day_  
_Halloween_  

**Our Mission**  
is to maximize the potential of children.
“Marcel began with the Achievement Center in the Early Intervention program. His therapists have been professional and friendly. His developmental delays have been shortened with the help of all his therapists... and we thank you.”

November 2013

Our Mission
is to maximize the potential of children.
“Our therapist is an incredible inspiration to new parents. Her attitude, goal setting, compassionate heart and care are truly rarely found these days. She is a standup therapist, and we cannot begin to explain all of the wonderful things she did for our family.”

“The therapists at the Achievement Center build strong relationships with administration, teachers, parents, and students throughout their time in numerous schools. They are making a huge positive impact on the lives of the young people that attend our schools.”

“Our clinician is one of the most professional, caring, and dedicated clinicians I have ever met. He has never failed to return any of my panic calls to him at any hour, even on weekends and twice while he was on vacation. He cheerfully keeps me on track. He never betrays my child’s confidence but still manages to steer me in the right direction to help my child.”

December 2013

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<th>SUNDAY</th>
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- **First Day of Winter**
- **Christmas Eve**
- **Christmas Day**
- **Kwanza Begins**
- **New Year’s Eve**

Our Mission is to maximize the potential of children.
2011-2012

Financial Information 2011-2012 Unaudited

- Medical Assistance: $9,298,135
- Erie County Mental Health/Mental Retardation: $1,447,784
- Contracts with other agencies: $476,873
- United Way of Erie County: $173,422
- Fund Raising, Grants and Miscellaneous: $729,871
- Program Service Fees: $1,068,833
- Total Operating Revenue: $13,194,918

Achievement Center Financials

NUMBER OF CLIENTS

Service Delivered
2011-2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Number of Clients</th>
<th>Number of Direct Service Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early Childhood Erie Services</td>
<td>917</td>
<td>19,972</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mental Health Erie Services</td>
<td>1,948</td>
<td>160,781</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rehabilitation Erie Services</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>4,932</td>
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<tr>
<td>New York Services</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>7,723</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crawford Services</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>32,183</td>
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<tr>
<td>Warren Services</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>31,736</td>
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<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>3,487</td>
<td>253,277</td>
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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.
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Judy and Andy Roth
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Siedzianowski Family

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Renée Bishop
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Nadja Harvard
Jason and Laura Kohl
Joshua and Joann K opted
Robert and Roberta Kraft
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Edward and Elaine Mandel
Harley Johnson
Russel and Nancy Gross
Carol Mingarelle
Denise Mosley
Holly Murphy and Matthew Allen
Susan Mueller
Katherine Palotas
Richard Petruso
Mr. and Mrs. Joanna Pierce
Sally Rutkowski
Ernest and Mary Beth McCann
James and Sharon Stoik
Estes and Constance Tanous
David and Barbara Zurn

Every effort was made to ensure accuracy of the donor list. If your name has been omitted, misspelled, or listed incorrectly, please accept our sincere apology. You may bring the error to our attention by emailing peggyschneider@achievementctr.org or by calling (814) 459-2755 ext. 1174.