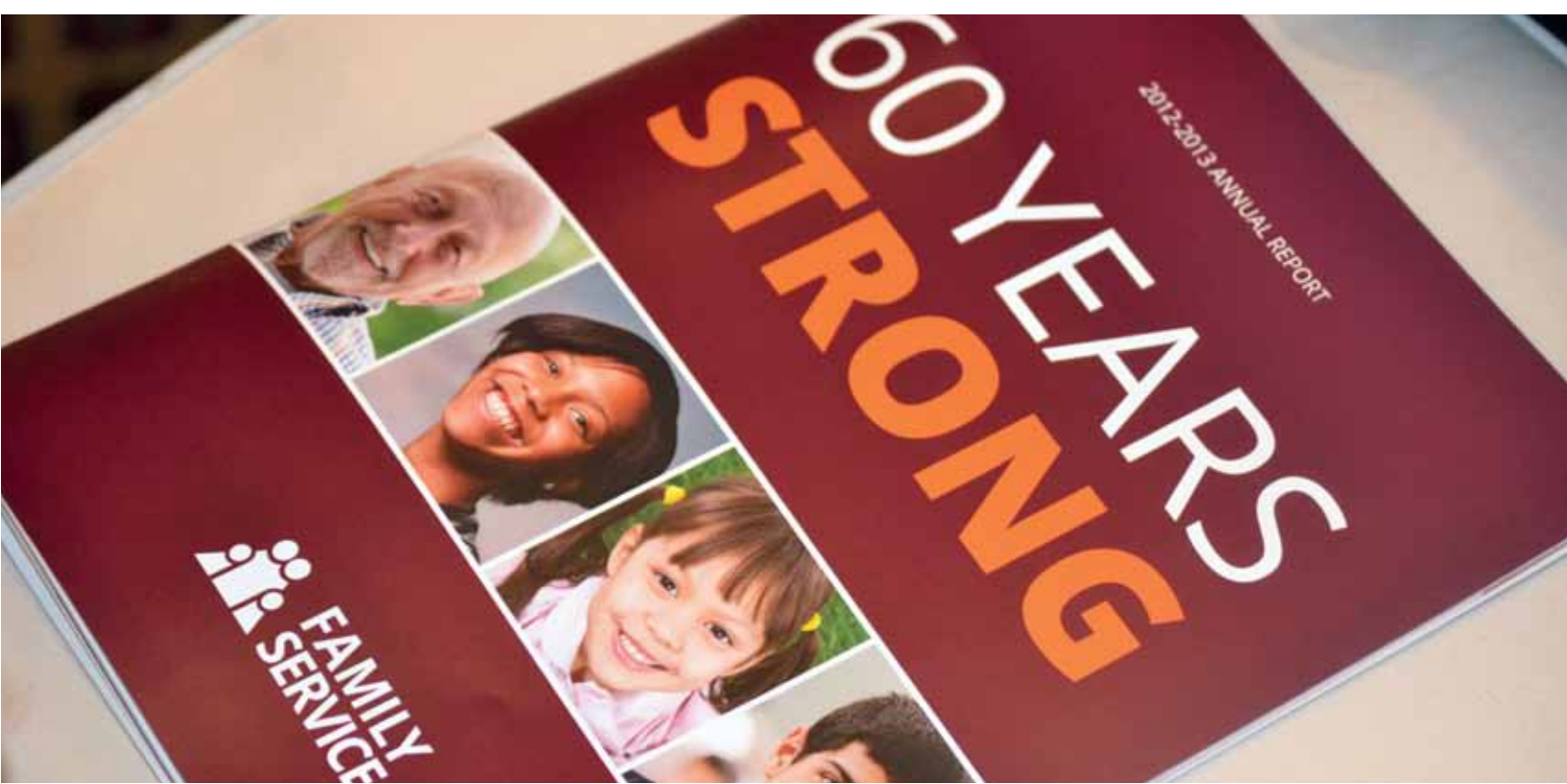




# FAMILY SERVICE SCOOP

Quarterly News from Family Service Association of Bucks County

www.fsabc.org



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## ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Our Annual Meeting took place on November 14<sup>th</sup> at Spring Mill Manor in Ivyland, PA. We were thrilled to recognize *Buck Up Bucks County* leadership, an extraordinary community partner and a family that has made great strides over the past year.

Each year at our Annual Meeting, we recognize individuals and organizations who have helped us make a difference in Bucks County. As part of our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, we've honored some extraordinary contributors with a one-time 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Award.

### 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Award

On February 3, 2013, *Buck Up Bucks County* launched. Each resident of Bucks County was asked to donate a dollar so the Bucks County Emergency Homeless Shelter could get a desperately needed kitchen renovation. The community's response was

overwhelming, and the success of the fundraising campaign and construction are a direct result of having the right people involved.

We are very grateful to the following people for their support and wish to recognize them with our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Award: Pat Walker and the entire team of writers, reporters, photographers, videographers and staff at Calkins Media for spreading the word and providing daily updates via *The Intelligencer* and *Bucks County Courier Times*; Tom Schrier for volunteering to be our Project Engineer; Cheryl Schrier for signing



Left: Michael Mattie (Family Service), Pat Walker (Calkins Media), Brian Jeter (Comcast), Audrey Tucker (Family Service) and Ray Hoida (Comcast); Right top: Edward Dixon; Right bottom: Franco D'Andrea and Dan Christy (The Huffman Group)

## ANNUAL MEETING *(continued)*

on as our volunteer Kitchen Designer Extraordinaire; Franco D'Andrea, Ian Dove and The Huffman Group for leading the construction team and bringing the renovation to life; and Brian Jeter and the entire team at Comcast for airing our Public Service Announcement over 250 times across the greater Bucks County market.

### Family Builder of the Year

Since Foundations Community Partnership (FCP) formed in 2007, it has supported numerous vital programs that meet the behavioral health and human service needs of children and

young adults. FCP promotes higher education through scholarships and internships and encourages professional excellence through a workshop series that brings experts to Bucks County to share their knowledge and experiences with local providers. FCP was selected as our Family Builder of the Year because it has been a key partner in the development of our school-based counseling and therapy program, our Autism program and the expansion of our licensed mental health program in Quakertown.

### Family of the Year

Each year we recognize one family who came to us with challenges and

made a strong commitment to overcoming those challenges through treatment and support.

Edward Dixon came to our agency in January 2010 battling alcoholism, depression, anxiety and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. He wanted to put his life back in order and realized that he needed safe and supportive housing to begin his journey. Edward applied for and was accepted to Bucks Villa, our group home for individuals who are HIV positive or living with AIDS. He quickly became a leader among his peers, and with support from medical case management and counseling, he was successful. Edward took an active role in his recovery and is now a peer educator, traveling throughout Bucks County to share his story and help others.

### Keynote Speaker

Dr. Gerald Reed, Director of the Suicide Prevention Resource Center in Washington, D.C., was our keynote speaker. Dr. Reed speaks nationally and internationally on the topic of suicide prevention. See "We Can Help Prevent Suicide" on page 5 for more on Dr. Reed.



Audrey Tucker, Cheryl Schrier, Tom Schrier and Michael Mattie



# A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

While we have grown substantially over the years, our mission today remains the same as it was when we first opened our doors back in 1953.

## The Beginning

Sixty years ago, in February 1953, a small group of Bucks County residents met to discuss ways to meet the urgent, constantly growing need for a family service agency. At this meeting, a steering committee was selected, and after much hard work, Family Service Association of Bucks County was formed. In October 1953 we opened our doors to clients. During those first three years, our organization served nearly one thousand families with a wide range of emotional needs.

In her address at our first Annual Meeting, Lela C. Durand, former Executive Director of Family Service, referred to our organization as “a service designed for and used by the people of Bucks County.” Though the community’s needs and therefore our agency’s services have greatly expanded over time, today, sixty years later, Mrs. Durand’s description of Family Service is still accurate.

## Sixty Years Strong

We are sixty years strong. Our organization continues to succeed because of our unique ability to identify and meet critical community needs through effective, efficient, evidence-based programs and services. When people come to us with a need, our response has always been and will continue to be: “We can help.” We do so through our services or via a referral to the appropriate outside resource when necessary. The needs of the community evolve over time, and our organization is responsive to these ever-changing needs. We grow alongside our community members who rely on us day in and day out for help, guidance and support.

## Then and Now

In 1953, our annual budget was \$21,000. Funding came entirely from the United Community Fund, which later became United Way of Bucks County. During our first year, three caseworkers managed 104 cases. This past year, we strengthened the lives of 9,052 individuals.

A great deal of our growth and success can be attributed to you, the donor, friend and loyal supporter.

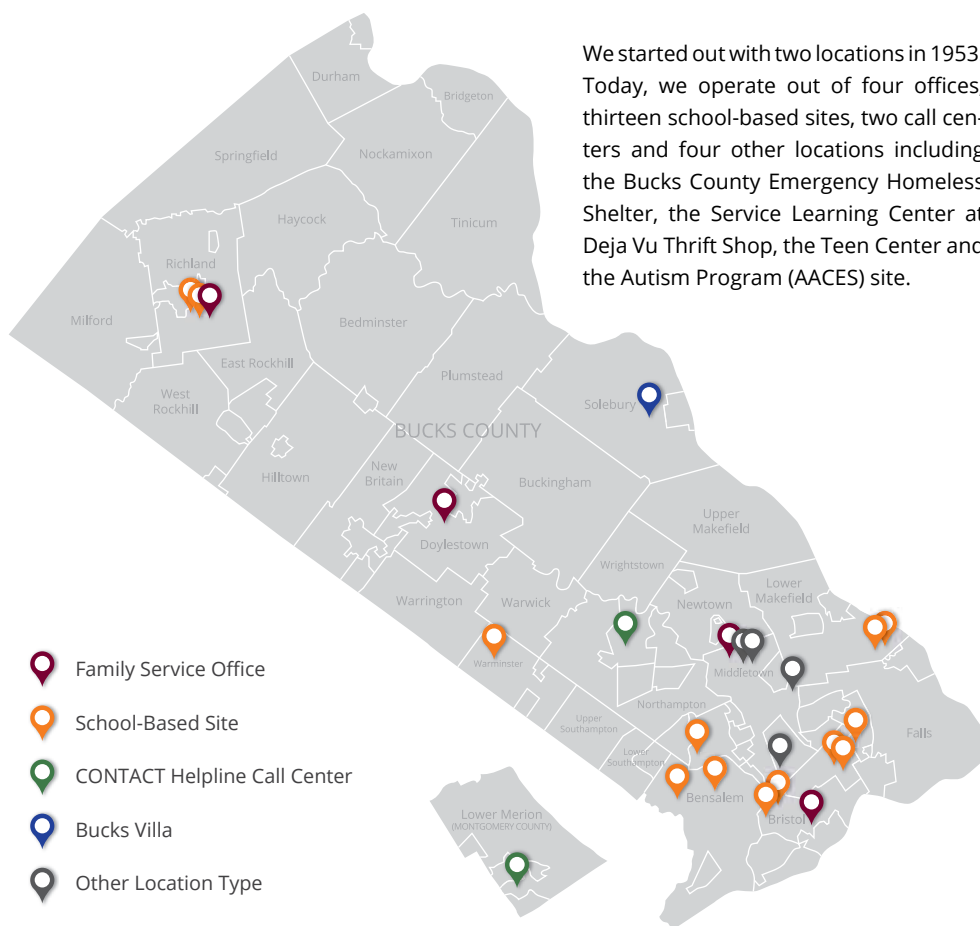


Audrey J. Tucker, CEO

It is your unwavering generosity, kindness and support that has made it possible for our organization to be sixty years strong. For this, we thank you.

*You can reach our Chief Executive Officer, Audrey J. Tucker, at 215.757.6916, ext. 204 or [ajtucker@fsabc.org](mailto:ajtucker@fsabc.org).*

**We are sixty years strong.** Our organization continues to succeed because of our unique ability to identify and meet critical community needs through effective, efficient, evidence-based programs and services.



We started out with two locations in 1953. Today, we operate out of four offices, thirteen school-based sites, two call centers and four other locations including the Bucks County Emergency Homeless Shelter, the Service Learning Center at Deja Vu Thrift Shop, the Teen Center and the Autism Program (AACES) site.

## David Ford Named One of Bucks' Forty Under 40

David Ford, our Director of Development, was named one of Bucks County's "Forty Under 40" by *The Intelligencer* and *Bucks County Courier Times*.



The program recognizes forty men and women under age forty who have made a name for themselves at a young age in business, education, community service and other areas.

*"David has an uncommon ability to connect with and inspire people to take action that improves our community. Since his career in the nonprofit sector began ten years ago, he has raised a substantial amount of money to combat some of the most significant challenges facing individuals and families in need."* - Michael Olenick

We are very proud of David and his accomplishments!

# CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION

In January, we will launch a Nurturing Parenting Program designed to build nurturing skills as alternatives to negative parenting attitudes and practices.

Nurturing Parenting Program (NPP) provides families with opportunities to attend classes in the home or in a group setting with other families. Parents and children meet separately and jointly during a ninety-minute lesson once a week for fifteen weeks. These programs were developed to help families who are at high risk for abuse and neglect or who have been identified by child welfare agencies for past child abuse or neglect.

## Program Goals

The goals of NPP are to increase parents' sense of self-worth, personal empowerment, empathy, bonding and attachment; to increase the use of alternative strategies to harsh and abusive disciplinary practices; to increase parents' knowledge of age-appropriate developmental expectations; to reduce abuse and neglect rates; and to reduce or eliminate the need for future intervention.

## How it Works

By participating in discussion, role-play, and communication exercises,



participants learn how to nurture themselves as individuals and in turn build their nurturing family and parenting skills as dads, moms, sons and daughters. Participants develop their awareness, knowledge and skills in five areas: age-appropriate expectations; empathy, bonding, and attachment; nonviolent nurturing discipline; self-awareness and self-worth; and empowerment, autonomy and healthy independence.

To learn more about NPP, contact Erin Perry at 215.757.6916, ext. 232 or [eperry@fsabc.org](mailto:eperry@fsabc.org).

## GIVE NOW

Your gift will help children, teens, adults and seniors in need move toward a brighter, more stable future.

Visit [www.fsabc.org/give](http://www.fsabc.org/give) or use the enclosed envelope to make a tax-deductible gift.

Contact David Ford, Director of Development at 215.757.6916, ext. 208 or [dford@fsabc.org](mailto:dford@fsabc.org) for more information.

Please accept my donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check payable to Family Service Association of Bucks County

☐ Credit Card (circle one)    Visa    MasterCard    Amex

Name on card \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration \_\_\_\_\_

Card number \_\_\_\_\_ Security code \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Please return completed slip to:

Family Service Association of Bucks County  
4 Cornerstone Drive, Langhorne, PA 19047



The official registration and financial information of Family Service Association of Bucks County may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

# 4 WAYS WE CAN HELP

Below are four eye-opening statistics regarding prominent issues in our community. Each quarter, we will explore one of these issues and share how we can help.

**1** 88% of adults age 65+ want to stay in their homes as they age.

**2** Suicide is the second leading cause of death for 25-34 year olds. Suicide is preventable.

**3** Every 9 1/2 minutes, someone becomes infected with HIV.

**4** Most studies indicate that 75-85% of adults with Asperger Syndrome do not hold a full-time job.

## 2. WE CAN HELP PREVENT SUICIDE

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, suicide is the second leading cause of death for 25-34 year olds.

At our Annual Meeting, Dr. Gerald Reed, recognized leader in the national suicide prevention movement, spoke about his efforts to raise awareness about the issue of suicide and to effect public policy changes in mental health legislation.

In his remarks, he noted that our Suicide Prevention Steering Committee, headed by Commissioner Diane Marseglia, is a necessary step for suicide prevention in Bucks County.

This Steering Committee was formed in June to help shape, inform and enhance community-wide suicide prevention efforts. We invited community members who have suffered the loss of a family member as a result of suicide to participate. The response was significant. More than twenty people are actively attending and participating in monthly meetings.

In addition to the Steering Committee, another prevention effort is our CONTACT Helpline. The Helpline provides free, confidential telephone services to individuals who are contemplating suicide, struggling with life's challenges or in need of someone to listen.

Calls are answered twenty four hours a day, 365 days a year, by staff and volunteers who are specially trained in active listening skills and strategies for supporting people under emotional stress.

*To get involved with our Suicide Prevention Steering Committee, contact Sandy Drake at [sdrake@fsabc.org](mailto:sdrake@fsabc.org) or 215.757.6916, ext. 213.*

*To become a volunteer listener with our CONTACT Helpline, contact Ellen Vinson at [evinson@fsabc.org](mailto:evinson@fsabc.org) or 215.757.6916, ext. 202.*

## New Board Members

We are pleased to announce the addition of three members to the Board of Directors: Ben Ciliberto, William P. Larkin, Jr., CPA, and Deborah Van Aken, Ph.D. Please join us in welcoming them to the Board.



Ben Ciliberto of Doylestown is a retired home builder and former President of C&M Home Builders, Inc.



William P. Larkin, Jr., CPA is Managing Partner at the accounting firm Lopez Teodosio & Larkin.



Deborah Van Aken, Ph.D. of Newtown is a Psychologist working out of New Hope.



# FAMILY SERVICE

MAKING PEOPLE STRONGER SINCE 1953



Above is a preview of our new website.

Be sure to check out [www.fsabc.org](http://www.fsabc.org) now so you can see the site "before" and "after" the redesign.

## NEW WEBSITE COMING SOON

Our brand new, mobile-friendly website will launch early in the new year at [www.fsabc.org](http://www.fsabc.org).

Our new website, created in partnership with a local design firm, will feature large photos, statistics regarding issues in our community, a user-friendly design and downloadable resources at your fingertips.

The updated site also features a responsive design so that it can be easily viewed from a desktop computer, laptop, tablet or mobile device. We're thrilled about the new design and can't wait for you to try it out in January.

Founded in 1953, Family Service Association of Bucks County is a private nonprofit, non-sectarian, human service agency providing services to individuals and families. Family Service is accredited by the Council on Accreditation for Children and Family Services, Inc. and is licensed by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to provide outpatient mental health and drug and alcohol assessment and treatment services.

### Family Service Association of Bucks County

4 Cornerstone Drive • Langhorne, PA 19047

215.757.6916

[www.fsabc.org](http://www.fsabc.org)

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### Board of Directors

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Francis J. Sullivan, Esq., 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

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Gwen Scott-Hodges; Michael E. Sneed;

Deborah Van Aken, PhD

### Chief Executive Officer

Audrey J. Tucker, MSW, LSW