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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
06/25/2018

Family Service Honors Bucks PASR with Champion for Youth Award



Langhorne, Pa. (June 25, 2018) – Family Service recently honored the Bucks County Chapter of the Pennsylvania Association of School Retirees (PASR) with its 2018 Susan N. Altomari Champion for Youth award.

The Susan N. Altomari Champion for Youth Award recognizes an individual or group that positively impacts the lives of youth in Bucks County through Family Service. The Bucks County Chapter of PASR was selected to receive this award in recognition of the organization's leadership and contributions to Family Service's Back to School Drive over the past thirteen years.

The back to school season is a difficult time of year for some families – lists of supplies can be long and costly. In 2017, parents on average spent \$104 per child on back to school supplies, according to a yearly survey by Deloitte. Parents spent an additional \$284 per child on clothing and accessories.

The Bucks County Chapter of PASR has made a tremendous difference in the lives of children and families in our community by sponsoring students to make sure they have backpacks, supplies, shoes,

clothing and many other necessities for the back to school season. The thousands of back to school items that PASR members have donated over the years have brightened the lives and boosted the confidence of more than 1,600 children. “We know how important it is for children to walk into the classroom on the first day feeling good about themselves,” said Margaret Kramer, project chair at PASR. “Having new clothes and school supplies gives students a good start in their new grade.”

Last year, thanks to generous donations from individuals, corporations and organizations including PASR, Family Service provided 329 children with new backpacks filled with supplies for the 2017-2018 school year. Many of the backpacks included back to school outfits and sneakers, as well. “PASR is a valued partner of ours,” shared Marlene Piasecki, Family Service Interim Chief Executive Officer. “They are incredibly generous in supporting the families we serve, and we look forward to working with this wonderful group of teachers each year.”

All donated items go to Family Service clients or children of clients between the ages of 4 and 18 years old with demonstrated need. If you would like to participate in Family Service’s Back to School Drive, contact Susan Fischer-Flagg at sfischer@fsabc.org or 215.757.6916, ext. 218.

Photo Caption: *Members of the Bucks County Chapter of the Pennsylvania Association of School Retirees drop off 73 backpacks filled with clothing, shoes and supplies for Family Service’s 2017-2018 Back to School Drive. The group has been sponsoring children each back to school season since 2005.*

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Family Service Association of Bucks County is a nonprofit social service organization with locations throughout Bucks County, Pennsylvania. Family Service’s mission is to listen, care and help. Every day. For more than 60 years, Family Service has been improving the lives of children and their families, doing whatever it takes to help them overcome obstacles and reach their full potential. Visit www.fsabc.org to donate, volunteer or learn more about how Family Service helped more than 26,000 children, teens and adults last year.