

## A word from the Director

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2016 was a landmark year for the Exchange Club Family Resource Center because we marked our 25th Anniversary! Even though the last eight years have been challenging for so many non-profits, the FRC remains---and thrives---because of the efforts of so many.

Because of your faithfulness, we have served 3250 families through our Exchange Parent Aide program since opening our doors. The families we serve are some of the most vulnerable in our community---often alone and overwhelmed. By providing our evidenced-based in-home services, we help families grow the parenting and life skills that help them avoid abuse/neglect and enable their children to thrive. In fact, 75% of families who engage in our program graduate and demonstrate improvements in their parenting and life skills. This means that the risk of child abuse occurring in their homes is greatly reduced.

We see transformations in the families we serve. Some of these transformations seem simple and small. For example, one mom describes a seemingly minor transformation when she talks about learning how to

“squat down and talk to my child” rather than simply “scream” at them from another room.

Other transformations involve larger shifts. One family in our program moved from being on the verge of homelessness to finding employment and a home all while learning how to use timeout instead of hitting.

Thank YOU for believing in the power of prevention and for making a difference in the lives of others by supporting our program. May our next 25 years be as successful as our first 25 years and may we continue to help families break the cycle of abuse. With you by our side, I’m confident we can do just that!

-Tina Bartleson

Executive Director Family Resource Center



Pictured left to right: Mariah Hickman, Shemika Roberts, Varina Bray, Tina Bartleson, Kathy Phillips, Maxine Clark, Rita Jones

## The Family Resource Center Celebrates 25 years!



We started small...in one room of the Coosa Valley Fair Office on the Coosa Valley Fairgrounds. With only one staff member, a generous Exchange Club, a committed Board of Directors, and a handful of volunteers the Exchange Club Family Resource Center grew and thrived. Today, 25 years later, we celebrate the impact we have had on more than 10,000 families in Rome and Floyd County.

Because of you, we are able to provide in-home support and educational services to families, keep children safe, and help families grow stronger through our Parent Aide and Parent Education programs.

Sherry Thompson stands on the front step of the first aid building at the Coosa Valley Fairgrounds. Sherry was the first Family Resource Center Volunteer Parent Aide .

## Bringing the Past into the Future...

*“Before this program, I never saw hope for me,” she said, “The Family Resource Center made me not afraid to ask for help.”*

Late in 2016 a mom we will call Beverly (to preserve her anonymity) stopped in because she wanted to say thank you to the Family Resource Center staff for helping her break the cycle of abuse nearly 20 years ago.

Beverly was born and raised in Rome by a family that was abusive and neglectful. Beverly reached out to the FRC after she had children herself because she didn't want to repeat the pattern of her own childhood.

While working with our Parent Aide program, Beverly received weekly home visits over the course of a year. During those visits, Beverly's Parent Aide offered her information on topics like budgeting, school readiness, home safety and non-abusive behavior management. Beverly's Parent Aide also offered her encouragement and tips on managing her own stress while managing the stress of her family. Here Beverly explains how her Parent Aide helped her see the potential in herself:

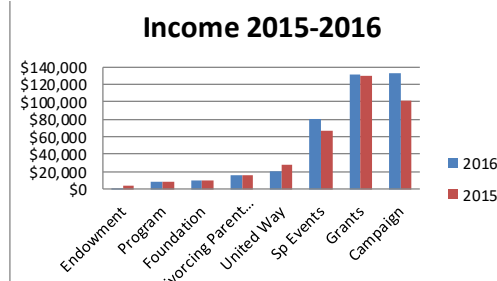
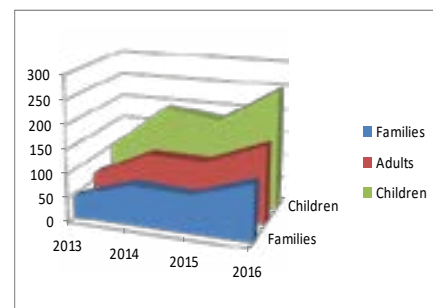
*Before this program, I never saw hope for me.... The Family Resource Center staff made me not afraid to ask for help.*

Beverly graduated from The Family Resource program and since that time has continued to practice the techniques she learned. Two of her three children have graduated from high school and a third is preparing to graduate. All are employed, and **there have been no incidences of child abuse.**

While raising her children, Beverly received her GED and then earned an Associates Degree in Social Services. Beverly worked briefly in the social services field, offering the same kind of help that she believes saved her family. Beverly is confident that with the help of the Family Resource Center she has changed her life and the lives of her children.

Soon Beverly's daughter will make her a grandmother. Beverly is proud to know her family will continue to have success as she talks about her daughter:

*I know she'll be a good mother. She has the foundation I never had and I'll be there to support her.*



Since 2013, 1512 families have been served in various Family Resource programs such as the Parent Aide program, supervised visitations and family educational seminars.

## In 2016, YOU and our event sponsors raised \$80,012 to prevent child abuse!

We say THANKS to these major corporate donors!

### Night at the Movies (February 23, 2016)

The Babcock Agency, Ball Corp., Brinson Askew Berry LLP, Rep. Katie Dempsey, Exchange Club of Rome, Greater Community Bank, JBM Office Solutions, Judge Gene Richardson, Harbin Pediatrics, Law Offices of David C. Smith, McRae Stegall Peek Harman Smith and Monroe LLP, Ready or Not Entertainment, Rome Orthopaedic Center, Stor-It Mini-Warehouses, Twigs

### Gary Tillman Memorial Clocktower 5K Road Race & 2 Mile Health Walk (August 20, 2016)

Advance Rehabilitation, C&S Trophies, Coosa Valley Fair Assc, Chick-fil-A, Coosa Valley Credit Union, Cycle Therapy, Eagle Rock Distributing, Exchange Club of Rome, Floyd Healthcare Fdn., Floyd Medical Center, Garner & Glover Insurance, GNTC, Heritage First Bank, KR8SHUNS Mobile DJ, Kindred Hospital, Kroger, McRae Stegall Peek, Performance Physical Therapy, Pridemore-Cox Orthodontics, Pro Performance, Q102/M Radio, Redmond Regional Medical Ctr., Rome Orthopaedic Center, Daniele Tedesco Law Office, Team 360/Cedarstream, Benjamin Edwards

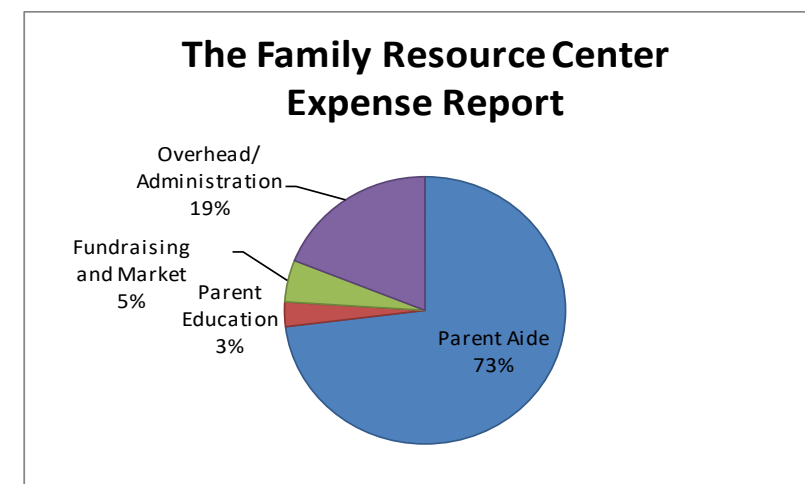
### Get a Jump on Child Abuse (April 16, 2016)

Anonymous, Country Sportsman, Holiday Inn/Country Inn, Ledbetter Properties, Profile Extrusion, River City Bank, Riverside Auto, Daniele Tedesco Law Office, Terry Simmons Insurance

### Strike Out Child Abuse (November 15, 2016) Daniele Tedesco Law Office



*The Water Buffaloes Harbin Clinic Employees walk away with the Best Costume award in the Strike out Child Abuse event in November.*



*“If kids get good parenting, they take that with them into the future with their own families.”*

**-Len Woodward,  
FRC Board Member**

### 2016

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We are on the web!  
[www.exchangeclubfrc.org](http://www.exchangeclubfrc.org)

You can also follow us on



**The Exchange Club  
 Family Resource  
 Center**

## *25th Anniversary Celebration*

### *A few of our past and present board members joined us for a fun night.*

Over 100 friends joined us in late October to celebrate our 25th anniversary. It was an evening of celebrating the impact a dream can leave on a community. Thanks for your support!

Front Row (L-R): Phil Franssen, Stephen Patton, Lynn Dempsey, Rep. Katie Dempsey, Tina Bartleson, Dave Schreiber, Jason Sanker, Lee Niedrach, Len Woodward

2nd row (L-R): Gail Johnson, Mike Elliott, Charles Stevens, Stacey Brown, Terry Clift, Robin Hice

3rd row (L-R): Bryan Shealy, Buzz Wachsteter, Kristin Williams, Dr. Bob Williams

Back row (L-r): Ronnie Farmer, Jim Talley, John Pillsbury, Randy Quick, Marti Robles, Sherry Thompson, Louise Branham, Jim Lanier, John Garner

