



Prevent Child Abuse Athens

Positive Parenting • Stronger Families

WINTER 2008

First Steps Volunteers of the Year

First Steps trains volunteers to provide new parents with support, parenting information and referrals to community resources in the first months of parenting. Many thanks to our Volunteers of the Year for 2007.

January - Kelly Williams

February - Meg Grafton

March - Carolyn Dees

April - Ashley Rogers

May - Amy Slone

June - Marilee Freshley

July - Maggie Minervini-Zick

August - Janice Himmelsbach,
Carol Hill, Jennie Sparrow
(help at Maternity and Baby Fair)

September - Jeri Stephens

October - Katherine Peiper

November - Janice Himmelsbach

December - Carol Hill

Would you like to support new parents in the exciting but challenging job of parenting? The next First Steps training will take place on Saturday, February 16, 9:00-3:00 at PCAA. Call Pat Berger for more information: 706-548-3216.

New Grants Received

Walton EMC Round-up - \$5,000
-to support our First Steps program

March of Dimes - \$25,000
-to support the prenatal component of our Healthy Families program

Both our First Steps and Healthy Families programs are experiencing reductions in government grants, so we are searching for other sources of funds to continue these programs at their current levels.

Isabelle Dayton, Artist



Seventeenth Annual Starry Starry Night to Benefit PCAA

The seventeenth annual "Starry, Starry Night" fundraiser to benefit Prevent Child Abuse Athens will be held on Saturday, March 1, 2008 at the Athens Country Club. The evening will feature music by the Nocturne Quartet, the "Wheel of Fortune", dinner, a Silent Auction, and a Live Auction with Gilbert Milner.

Chairs of the event are Lori Scott and Lacy Sinkwich. They and their committee are gathering auction items, including: tickets for 4 to the Georgia/Florida game paired with a stay at an Amelia Island condo, a Highlands vacation cottage, and a stay at The King and Prince.

This year's event painting is by Isabelle Dayton, who paints impressionistic, informal portraits, usually outdoors in the sun light. Based in Vero Beach, Florida, she has exhibited her painting at galleries in New York, Georgia, and Florida, and her work is part of the collections of The Four Seasons Hotels, The Disney Corporation, and various hospitals. www.portraitartist.com/dayton.

Auction items can be previewed after February 15 at www.pcaathens.org.

Starry Starry Night Sponsors

Shooting Star Sponsors
Athens Regional Medical Center

Burman Printing

Dovetail Development, LLC

C. Tradd Harter, D.M.D.

Dr. & Mrs. Randy Smith

Super Star Sponsors

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Northeast Sales Distributing

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Resource Construction Company

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Special Star Sponsors

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Athens Orthopedic Clinic

First Georgia Banking Company

National Bank of Georgia

Fortson, Bentley & Griffin, P.A.

Supporting Star Sponsors

Athens Homecrafters

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Champions for Children

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Grace Arthur, Parenting Educator

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Volunteer SPOTLIGHT



For the past seven years Diane Teague has provided Prevent Child Abuse Athens much of its visual identity. Since 2001, Diane has volunteered to design the invitations, programs, posters and advertisements for Starry Starry Night, but that's just the beginning.

Diane, who is an account manager with Athens Printing as well as a graphic designer, also designed PCAA's informational brochure on Shaken Baby Syndrome and has taken charge of designing advertisements publicizing our annual Prevent Child Abuse Walk.

Following PCAA's name change in summer 2007, Diane re-designed our letterhead and newsletter and has volunteered to take charge of designing our newsletter on an ongoing basis.

When she's not working or volunteering, Diane enjoys playing tennis and spending time with her family.

Diane's willingness to take on any design challenge, combined with her good humor and commitment to excellence, has greatly enhanced PCAA's visibility among our supporters and the general public.

WISH LIST

For the Parent Points Incentive Program:

Baby bibs

Diapers (sizes 2, 3, and 4)

Baby Wipes

Points are earned by parents in Healthy Families through activities such as: keeping all required home visits for the month, completing a "Growing Great Kids" activity with baby, keeping track of baby's immunizations, or achieving a parenting or personal goal. "Parent Points" are one method of increasing the retention of families in the Healthy Families program over a 3-4 year period. Retention is vital, since our government funds are dependent upon the number of families we serve in this voluntary program.

For our Community Education Program:

Laptop Computer

Projector

(gently used is fine)



HEALTHY FAMILIES HOLIDAY PARTY

Photos with Santa, cookie decorating, Christmas Bingo, refreshments, and gifts for the children helped get 24 families in the holiday spirit at the Healthy Families Holiday Party on December 8. Our thanks to Toys for Tots, Ebenezer Baptist Church West, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, and Santa (Brad Hayes) for making the party a success.

PCAA was also able to distribute toys to other children in our programs through the generosity of the University of Georgia's Education Law Association and the Women Law Students Association.

PCAA's HEALTHY FAMILIES PROGRAM HELP REDUCE REPEAT TEEN BIRTHS

Nationwide, 20 percent of births to mothers ages 15 to 19 in 2004 were to young women who had already had one or more babies, according to a recent Child Trends research brief. The brief also states, "Repeat teen births are the hidden face of teen childbearing... 83,000 repeat births occurred to teens in 2004."

Of the teen mothers enrolled in PCAA's Healthy Families home visiting program, only 3% per year have a repeat pregnancy. The primary purposes of Healthy Families are to promote positive parent-child interaction, and to prevent abuse and neglect. Family Support Workers help young mothers work toward their goals of improving their parenting, completing their education, becoming economically self-sufficient, and giving their existing child the best upbringing possible; these goals often translate to prevented or delayed repeat pregnancy.

The Child Trends report also points out that "teen mothers and their children face educational, economic, health, and developmental challenges, and a second teen birth compounds these problems." We're pleased that Healthy Families is part of the solution.

PARENTING CLASSES PLANNED

Nurturing Parenting – 8 Tuesdays beginning January 15
6:00-8:00 p.m. at Campus View Church of Christ
Public is invited – childcare provided; registration required.

ABC's of Parenting – Thursday evenings (February-April)
Chase Street Elementary School
Open to parents of Chase Street students
Classes in English and Spanish



Leonard Piha Gallery Opening Benefits PCAA

The opening of Leonard Piha's Art Gallery on December 2 raised \$1,300 for Prevent Child Abuse Athens. Leonard will continue to contribute half the proceeds of his sales to PCAA through December 2008. Please call 706-357-9111 to make an appointment to visit the gallery, located at 148 Hickory Pointe Drive in Athens.

Annual Campaign Donations December

Business/Foundation/Civic Group

Athens Area Health Plan Select
Blasingame, Burch, Garrard & Ashley, P.C.
CertainTeed
First Presbyterian Church
Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta
Turner Family Foundation
TSAV - Pete Dugas

Individual

Linda Bigelow
Donald & Julie Bower
Rikard Bridges
Dr. Charles Burch
Lacy Middlebrooks Camp
Charles & Mary Ann Crawford
Tony & Lisa D'Andrea
Mary Erlanger
Calvin Evans
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Suzy Wong & Jed Rasula
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Prevent Child Abuse Athens

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Save These Dates for Upcoming PCAA Activities

Saturday, March 29 3rd Annual Prevent Child Abuse Walk

Co-sponsored with St. Mary's Health Care System; Alps Village & Baxter Street merchants
10:00 - family-friendly walk beginning and ending at St. Mary's
11:00 - refreshments, music, and program
T-shirt and registration: \$10 (in advance); \$12 (at event)

Saturday, April 5 "Positive Parenting ... Stronger Families"

Co-sponsored with Athens Parent Magazine
First Presbyterian Church
Childcare provided

10:00 – Opening Session - Marilyn Gootman, Gootman Education Associates
11:00 – Break-out Discussion Sessions: Parents of Children 0-5 – Grace Arthur, PCAA Parenting Educator; Parents of School-Age Children – Marilyn Gootman; Parents of Teens – Lenore Katz, Licensed Professional Counselor
12:00 – Lunch (pizza donated by Papa John's)

