A Message from our CEO

Dear Friends,

I am proud to share with you this annual report, which highlights the work of Family Services in its fiscal year ending 9/30/2017. I am honored to be the leader of an organization that does such important work! Since Family Services’ founding, its members have worked tirelessly to improve the lives of children and families in our community. In FY2017, we continued with that tradition, and did so with great success and a significant impact.

This past year, Family Services improved the lives of over 6,700 children and families. From play groups for young families, to in-home care for isolated elders, Family Services provided programs across the lifespan. But we did not do this alone. The work of Family Services is the work of a community. In FY2017, Family Services benefited from the support of:

- 1,036 donors
- 359 volunteers
- 25 collaborating organizations
- 89 staff and interns

We are inspired every day by the thousands of people who join us in pursuing our mission, and we look forward to working together in the coming year.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Sweeney
Chief Executive Officer
In December 1854, a group of concerned citizens from the City of Lawrence saw newly arriving mill workers struggling to transition to new homes and new ways of living. They recognized these individuals as human beings with hopes and dreams much like their own. Their solution was to establish a relief society, initially known as The Provident Association, then later named the Lawrence City Mission. Today, that primary concern for the welfare of others extends throughout the region as Family Services of the Merrimack Valley.

The mission of Family Services of the Merrimack Valley is to empower, nurture and support children and families through life’s challenges to help them reach their full potential.

Rooted in compassion and respect for the diverse population we serve, Family Services helps more than 6,000 people in the Merrimack Valley each year through over 20 high-quality programs focused on youth development, parent education, and emotional health. All of these services are infused with a sense of hope and possibility and produce tangible results and sustainable change, enabling individuals to thrive within their family, community, workplace, and school.
Family Services is committed to helping young people navigate the difficult stage of adolescence by focusing on their positive potential. Key to this approach is providing young people with opportunities to discover their strengths and create positive relationships. Through mentoring, life skills training and leadership programs, Family Services brings young people out of their comfort zones and onto the path of success.

In FY2017, Family Services served 1,950 young people (ages birth-18) through eight youth development programs.

2017 Highlights

- CASA volunteer advocates spent 7,261 hours advocating on behalf of the best interests of 120 abused and neglected children.

- 100% of the Senior students matched with an academic mentor were accepted to college.

- 741 at-risk youth participated in leadership development, health education and outdoor recreation activities to improve skills for healthy living.
Parent Education

Parent education programs offered by Family Services provide individual and group support to parents, guardians and caregivers to help them raise children in healthy, happy homes. Grounded in evidenced-based practices, parent education services help parents understand child and adolescent development, gain skills for responding to challenging behaviors, and offer opportunities to nurture and care for all family members.

In FY2017, Family Services served 1,851 parents and guardians looking to change their parenting and improve outcomes for their children.

2017 Highlights

- **750** hours of play groups, support groups, and parenting classes were provided to parents of all ages.

- **3,887** children were positively affected by their parent’s participation in classes and individual support.

- Training and technical assistance was provided to **35** other providers on how to successfully engage fathers in parenting.
Most people, at one point in their lives, experience trauma or struggle with depression, anxiety, and other mental health issues. For many, professional help is required. Family Services provides a wide array of prevention and treatment services with the goal of enabling all people to achieve emotional wellness for today, and hope for the future.

In FY2017, Family Services helped 3,113 people take care of their own or their loved-one’s emotional wellbeing.

2017 Highlights

- The Samaritans of Merrimack Valley provided suicide prevention training and education to over 1,815 individuals in 55 Massachusetts communities.

- 11,797 individual and family counseling, in home therapy, and therapeutic mentoring sessions were held with professional mental health therapists and paraprofessionals.

- 163 individuals who had recently experienced a traumatic event were provided with “psychological first aid” to help process their emotions in a healthy way.
The purpose of the Audit Committee is to assist the Board of Directors of Family Services of the Merrimack Valley in fulfilling their oversight responsibilities in regard to the accounting and financial reporting practices of the organization and the system of internal financial controls.

The Committee is also responsible for the selection of and communication with the outside auditors and evaluation of the outside auditors’ independence. Family Services is in the second year of a three year contract with Shaheen, Pallone & Associates, P.C. as outside auditors.

The charter of the Audit Committee is reviewed annually and updated as necessary by the Audit Committee and the Family Services’ Board of Directors. The members of the Audit Committee are: John Weaver, Chair, Andy Girdwood, Kerin Pintzopoulos, Joanne Quinlan-Roberts, Greg Shaw, and Carol Reid.

In fulfilling its responsibilities, during the fiscal year which ended 9/30/17 the Audit Committee:

- met with external auditors to discuss the annual audit prior to the commencement of the audit activities;
- met with the external auditors, Chief Executive Officer, and the Chief Financial Officer to review and discuss a draft copy of the audited financial statements upon completion of their audit;
- obtained proper assurance from the outside auditors that they are financially independent of the Agency;
- based on the above, recommended that the Board of Directors accept the audited financial statements; and,
- provided copies of committee meeting minutes to the Board of Directors.
Financial Report

Statement of revenue, expenditures and change in net assets for the fiscal year October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017.

Revenue
Program Service Fees 1,103,415
Government Grants & Contracts 2,324,261
Contributions 234,334
Foundation Grants 492,940
United Way 49,879
Special Events 181,856
Miscellaneous 63,381
In Kind Contributions 81,018
Interest & Dividend Income 9,437
Net Unrealized & Realized Gain on Investments 28,805
Total Revenue 4,569,326

Expenditures
Personnel 3,185,530
Professional Contract Services 366,056
Professional Fees 44,296
Dues & Memberships 6,391
Insurance 23,353
Facility Rental 8,938
Meeting & Conference 23,437
Office Rent 91,139
Building & Office Space Maintenance 92,897
Office Services 49,776
Program Supplies 357,010
Travel & Transportation 107,607
Printing 51,647
Miscellaneous 13,815
Depreciation 40,043
Loss on Disposal of Property & Equipment 3,042
Total Expenditures 4,464,977

Change in Net Assets 104,349

Note: The above statement of revenue, expenditures and change in net assets has been abstracted from the organization’s financial statements for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2017, which were audited by Shaheen, Pallone & Associates, P.C. Because this information does not include all the disclosures required by generally accepted accounting principles, it is not intended to present the financial position of the organization.

~Shaheen, Pallone & Associates, P.C.
Commemorating the year of Family Services’ founding, “The 1854 Society” recognizes donors who, through their investment in Family Services, demonstrate a deep commitment to helping vulnerable children and families in our community by contributing over $1,000 each year. Family Services is grateful for the generous financial support of members of the 1854 Society, and all donors to the organization.

Gifts listed on this and the following pages represent each individual’s and organization’s total giving for the period October 1, 2016 - September 30, 2017, accounting for all cash and in-kind contributions. We strive to record and accurately include all donors in this list for the fiscal year ending 9/30/17. Please accept our apology for any inaccuracies or omissions. Please call our Development Department at 978-327-6639 with corrections, and a corrected report will be posted on our web site: www.FSMV.org.
Thank you to our Donors

Patron ($500.00+)
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Robert & Terri Autieri
Bake n’ Joy Foods
Bank of New England
Stephen & Nancy Barry
John & Mary Ann Begley
Black Tie Limousine
Maria Blakslie
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OnePath
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Mike & Amy Koehler
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William & Sandy Mersch
Mintz Levin
North Andover Thrift Shop
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Pete & Theresa Peterson
Pfizer Global Supply
R.C. Lafond Insurance
R.J. Inspections, Inc.
RDK Engineers
Renaissance Golf Club
Royal Jewelers
Gregory & Deborah Schmidt
Service Center of Greater Lawrence
James & Thyrza Sherman
Richard & Stephanie Sipple
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
St. William's Church
Maureen Sullivan
Reed & Louise Valleeau
Scott & Alessandra Weisenhoff
West Parish Church

Supporter ($250.00+)
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Goodhue Law Office
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Haverhill Bank
Robert Heinlein
Barbara Hillard
Holy Family Hospital
Stuart Hunziker
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Innovative Products & Equipment
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Chet & Faye Sidell
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David Sontag
Southern Glass & Metal LLC
Tewksbury Lions Club
The Corkstop
The Savings Bank
Donald & Sylvia Theberoe
United Way of Mass Bay & Merrimack Valley
Timothy & Alison Vaill
Kevin Welch
Zorvino Vineyards
Thank you also to the 530 donors who gave in the range of $10.00 - $99.00. We value your support!
Honorific & Memorial Gifts

In Honor of Bill & Eileen Novelline’s 50th Anniversary
Peter & Diane Lafond

In Honor of Michael & Sandra Francis
Louann Basillio

In Honor of Carolyn Koehler
Dan & Caitlin Koehler
Mike & Amy Koehler

In Honor of Judith Holt
Kay Frishman & Ron Hilbink
Louann Basillio

In Honor of the Morrin Family
Richard & Elaine McDonald

In Honor of Paula King
Jeffrey King

In Memory of Ted Johnson
Faith Johnson

In Honor of Peter & Karen Grant
Louann Basillio

In Honor of Steve DeSalvo
Lyndon DeSalvo

In Memory of the Mother of Carlos Bielicki
Vilma Parla
Francesco Maestri

In Memory of Greg Basillio
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Marion Spataro & Ann Weber
Robert Stegmaier
Elizabeth Sweeney
Linda Welch
Marie Wojtas

In Memory of Judith Kiley
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Henry H. Hammond

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M. Braun, Inc.
Elaine Campbell
Barbara Muise
Kathleen & Robert Sharp

In Memory of the Brother of
Maureen Kosewski
Louann Basillio

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Amelia Peabody Foundation
Andover Home for Aged People
Artemas W. Stearns Trust
Catherine McCarthy Memorial Trust Fund
Charles River Labs
The Charlotte Home
The Children’s Trust
City of Lawrence
Clinton H. and Wilma T. Shattuck Charitable Trust
Cummings Foundation
DCU For Kids
EBSCO
Edward S. and Winifred G. Moseley Foundation
Foundation M
Frank Reed & Margaret Jane Peters Memorial Fund I
Gable Family Fund
Greater Lawrence Summer Fund
Henry E. Niles Foundation
Highland Street Foundation
Josephine G. Russell Trust
Lincoln & Therese Filene Foundation
Margaret M. Collins Charitable Trust
Mass Mentoring Partnership
MA Department of Children & Families
MA Department of Elementary & Secondary Education
Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Massachusetts Office for Victim Assistance
Merrimack Valley General Fund
Nathaniel & Elizabeth P. Stevens Foundation
New Balance Foundation
NiSource Charitable Foundation
Odel Foundation
The Peter and Elizabeth C. Tower Foundation
Pfizer Global Supply
Raytheon Systems Company
The Rogers Family Foundation
Schneider Electric
Smith Purdon Fund
Speedway Children’s Charities
United Way of Mass Bay & Merrimack Valley
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
The White Fund
The Women’s Fund of Essex County

Matching Gifts

Bright Funds Foundation
FM Global Foundation
Liberty Mutual
NetScout
New Balance Foundation
Pfizer Global Supply
Raytheon Systems Company
Saint-Gobain Corporation
SAP Software Solutions
Schneider Electric
State Street
Verizon Foundation
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Karen Manzi, Human Resources Director
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Elizabeth Sweeney, Chief Executive Officer

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