



Child & Family

Caring for our Rhode Island Community since 1866

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Greetings friends of Child & Family,

I hope that summer is treating you and your families well. This has been an unusually busy summer for Child & Family staff as we have emerged from the workforce crisis phase of the pandemic. Hiring and retention of staff have improved with recent graduates entering the workforce.

We are also thrilled that we have expanded opportunities and internships for those in school, those with lived experience, and certification programs for those who do not have a bachelor's degree. We are fortunate to have a dedicated and talented core staff who have shown incredible commitment and staying power over the past three and a half years.

Here are some additional highlights of program accomplishments:

- Our [Family Preservation](#) and [Aging Well](#) programs will now have increased capacity to support active military, veterans, and their families through grant funding from the [Rhode Island Office of Veterans Affairs](#).
- Our [Sandpipers Early Learning Center](#) staff have remarkably cared for the children of working parents and laid the groundwork for lifelong learning. When leaving the building the other day, I observed a toddler ask his mom if it was his turn to hit the automatic door button. How is that for important social skills? We recently recognized four Sandpipers staff, each with over 20 years of service at Sandpipers. Thank you, Theresa Sirois, Sarah Wheeler, Tonya Furtado, and Anna Lee Chatty, for the hundreds of young lives you have touched.
- We are expanding outreach to gang-involved youth in our evidence-based [Functional Family Therapy \(FFT\)](#) program and to family members who struggle with substance abuse in our [Family Center Treatment \(FCT\)](#) program. These two important programs keep children safe with their families rather than moving them to foster or congregate care.
- We are amid a housing crisis in Rhode Island, which is impacting all our programs. A shout-out to our [Family Care Community Partnership \(FCCP\)](#) program, which expanded its scope to include 12 homeless families which we have placed in hotels. We also have youth aging out of our [Foster Care](#) program who are ready for independent living on a waiting list since we have been unable to secure affordable apartments.

These are just some highlights of the Child & Family staff's amazing impact on strengthening the fabric of families and communities throughout Rhode Island. I look forward to seeing so many of our supporters and restaurant partners at our [40th Taste of Newport on Sunday, October 29th](#).

Sincerely,

Marty Sinnott
President & CEO, Child & Family

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