Dear Friends

As I approach the ten year mark as the Executive Director of the Maria Seymour Brooker Memorial, I find myself still inspired by our history and the wisdom of our founder. Mr. Brooker's initial program ideas were child care and health care for struggling families. Set forth by him nearly 100 years ago, they remain the cornerstone of Brooker's mission today.

I remain challenged to forward the work of our mission. I can think of few more important ventures than setting children on a course for life long success. From implementing a bold, trend-setting nutrition policy in our child care center that will ensure children are introduced to healthy eating at a young age, to outreach programs that bring needed dental care to where our patients are, I know we are making strides toward this lofty goal.

I find myself continually inspired by the staff and by those we serve. The staff's commitment to their work, in part apparent by the growing number who have worked at Brooker more than 5 years, and their

professionalism sets the tone for our success. The families we serve demonstrate perseverance in the face of hard times, hope for their family's future and immense love for their children.

I am energized by working with a deeply committed Board of Managers. Their challenging questions, interest in helping others and knowledge of the community make for a dynamic and rewarding relationship.

Above all, I am motivated to give my all each and every day, knowing that the work we do today and the new ideas we generate for the future will continue to make a difference in the lives of those we serve, one child and one parent at a time.

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve this special organization.

Best Wishes,

Cathy Chiron Coyle Executive Director

Cathy C. Coyle



READY, SET, GO!

Brooker expanded its summer Ready, Set ,Go! Kindergarten Readiness program this year to enable 22 students from Torringford and East School to participate. The students were screened in early spring on their readiness skills and attended the 5 week program in 2 separate classrooms. The 2012-13 data, as in the prior three years, shows marked improvement in academic, language and social skill development as a result of the 5 week program.



DEVELOPMENTAL THERAPIES NOW AT BROOKER MEMORIAL

Education Connection Center for Pediatric Therapy opened its doors at Brooker Memorial on February 4, 2013. Certified Occupational, Physical and Speech Therapists provided 180 hours of service to children ages 2 to 13 years of age. Speech therapy needs outweighed other therapies necessitating hiring a second



speech pathologist to work on Saturdays. Occupational therapy, including sensory processing, is the second highest service being used. The group relocated with Brooker's administration and dental center to 95 New Litchfield Street in May and is seeing patients there. Brenda Johnson is the Center Coordinator for the program which accepts Husky Insurance, Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield, Connecticare, Ortho-

net, and soon, Cigna. The majority of families are from the Torrington/Winsted area, with scattered referrals from Waterbury, Bristol, Colebrook and New Milford.

CHILD CARE ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

The child care center regularly hosts enrichment activities for our children. This year the children were visited by Farmer Minor and Daisy the Pig, Patti Harris with Maggie the Service Dog, the Torrington Fire Department, guest reader Barbara Fincken, and Happy Little Critters. We had pony rides from JC's Pony Parties, and participated in weekly music enrichment classes with Bernice Jensky. In-house activities included Grandparent's Day, Curriculum Night, Stone Soup, our annual Halloween Parade, a visit to our dental center, and a Turkey Dinner for families, staff, and board members. The children held food drives to benefit FISH and the United Way, and contributed artwork to the gallery showing at Litchfield Woods Health Care Center.

LAST DAY AT 157

Brooker Memorial Dental Center and Administrative offices moved to 95 New Litchfield Street in May 2013 in anticipation of up-coming renovations at 157 Litchfield Street. Our dynamic dental team packed, unpacked, set up and organized the temporary dental facility in record time, opening for patients in only one week's time. The last patient seen at "157" was Andreanna Stossel pictured below with Hygienist Debra Ravlin.

PRESCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONY

On June 28th, 2013, eight children graduated from Brooker's preschool program. We celebrated this milestone with a graduation ceremony and social gathering for families. We send our students off to Kindergarten with confidence, knowing that their teachers have worked hard to provide them with the skills they need to be successful learners.





NEW DENTAL CENTER STAFF

Dr. Zachary Grillo and Diane F. Breen have joined Brooker's Dental Team. Dr. Grillo is a graduate of the University of Connecticut School of Dental Medicine. He completed his residency at St. Francis Hospital in Hartford. He is a member of the American Dental Association, the CT State Dental Association, the Hartford Dental Society and the Academy of General Dentistry. In addition to providing dental care at Brooker, Dr. Grillo works in private practice in South Windsor. Dr. Grillo participated in a dental mission to Belize in 2010.





Diane was appointed Dental Office Manager in January, 2013. She comes to Brooker with 15 years' experience in private dental offices working as a dental assistant and an office manager. She served five years in the United States Navy. Both Dr. Grillo and Diane have volunteered for the CT Mission of Mercy and Give Kids a Smile dental program.

OUTREACH TO CHALLENGING POPULATION

Jan Lyon, Outreach Director, began hosting provider discussions with area agency professionals on how to connect with parents who are hard to engage. Homeless and young parents especially, are significantly less likely than other parents to attend classroom setting educational offerings about child development, parenting practices or how to prevent toxic stress. Poverty, isolation, drug trafficking and a myriad of other factors leave these families at higher risk of domestic violence, abuse, neglect and child removal - a cycle preventable through engagement and education. The problems are complex but a core group of service providers are interested in moving forward to unravel the barriers.

BIRTH TO GRADUATION PARTNERSHIP

In March 2013, Brooker's Dental Center partnered with the Torrington Public School System to provide free dental screenings to children two years old or who were approaching their 2nd birthday, as part of the Birth to Graduation initiative. Parents left this first annual event with educational material about good oral health and each child left with a balloon and a big smile!

FIT TOGETHER PARTNERSHIP

Brooker Memorial continued its partnership with Charlotte Hungerford Hospital, the United Way, the YMCA and other area providers in promoting the Fit Together initiative. Jan Lyon and Charlene Lee served on the Child Development Committee working on nutrition and fitness guidelines for public and home day care centers. Cathy Coyle served on the Advisory Committee that worked on encouraging the Torrington Board of Education to refine their nutrition policy for the public schools. Brooker Dental Hygienist Leigh-Lynn Vitukinas participated in Torrington's Main Street Marketplace in August 2012, featuring our Nutrition and Exercise Game Wheel and visual demonstrations to engage the grade 3 to 5 population.

CHILD CARE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Each child care staff member participated in more than 20 hours of training last year. Trainings are chosen to meet individual staff development needs, state licensing requirements, and national accreditation criteria. This year's topics included: NAEYC

Standards, Relationships, Diversity, Social-Emotional Development, Observation, Mandated Reporting, Supervision, Childhood Traumatic Stress, Administration of Medication, Epi Pen, and Blood Borne Pathogens.



STONE SOUP

The center held a Stone Soup luncheon in the fall to celebrate a successful year of gardening. Each classroom read the Stone Soup folktale. Then, in keeping with the theme of the story, we used produce from our garden and asked each family to bring in one vegetable to contribute to the pot. The event was a wonderful opportunity for children, families, and staff to come together, enjoy a bowl of homemade soup, and acknowledge everyone's efforts in the garden.

STRENGTHENING FAMILIES

After attending several statewide trainings, Jan Lyon, Director of Outreach and Children's Services gave an educational presentation to Brooker board members and staff regarding Harvard research that demonstrates the life-long effects of toxic stress in infants and young children. The twenty year longitudinal study shows the impact of stress on the developing brain specifying risk factors that can be prevented through training and the



presence of five protective factors. The 5 factors are: parental resilience, social connections, concrete support in times of need, knowledge of parenting and child development, and social emotional competence in children. These five factors are the building blocks to a nationwide approach for reaching out to parents of all walks of life to prevent

permanent damage to their children. Connecticut is one of 33 states adopting this approach. Brooker will be assessing how these factors can be incorporated into existing programs over the next year.

PROJECT HOMELESS CONNECT

Charlotte Hungerford's Annual Project Homeless Connect event received new support this year as Brooker Memorial and other community providers created the first time "Children's Corner." Children received free dental screenings and toothbrushes from Brooker Hygienist Sharon Greico, who used a crocodile puppet to demonstrate proper brushing to the little ones. Parents received educational material on good oral health.

SCHOOL DENTAL PROGRAMS

Once again, Brooker's Schoolbased Dental Programs were well received by the families of students in grades Kindergarten through 8th grade. Leigh-Lynn Vitukinas, RDH and Sharon Grieco, RDH treated 932 students in Region One and Torrington schools combined. Brooker provided the funding for the Torrington school program and The Foundation for Community Health generously supported the Region One program with a grant of \$25,250.

PARTNERING WITH EXCITING NEW PROGRAMS!

This year, Torrington and Winsted were the recipients of 2 three-year federal grants that will significantly enhance direct services to children and families. CHILD First, an evidence-based home visitation program originating in Connecticut, has now received national recognition as a successful approach to educating and supporting families whose children are at risk for abuse,



neglect, emotional trauma and the long term effects of toxic stress. The grant was awarded to Charlotte Hungerford Hospital's Center for Youth and Families and rolled out this summer. A grant for the development of Parents as Teachers, another evidencebased program, was awarded



to Education Connection this spring. Both programs utilize community resources to support families, and are collaborating with Brooker Memorial and other community providers to connect families with services and programs in the community which will support these families once CHILD First services end. We are excited to participate in these model programs which will provide additional supports for our at-risk families.



Volunteer Leadership

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Tyson Chamberlin
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Cathleen Todor

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Atty. Charles W. Roraback
Isadore B. Temkin, D.D.S.
Catherine Thiem, R.D.H.
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Volunteer Leadership

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Jo-An Cracco

Edward Kavle, M.D.

Jessica L. Magda, M.D.

William J. Marchand

James Rokos

Atty. Charles W. Roraback



RUTH CHADWICK TREE of ANGELS

In memory of Ruth Chadwick and in honor of her many years of service to Brooker Memorial and her commitment to the children Brooker served, The Ruth Chadwick Tree of Angels was established in 2012. The program enables individuals to select an angel from the Tree of Angels and fulfill the Christmas wishes of a child in our program. In addition to gifts for children, parents are invited to request gifts that will help their family during the holidays. Last year, Angel Tree donors provided toys, clothes, gas and grocery gift cards to 30 Brooker Families. We thank the following individuals and companies who chose to participate in remembering Ruth while helping others.

Susanne and Rick Achee Ann Amicone Jason and Nancy Basti Debra Ayla Battistoni Tara Battistoni Edwin (Chip) Booth, Jr. Helen Ruwet Bunnell Josephine Bruni Susan Carroll Ted Chadwick Lawrence Connors Cathy Coyle Susan Frassinelli and Dan McIntvre Elizabeth Gelormino Fuchsman

Ralph and Sharon Gath Charles and Joan Gill Walter Gisselbrecht Sharon Grieco Dr. Zak Grillo Mary Ann and Raymond Harrigan Mr. and Mrs. John Janco Dr. Archana Karanki Vanzy Kelly Carol and Todd Kenner Charlene Lee Diane Libby Joan and Jerry Libby Jessica Lopardo Bill Marchand

Tina Mitchell Marion Muschell Rachael Pasqua Kevin and Lucille Purcell Joe Ruwet Solix, Inc. St Maron's Church Parishioners Alan Temkin Cathy Todor and Advent Christian Church Torrington Savings Bank Torrington Women's Club Dr. Douglas Traub Dr. Frank R. Vanoni Leigh-Lynn Vitukinas

Staff & Volunteers

Staff, family members, community members and community organizations generously support Brooker Memorial with their time, creativity and expertise. Our employees deserve praise for their dedication to our mission and to the children we serve. We thank all of Brooker's many volunteers for sharing with us their time and talents that help make Brooker Memorial a success.

ADMINISTRATION

Cathy C. Coyle, Executive Director* Judith Bekasi* Jessica Kelley

CHILD CARE AND LEARNING CENTER

Charlene Lee,
Director*
Christine Donahue,
Assistant Director ****

Paula Armstrong*
Courtney Avallone
Diane Brigham*
Jennifer Danner
Ambur Fadoir**
Kimberly Gallo**
Jessica Lopardo**
Catherine Pezze*
Shannon Riddick*
Danielle Robison*
Lynn Skaret
Michelle Sliech
Katherine Stansfield
Tammy Tronina

CHILDREN'S DENTAL CENTER

Archana Karanki, D.M.D., Dental Director* Diane Breen, Dental Office Manager

Susanne Achee* Debra Battistoni Jennifer Dupill** Sharon Grieco, R.D.H.* Zachary Grillo, D.M.D. Jessie Gutierrez Maryann Harrigan** Cynthia Hudson Patricia Kari Hermela Loulseged, D.D.S. Tina Mitchell Rachael Pasqua Jorge M. Rabat, Jr., D.D.S.** Glenna Ramstein, R.D.H *** Debra Ravlin, R.D.H. Carole Thebarge* Sue Treadway, R.D.H.* Leigh-Lynn Vitukinas, R.D.H.* M. Sandra Wolff, D.D.S.*

MAINTENANCE

Mark Beeman* Thomas Ross

OUTREACH AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Jan Lyon,
Director
Rosanne Field,*
(Ready, Set, Go! 2012)
Stacy Lopardo Maule,*
(Ready, Set, Go! 2012)

* 5+ years of service ** 10+ years of service *** 15 + years of service **** 20 + years of service

Staff & Volunteers

The following people volunteered their time to help with the Little Green Thumbs Garden, the Family Fund-Raising Committee's Pasta Dinner, performed clerical support, served as classroom readers and helpers and provided a variety of other volunteer services to help the organization.

Paula Armstrong Courtney Avallone Tara Battistoni Susan Carroll Lawrence Connors Bill Coyle Cathy Coyle Jennifer Danner Christine Donahue Ellen Eberle Jen Espinal, Doug Owens and Family Kristen Harmon Patti Harris Judith Hogan Kristin Kandefer Pauline Kelly Emily Lamphear Charlene Lee Gerry Libby Joan Libby Jessica Lopardo William Marchand Kanesha Matos Dr. Edward Osborn Karen Osborne Sarah Owens Gerry Rich Shannon Riddick Raquel Rodriguez Dorothy Sekulski Patricia Soudier Mary Spadola Lisa Spear Mosel Aileen Taveras Tammy Tronina Michele and Howard Wood

In May 2013, Brooker Child Care Families formed the Family Fund Raising Committee whose purpose is to support enrichment activities for the Child Care and Learning Center. The group motivated staff, families and friends to join together for its first event, a pasta dinner on June 8th. With nearly all the food and supplies donated, the committee raised more than \$3,300! Parents and staff will meet to select activities to further enrich our center's children. Congratulations to all who worked so hard on this inaugural event!

Family Fund Raising Committee:
Tara Battistoni
Shannon Davis
Kristen Harmon
Jen Espinal
Emily Lamphear
Gerry Rich
Victoria Sutcliffe
Michele and Howard Wood
Staff Volunteers:
Cathy Coyle
Jessica Lopardo

Child Care Staff generously volunteered their time to organize special projects including: Food Drives, Mabel's Labels fundraiser, United Way fundraisers, Turkey Dinner and Stone Soup events, Memorial Day parade float and t shirts, Scholastic Book Fairs, and children's Portrait sessions. Our thanks to:

Catherine Pezze
Charlene Lee
Christine Donahue
Danielle Robison
Jessica Lopardo
Kim Gallo
Lynn Skaret
Michelle Sliech

Community Support (2012 - 2013)

Brooker Memorial Brooker is a non-profit organization that operates with funding from child care and dental fees paid, grants from foundations, investment income from trust funds and donations from the community. Brooker is thankful for the generosity of the following individuals, businesses, and organizations who supported our programs and the families we serve. Their gifts of cash and goods or services supported The Little Green Thumbs Garden, Pasta Dinner Fund Raiser, Care Closet, Dental Programs, Child Care Center and General Purposes of the organization and were received between July 1, 2012 and June 30, 2013.

CASH DONATIONS

Armstrong Family Mark and Jane Arens Basti Family Diane Breen Caccavo Family Susan R. Carroll, Ph.D. Ciufo Family Cochener Family Colabella Family Couch Family Cathy Coyle Chris Dadlez and the **Executive Leadership Team** at St. Francis Hospital Fecto Family Foshay Family Gururaj Family Hedden Family Hillside Cemetery Assoc. Hovt Family Anita Janco Dr. Archana Karanki Tobye Karl Labalme Family Donna Labbe Litchfield Hills Audubon Society Jan L. Lyon William J. Marchand Marinelli Family Tina Mitchell Misani Family Marion Muschell

Elmira Oneglia
Orr Family
Rachael Pasqua
Rahmati Family
St. Francis Hospital IV
Therapy Dept.
St. Francis Hospital CRCs
and Bed Control Dept.
Barbara Sepples
Smith Family
Rev. Robert F. Tucker

GIFTS WERE RECEIVED IN MEMORY OF

Victoria Brennan Rose Faccin Irving Patterson Sandy Hook Victims (26 Acts of Kindness) Blanche Zubrowski

THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS AND BUSINESSES DONATED GOODS OR SERVICES TO BROOKER MEMORIAL

Susanne and Rick Achee Alfredo's Deli Baroco Corporation Tara Battistoni Donna Battistoni Dr. Jorge Baujin Judy and John Bekasi The Berkshire Café

Diane Breen Carl's True Value Susan R. Carroll, Ph.D. Lori Chiron Cilfone's The Coliseum Valerie Cote Cathy Coyle Corrine D'Angelo Doyle's Medical Supply Danielle and Ed Earle **Energy Fitness** Jen Espinal Gus Fernandez FISH Marie Gervasini Patti Harris Judith and Tom Hogan Brenda Johnson JW Salon Dr. Archana Karanki The Kari Family The Kelley Family Donna Labbe Emily Lamphear Audra Leach Charlene Lee Rhonda LeKang Litchfield County Board of Realtors Litchfield Insurance Group Litchfield Locker Litchfield True Value Log House Restaurant Jamie Loomis

Community Support (2012 - 2013)

Louriero Associates Jan L. Lyon Michael's Jewelers Mount Claire Shannon North Rainbow Press Leslie Reznick Gerry Rich Debbie Robison Dr. Boris Sawula Dorothy Sekulski Stefano Foods Dr. Isadore B. Temkin Carole and Bert Thebarge Torrington Maintenance Torrington Savings Bank Leigh Vitukinas Michele and **Howard Wood**

FOUNDATION GIFTS AND GRANTS

Foundation for Community Health

TRUST FUNDS

Charles F. Brooker Fund Mary Brooker Fund John Davey Trust

COMMUNITY PARTNERS 2012-2013

Brooker works with many community and state agencies to improve the overall health and well-being of the people we serve. The following are the organizations Brooker worked most closely with this past year:

Birth to Three The Center for Youth and Families Charlotte Hungerford Hospital Community Foundation of NW CT Community Health and Wellness Dental Center CT Department of Children and Families CT Department of Developmental Services/ Transitional Employment Unlimited CT Health Foundation **Education Connection**

Fit Together Foundation for Community Health Greenwoods Counseling Referrals Head Start and Early Head Start Local Interagency Collaborating Council **NW CT Community** College **NW Oral Health** Collaborative Oliver Wolcott Technical School Parents as Teachers Region 1 Schools St. Maron's Church Torrington Board of Education Torrington Chapter of FISH, Inc. **Torrington Community** Council Torrington Early Childhood Collaborative Torrington Elementary and Middle Schools Torrington Youth Service Bureau United Way of NW CT

BROOKER CARE CLOSET

Family Strides

Many families Brooker serves must make choices between buying groceries, paying the utility bills and buying needed clothes, shoes, car seats or safety gates for their children.

To respond to this need, Brooker introduced the "Care Closet" in 2008. Items such as new clothing, gift cards for food and department stores can be donated to the Care Closet for distribution as needs arise.

Making a cash donation is another way to help a needy family.

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COLEBROOK

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Avram S. Berger, D.D.S. Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Todd

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Mr. Kenneth Fuchsman Mr. Joseph Gelormino

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James. B. Marshall, D.M.D.

OUT-OF-STATE

Mr. and Mrs. John Kovaleski Mr. and Mrs. Frank J. Pascale Early Learning and Child Care Center for Infants, Toddlers, Pre-schoolers and Kindergarteners Before and After School

~

Child Care Program Enrichments in Gardening, Music and Movement

~

Children's Dental Center established in 1994 through the Generosity and Expertise of the Temkin Family: Preventative and Restorative Care for ages 1-20

~

Dental Care and Oral Hygiene Education for Pregnant Women

~

Community-based Education about Dental, Nutrition and Exercise

-

Founding Member of the Litchfield County Oral Health Collaborative

~

Kindergarten Readiness through *Ready, Set, Go!* Summer Program

~

Family Supports: Assessment, Resource Referral and Short-term Counseling

~

Behavioral Health Assessments and Referrals through Greenwoods Counseling Referrals

~

Weekly Blood Pressure Screening by Charlotte Hungerford Hospital

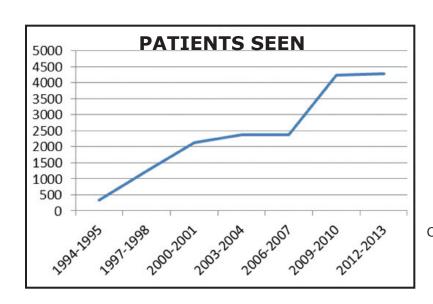
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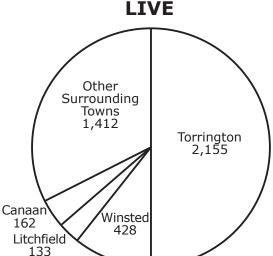
Developmental Therapies in OT, PT and Speech by Education Connection

Dental Care Statistics

The Dental Center was graciously started by the Temkin Family in 1994. Our dedicated staff is proud to help Brooker fulfill its mission to prepare children for life-long success. In addition to serving children with HUSKY insurance coverage, Brooker offers dental care to children and pregnant women without dental insurance.

	2012-2013	2011-2012
Total Unduplicated Patients Seen at the Dental Center & at Schools Number Who Were New to the Practice Total Number Who Were Seen in the Schools	4,290 709 932	4,326 744 1,034
Total Patient Visits at the Dental Center and at Schools Total Dentist Visits Total Hygienist Visits at the Dental Center and at Schools Hygienist Visits That Were Conducted in Schools	9,884 3,831 6,053 1,065	9,524 3,319 6,205 1,128
Percent of Patients Seen by a Hygienist Who Had No Decay	74.3%	data not collected
Average Unfilled Appointment % (due to cancellations, no-shows and unfilled appointments)	18.45%	19.08%
Uncompensated Care \$127,412 \$137,100 (represents fees written off that are above the \$10 per visit fee paid by uninsured patients. This is Brooker's contribution toward ensuring all children have access to dental care.)		
Number of Uninsured Patients Number of Patients Insured by Husky	983 (23%) 3,307 (77%)	932 (22%) 3,394 (78%)





WHERE OUR DENTAL PATIENTS

Total Number of Dental Patients - 4,290