



# Sills Family Foundation

2008 Annual Report

## History and Mission

The Sills Family Foundation is a family foundation that launched its first formal grantmaking process in 2003. The Foundation is governed by a board of three family member directors and is administered by The Philanthropic Initiative.

The Sills Family Foundation intends to help children from low income families live up to their highest promise by concentrating on the following three areas:

- 1) Comprehensive support for families in crisis, with a special focus on incarcerated mothers and their children
- 2) Early and elementary childhood education that includes family supports such as medical care and parent education
- 3) Environmental justice, with a focus on contaminants that harm the developing embryo, fetus and infant.

## 2008 Sills Family Foundation Grantmaking Overview

Total grantmaking for 2008 came to \$927,000. Of this, the Board awarded \$737,000 through its regular competitive grantmaking process, \$150,000 as trustee directed grants and \$40,000 through a process managed by a group of next generation family members. The Foundation made a total of 32 competitive grants to organizations in California, Massachusetts, New York, Texas and Vermont. All new grants made in 2008 were for one year only, leaving the Foundation with no outstanding commitments for 2009.

Based on some great results in 2007, the Foundation continued its initiative to strengthen the organizational capacity of selected grantees. The Foundation made awards of \$10,000 - \$25,000 to 4 of its current grantees for work that included supporting a leadership transition, board development and developing information systems that allowed the organization to improve the quality and effectiveness of its programs and manage data measuring outcomes.

In 2008, Foundation trustees became more deeply engaged in supporting programs that support incarcerated mothers and their children, as well as collaborative efforts to highlight the issues facing this population, explore policy options and work in concert with other funders. Board members attended a very exciting conference in Berkeley CA meant to educate and galvanize funders to become more involved. As a result of that conference, Grantmakers for Children Youth and Families (GCYF) approached our foundation to co-host a similar, if smaller event in NYC. In early 2009 we will be hosting

and presenting at a convening of NY area funders interested in learning more about issues facing children with incarcerated parents.

The Foundation continued to engage a group of next generation family members. Currently there are grants being made in New York and Seattle that will be supporting several of the same organizations as last year.

## 2008 Grants

Grant descriptions are organized this year by primary focus areas, with a special subcategory for the area of supporting incarcerated mothers and their children.

### Families in Crisis

#### ❖ Battered Women's Services and Shelter Barre, VT

Battered Women's Services and Shelter was awarded \$25,000 to complete the groundwork for the *Extended Shelter Stay Program*, which addresses the specific needs of women and children fleeing domestic violence and offers preventative programming to youth in the shelter and within the community. Sills funding will continue to help make it possible to offer the extended 6-month stay option (beyond the eight-week emergency program). The existence of this option allows residents to more realistically create and obtain goals regarding financial stability and the attainment of affordable housing. On average, over 50% of the women who accessed the extended stay option were able to secure housing, as compared to 20% of women who accessed the emergency shelter stay only. In the first eight months of this two-year grant, three women and seven children had accessed the Extended Stay Program, and each family had taken all of the necessary steps to leave the shelter in order to move into safe and stable housing. *(Year 2 of a 2-year grant, sixth year of funding)*

#### ❖ Good Shepherd Services Brooklyn, New York

Good Shepherd Services received a \$25,000 grant to continue to sustain and enhance *Working with Families to Beat the Odds*, an initiative that provides intensive counseling and social work services at the Agnes Y. Humphrey School for Leadership in Brooklyn, NY. This program gives high-risk families the opportunity to receive early-intervention services to avert foster care placement. With this grant the initiative will increase outreach, home visiting, and risk

assessment and intervention. A Family Literacy component will also be added to the program during the 08-09 year, where parents of pre-k – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade youth will have the opportunity to participate in six-week literacy sessions, and consultants and additional workshops will be available to provide added assistance. *(1 year grant, fourth year of funding)*

❖ **The Guidance Center, Inc.**  
**Cambridge, MA**

The Guidance Center was awarded a \$25,000 grant to continue to support their *Early Intervention Partnerships Program* (EIPP), which provides crucial extra home visits for at-risk moms and their infants in Cambridge and Somerville, MA, not covered by public insurance funding streams. The Guidance Center anticipates an increase in referrals of low income pregnant and postpartum women in the coming year, and plans to hire new staff and restructure the current staff to meet this increase. Sills funds have been critical to the successful development of EIPP since it began five years ago, and without which the most at-risk mothers and infants in their community would not receive important checks on health and social/emotional/physical development, crisis intervention and support services. *(1 year grant, sixth year of funding)*

❖ **Julie's Family Learning Program**  
**South Boston, MA**

Julie's Family Learning Program was awarded \$25,000 for general operating expenses. Julie's has been providing comprehensive family support and education programs for low-income families in crisis in South Boston for over 30 years. Julie's is dedicated to the development of strong, healthy family functioning, and to break the cycle of poverty among low-income, at risk families by providing services that enable mothers and their children to become healthy, responsible, and successful at life, and economically self sufficient members of their communities. In the last year of funding, Julie's has provided over 20 different Adult and Children's Services to over 200 disadvantaged, low-income young mothers and their children. *(Year 2 of a 2-year grant, fourth year of funding)*

❖ **RESPOND, Inc.**  
**Somerville, MA**

RESPOND, Inc. was awarded a \$25,000 grant to help support the *Enhanced Shelter Program* (ESP). RESPOND provides secure, confidential shelter and support services, including individual advocacy and children's services, to women and their families in crises due to domestic violence. This program seeks to

increase the capacity of the shelter and expand the range of services available to families. In April 2008 RESPOND expanded its emergency shelter program from a four bedroom to an eight bedroom shelter, and this grant will allow RESPOND to serve two additional families in the shelter for 3 months apiece. In 2007, RESPOND provided shelter for 25 women and 33 children, and expects to serve 45-55 women and 55-65 children in the ESP in 2008. *(1 year grant, first year funding)*

❖ **St. Mary's Women and Children's Center  
Dorchester, MA**

St. Mary's was granted \$25,000 to continue to support their Women's Learning Center (WLC), an Adult Basic Education program which equips homeless and low-income women and teens with the basic skills they need to pass the GED, get a job, parent their child, and reach their highest potential. Each year the WLC educates more than 50 women and teens staying at St. Mary shelters, other local shelters, and in the community, through two multi-level classes for adult basic education, pre-GED and GED preparation, and group and one-on-one tutoring. *(1 year grant, fourth year of funding)*

❖ **STEPS to End Family Violence/Edwin Gould Services for Children and Families  
New York, NY**

STEPS to End Family Violence was awarded \$25,000 for the *Children's Therapy Program*, which provides comprehensive supportive counseling services to children up to age 14 who have been affected by domestic violence. The program offers a safe place to begin healing from the violence to which they have been exposed and cope with the losses and trauma they have endured. This grant will allow STEPS to continue to provide individual play therapy to 45-50 children per year addressing loss, abandonment, abuse, family relationships and other traumas, group therapy for children, and two to three cycles of parenting groups. *(1 year grant, fourth year of funding)*

## **Incarcerated Mothers and their Children**

❖ **Community Works West (SF Children of Incarcerated Parents Partnership)  
Berkeley, CA**

Community Works West/ SF Children of Incarcerated Parents Partnership received a \$25,000 grant to support the implementation of Parenting Inside/Out, an evidence-based parenting curriculum designed specifically for jailed parents,

in the San Francisco County Jail. CW/SFCIPP is a coalition of social service providers, representatives of government bodies, advocates, and others who work with or are concerned about children of incarcerated parents. Recently a working group convened by SFCIPP reached a groundbreaking agreement with San Francisco jail officials that will replace window-visiting with an 800% increase in family centered contact visiting. CW/SFCIPP is committed to investing the same energy as it had for contact visiting into supporting parenting classes, and will use Sill's funding to train staff in Parenting Inside/Out, and then pilot the curriculum in the San Francisco jail. In the second year of this project, the program will be expanded throughout the jail. This parent education will prepare parents for reunification and successful reentry when they leave jail. *(1 year grant, first year of funding)*

❖ **Hour Children, Inc.**  
**Long Island City, NY**

Hour Children received a \$25,000 grant to help continue and grow their *Hour Early Learning Program (HELP)*, which serves children whose mothers have been incarcerated and are living with their children in one of Hour Children's temporary residences. Specifically, Sill's funds will be used toward the salary of an Education Coordinator who supervises and manages HELP and is the teacher in Hour After School Club, an after school program for children ages 6-16 that provides a place where they can catch up on their educational skills. In the first year of this grant, HELP was able to help 200 disadvantaged, low-income young mothers and was successful in receiving their New York City license, in maintaining a close teacher/child ratio, and evaluating and providing services to each child as needed. Several of the staff also took Parent Education Training at the Department of Health, and will continue to reach out to all mothers in the program and impart their new knowledge. *(Year 2 of a 2-year grant, sixth year of funding)*

❖ **JusticeWorks Community**  
**Brooklyn, NY**

JusticeWorks Community was awarded \$25,000 for general operating support to further strengthen their public education, advocacy and grassroots organizing work and to expand the base of citizens and community residents informed about the disease concept of addiction and the effects of the mandatory minimum drug sentencing laws on poor communities of color. JWC is dedicated to the principle that the humane and civilized response to substance abuse is treatment, not imprisonment. JusticeWorks achieves this mission by developing community

resident involvement through education and community organizing, fostering public policies that will redirect money now spent on prison construction and incarceration towards other alternatives, and providing opportunities for formerly incarcerated women to participate in the public debate. *(1 year grant, fourth year of funding)*

❖ **Northern Lights Program at the HowardCenter  
Burlington, VT**

The Northern Lights Program at the HowardCenter was awarded a \$25,000 grant for general operating support. Northern Lights opened in June 2007 as a transitional housing program for women returning from prison. It houses 10 women in Burlington, VT, for up to one year as they work to build safe, healthy and productive lives in the community while under the supervision of the Department of Corrections. The successful reentry of the residents of Northern Lights is imperative for the long-term health of their children and their families, as 80% of women in Vermont's prisons are mothers of young children and 75% were the primary caregiver for those children at the time of their arrest. *(1 year grant, first year funding)*

❖ **Osborn Association – Family Ties Program  
Long Island City, NY**

The Osborn Association received \$25,000 to continue support of *New York City Initiative for Children with Incarcerated Parents*, which is focused on insuring that children feel safe, considered, and supported throughout the experience of a parent's arrest, incarceration, and reentry. Specifically, the grant will support the Youth Advisory Board, which informs the Initiative's efforts and activities and raises awareness of this issue. The board is made up of 10-12 youth, and provides an opportunity for young people impacted by a parent's incarceration to connect with each other, build their speaking and communication skills, and add their voice to practice and policy reform. *(1 year grant, third year of funding)*

❖ **Vermont Children's Aid Society  
Vermont**

Vermont Children's Aid Society was awarded a \$25,000 grant to continue to support the *Kids-A-Part Program*, a leader in Vermont with regards to issues faced by children and families affected by incarceration. Using the Sill's funding, Kids-A-Part plans to add additional staff and expand existing services for families affected by incarceration. They will build programs for caregivers of children who

attend visits with parents at the facilities, increase the opportunities that children have in the community to gather with peers, and continue the work of raising awareness about the impact of incarceration on children and families. *(1 year grant, third year of funding)*

❖ **Women's Prison Association**  
New York

The Women's Prison Association received a \$25,000 grant to support the *Youth Services Program* provided to young residents at Sarah Powell Huntington House. SPHH is a unique family reunification residence on the Lower East Side for mothers after they are released from prison. This program is meant to bridge the gap between requirements for housing and custody of children – in order to gain custody of her children, the mother must have a residence, but in order to get government rental subsidies the mother must have custody of her children. The Youth Services Program component of SPHH addresses the mental health needs brought on by traumatizing experiences of the past, including past destructive activities, incarceration, and sudden and under-equipped community reentry on the part of the mothers. Since the start of the 2-year grant period, 44 children and their mothers have taken advantage of intensive supports available through the Youth Services Program. *(Year 2 of a 2-year grant, fifth year funding)*

## Early and Elementary Childhood Education with Family Supports

❖ **The Family Center of Washington County**  
Montpelier, VT

The Family Center of Washington County received \$12,500 for their capital campaign to help meet their expansion goals. The Center works to foster positive growth and development of young children and their families, and many of the families served face multiple challenges such as mental illness, inadequate education, and poverty. This campaign has already resulted in the purchase of land and a public building that is being used for outreach programs, and will also include building a new early education building. The goal of the capital campaign is to increase the quality of services and expand the programs at the Family Center by increasing appropriate program space for children, parents, and staff. *(1 year grant, third year of funding)*

The Family Center of Washington County also received a \$2,500 grant to support The Dale Group program at the Dale Women's Correctional Facility in Waterbury, VT. This program supports women in prison through weekly group and craft

activities and supports women individually in their home and after release with a home visitor/mentor. *(Year 2 of a 2-year grant)*

❖ **Little Sisters of the Assumption Family Health Service  
East Harlem, NY**

Little Sisters of the Assumption Family Health Service received \$25,000 to continue the work of the *Early Childhood Program*, which encompasses the Home Based Child Development Program, the Toddler Nursery, and Early Intervention. The Early Childhood Program offers classes and support programs to immigrant women, most of whom have young children that require care while their mothers attend class. The Toddler Nursery provides a nurturing and developmentally stimulating experience for children aged 15 months to 3-years in an integrated nursery curriculum. This year Little Sisters was successful in encouraging families to have one parent stay with each child during nursery, in order for them to become more actively involved in their children's learning and development. The Sills grant will specifically cover 2/3 of the combined salary and benefits for one staff member who spends 60% of her time as a home visitor and the remaining 40% as an assistant teacher in the Toddler Nursery. *(Year 2 of a 2-year grant, fifth year of funding)*

❖ **Project Hope  
Dorchester, MA**

Project HOPE was awarded a \$25,000 grant to support their Children's Center, which can serve 26 homeless and low-income infants, toddlers, and preschoolers and their families by providing high quality early education that promotes the children's kindergarten readiness and overall development, and allows women to develop their own educational and job skills while their children are in good care. Specifically, Sills funds will support staffing and operations, including the completion of their business plan, expansion and improvement of the gross motor room, implementation of children assessments, and increasing the hours of a Literacy Specialist who works with the children and teachers to increase literacy skills. In the last year of funding, 96% of the children enrolled in the Center demonstrated age-appropriate progress in speech/language, and all 8 of the children that graduated from the program were well-prepared for kindergarten. Also, 75% of families attended at least one parent workshop. *(Year 2 of a 2-year grant, fifth year of funding)*

❖ **Project Reach Youth**  
**Brooklyn, NY**

Project Reach Youth (PRY) received a \$25,000 grant to continue funding the position of a part-time bi-lingual social worker to help children and their families in the Early Childhood Education program to address the emotional and mental issues which can prevent children from achieving their educational, social, and professional goals. The social worker will conduct an average of fifteen individual counseling sessions with adult participants per week, in addition to working with and observing children in their classrooms who the teachers or parents have referred due to concerns about development and/or behavioral issues. *(1 year grant, fifth year of funding)*

❖ **Riverdale Mental Health Association (formerly Institute for Child, Adolescent and Family Studies)**  
**Bronx, NY**

Riverdale Mental Health Association (RMHA) received \$25,000 to support *Chances for Children: Kingsbridge-Highbridge Project*. This new collaboration between RMHA and Chances for Children will expand the work of the Teen Parent – Infant School Project by replicating the work in both the Kingsbridge and Highbridge sections of the Bronx. Sill's funding will increase mental health support and services for young families and children 0-5 years old. The project will involve training RMHA clinicians so they will be able to provide CFC's evidence-based intervention to 20 families in the community of Kingsbridge, and will also provide direct services to 20 families in the Highbridge community at the Highbridge Community Life Center. *(1 year grant, fifth year of funding for Chances for Children)*

## Environmental Justice

❖ **Advocates for Environmental Human Rights**  
**New Orleans, LA**

Advocates for Environmental Human Rights was granted \$25,000 to support the launch of the *Would you Trust Exxon to Protect your Health* Campaign. The campaign will be an integral part of the US Human Rights and Environment Project that has been previously funded by Sills. It is designed to motivate specific groups to call for necessary changes in our environmental regulatory system to protect human health. This will be achieved by identifying the industrial companies, such as Exxon, whose use of equipment have been established as the

legal standard for permits issued to polluting facilities; preparing a report that analyzes the underlying flaws in the Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act, presents the environmental and health damage occurring in communities that are located near permitted facilities, and recommends a human rights-based overhaul of the presumption standard to protect our health, air, water, land, and food from toxic chemicals; and launching an ad campaign that presents information detailing the underlying problem with the environmental protection system and encourages people to call for changes to the standards. *(1 year grant, fifth year of funding)*

❖ **Alternatives for Community and Environment**  
**Roxbury, MA**

Alternatives for Community and Environment received a \$25,000 grant for continued support of the *Roxbury Environmental Empowerment Project* (REEP), which nurtures youth development and leadership in Roxbury through an environmental justice curriculum, membership program and youth-led campaigns. With funds from the Sills Family Foundation, REEP will continue to conduct two youth-led environmental justice campaigns: Diesel Detox, with the goal of reducing diesel emissions from vehicles in the Boston area, and Green Jobs for Justice, which advocates for green collar jobs. The funds will also allow REEP to support and train 6-7 youth workers, and build a youth membership base with 10-15 core leaders and 30-40 regular participants. *(1 year grant, fifth year of funding)*

❖ **Community In-power and Development Association**  
**Port Arthur, TX**

Community in Power and Development Association (CIDA) was awarded \$15,000 for general support. With these funds CIDA will continue their mission to protect, educate, and alert the underserved communities in Port Arthur, Texas, of the dangers of toxic chemicals being released into their community, and to monitor the air toxins with UV monitors. CIDA continuously monitors more than 8 different chemical plants and refineries that release tons of sulfur dioxide, carbon monoxide, and other emissions that contribute heavily to global warming. CIDA is also committed to repairing homes of those still displaced by Hurricanes Rita and Katrina. This grant will enable them to continue their work protecting these communities, kids and the elderly from industries that are unconcerned with the environment or their health and welfare. *(1 year grant, third year of funding)*

❖ **Environmental Health Coalition**  
**National City, CA**

Environmental Health Coalition was awarded \$25,000 for the *Campaign to Eliminate Childhood Lead Poisoning*. This continued support will help ensure that California Law AB121 is fully implemented, that lead levels in candy are significantly reduced, and that communities throughout California are made aware of which candies have been certified as “lead safe”. Funding will also allow them to monitor implementation of recently adopted ordinances in the cities of San Diego and National City that require inspection of rental properties for lead hazards and remediation of any hazards identified. The primary goal of the campaign is to have no candy that is contaminated by lead consumed by children in the U.S. or Mexico. *(1 year grant, third year of funding)*

❖ **Greater Boston Physicians for Social Responsibility**  
**Cambridge, MA**

Greater Boston Physicians for Social Responsibility (GBPSR) was awarded a \$35,000 grant for general operating support that will enable them to continue being a leader in children’s environmental health issues. With the Sill’s support for the last two years, GBPSR was able to complete six years of work on the Pediatric Environmental Health Toolkit, and is now launching a major new report on *Environmental Threats to Healthy Aging*. This grant will help support both programs, help GBPSR attempt to once again double contributions from members, and funds will also be allocated to support key staff, staff development, upgrading equipment and processes to include the website, and to support an office move in November. In conjunction, GPBSR will strategize on how to expand their human resources to be able to develop and implement more programming. *(1 year grant, third year of funding)*

❖ **Health Care Without Harm**  
**Boston, MA**

Health Care Without Harm (HCWH) was awarded \$25,000 to continue their campaigns to remedy the pollution caused by environmentally damaging health care practices. HCWH is a broad-based coalition of health care providers and workers, environmental activists, professional medical associations, health affected groups and academic institutions. They will continue to educate the healthcare industry about the links between environmental toxins and human health, activate and assist the healthcare industry to eliminate medical waste

incineration, and help move the markets for environmentally preferable products. HCWH also pledges to continue working with healthcare professionals to become advocates for environmental justice and health in the larger society. *(Year 2 of a 2-year grant, fifth year of funding)*

❖ **Mercury Policy Project**  
Montpelier, VT

The Mercury Policy Project (MPP) was awarded a \$25,000 grant to continue to support their *Zero Mercury Campaign – Exposure Awareness and Reduction*. The work of the campaign is related to reducing consumer exposure to mercury from the consumption of commercially caught fish, particularly among pregnant women, young children, and disadvantaged populations who subsist on low incomes. The campaign will allow MPP to promote warning posters where fish is sold, conduct more testing of fish for mercury, identify individuals who have been exposed to mercury, develop a “rapid-response” media toolkit, reduce mercury exposure through women, infants and children programs, and participate on the state’s mercury advisory committee. In response to MPP’s recent collaborative efforts, there are now over 5,500 grocery chains that have committed to posting mercury warning signs at fish counters, and the US department of Agriculture ruled to exclude albacore tuna, a relatively high-mercury fish, from the federal WIC program. *(1 year grant, fifth year of funding)*

❖ **Mossville Environmental Action Now**  
Mossville, LA

Mossville Environmental Action Now (M.E.A.N.) received a \$10,000 grant for general support that will further their goal of protecting residents’ health and the health of future generations in Mossville from toxic exposures. The grant will allow them to address the disproportionate industrial sources of dioxin and other toxins that have negatively impacted the health of the Mossville community. Mossville, LA is an African American community that is now surrounded by 14 industrial facilities, including vinyl production facilities, a major oil refinery, and a coal fired power plant. In the 2008-2009 grant year M.E.A.N. plans to conduct more surveys of resident’s health needs, implement “Doctor’s Rounds” where environmental health experts make presentations on environmental health to local doctors, continue the postcard campaign to the EPA and The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, and attend the Shareholder’s meetings for both Conoco and Georgia Gulf. *(1 year grant, first year funding)*

❖ **West Harlem Environmental Action, Inc.**  
New York

West Harlem Environmental Action (WE ACT) was awarded a \$25,000 grant to continue supporting its *Our Housing is Our Health Campaign*. The campaign is a four year training and organizing initiative working to expand the capacity of low income communities of color in Northern Manhattan. It also aims to improve children's environmental health by educating area residents and organizations on pertinent environmental health research findings and training them to apply this information in ways that will help develop policies to improve community and citywide environmental conditions. With Sills funds WE ACT will continue to advocate around the specific issue of mold through outreach and advocacy training, in order to address the quality of affordable housing. *(Year 2 of a 2-year grant, fourth year funding)*

*Sills 2008 Capacity Building Grants*

❖ **Alternatives for Community and Environment**  
Roxbury, MA

Alternatives for Community and Environment received a \$10,000 capacity building grant, which will be used to support a strategic planning process and leadership transition. ACE is poised to set a new strategic vision for the next three to five years after having transformed itself from being primarily a resource-provider to low income communities, to being a base-building organization led by its constituents. They will also look to find new leadership that closely reflects this constituency when the current Executive Director leaves ACE in early 2009. This grant will fund staff time, especially that of the Executive Director, to facilitate this process.

❖ **The Guidance Center, Inc.**  
Cambridge, MA

The Guidance Center received a \$25,000 capacity building grant to continue work begun in 2007 to develop and implement an agency-wide IT system. This grant will allow the Guidance Center to take the next critical steps in selecting a software vendor, and purchasing and adapting the software necessary to implement a new Client Information System. This new system will allow the

Guidance Center to respond quickly and efficiently to demands from contract agencies and other funding sources for client and program data, reduce the time spent by staff in filling reports and other administrative paperwork, and help insure the quality and effectiveness of its programs and services by knowing who is accessing all agency services and why.

❖ **JusticeWorks Community**  
**Brooklyn, NY**

JusticeWorks received a \$7,000 capacity building grant, which will be used to strengthen their board of directors' structure and operations. This will involve enlisting the services of the consultant who facilitated a segment of their board/staff retreat in the spring of 2008. After the Executive Committee of the board has prioritized the recommendations from the retreat, the consultant will help explore these areas of board development and governance at several meetings over a nine month period. One of the initial tasks will also be to replace the nominating committee with a Governance Committee.

❖ **Vermont Children's Aid Society**  
**Vermont**

Vermont Children's Aid Society was awarded a \$20,000 capacity building grant, which will allow the Kids-A-Part program to develop a systematic approach to collecting and analyzing outcome and program data. Sills funds will be used for the purchase, installation, and consultation related to the database created for the New Hampshire Department of Corrections, the purchase of three laptop computers, software and printers, and consultation with a Results-Based-Accountability expert evaluator who would assist the program with developing outcome evaluation tools linked to the data tracking system. This will unify the Vermont Children's Aid system and the Department of Corrections system into one programmatic system of documentation, to more efficiently manage the data and outcome information.

## Sills 2008 Next Generation Grants

### ❖ Friends of the Children Kings County Seattle, WA

Friends of the Children will receive a grant of \$20,000 this year. FOTC strives to fulfill its mission to help children living in seriously high risk environments to develop relationships, goals, skills and resources necessary to thrive. FOTC provides one-on-one mentoring relationships for the most at risk children in the Seattle area. Mentors are paid, full-time professionals who are committed to working with a child on an ongoing basis for 14 years, beginning at age five. FOTC's goal for this year is to hire 2 more mentors for the next school year to reach 24 mentors in total throughout the twelve grades. Part of the mission of FOTC is to identify the bottom 10% of most at risk children. Many of these children have parents who are in prison. *(1 year grant, second year funding)*

### ❖ The Guidance Center New Rochelle, NY

The Guidance Center will receive \$5,000 this year to enhance its Primeros Amigos program (previously known as Primeros Pasos). This is the second year of the program which is designed to support the younger children of women attending parenting classes by providing an enriched early childhood education experience. While the mothers are attending parenting classes the kids (aged 1.5-4) are with an early childhood professional focusing on literacy, socio-emotional learning and problem solving to help ensure their school readiness. Our grant will be used to purchase appropriate play and learning materials. *(1 year grant, second year funding)*

### ❖ Westchester Jewish Community Services White Plains, NY

WJCS will receive \$15,000 from the second generation for its Parent Child Home Program. In this program, "home visitors" (employed by WJCS) visit a child in the home two times a week for two years beginning when the child is approximately 1.5 years old. During each half hour session the visitor models verbal interaction and educational play for the child and parent together. The goal is for parents to increase their competency and comfort levels with verbal interaction and literacy based play, and to ultimately take over the sessions. *(1 year grant, second year funding)*

Sills 2008 Grants Summary

	<b>Name of Organization</b>	<b>Program</b>	<b>Amount</b>
2008 1-Year Grants	Advocates for Environmental Human Rights	Would you Trust Exxon to Protect Your Health Campaign	\$25,000
	Alternatives for Community and Environment	Roxbury Environmental Empowerment Project (REEP)	\$25,000
	Community In Power and Development Association	General Operating Support	\$15,000
	Community Works West (SF Children of Incarcerated Parents Partnership)	Parenting Inside/Out	\$25,000
	Environmental Health Coalition	Campaign to Eliminate Childhood Lead Poisoning	\$25,000
	The Family Center of Washington County	Capital Campaign Dale Group Program	\$12,500 \$2,500
	Good Shepherd Services	Working with Families to Beat the Odds	\$25,000
	Greater Boston Physicians for Social Responsibility	General Operating Support	\$35,000
	The Guidance Center Inc.	Early Intervention Partnerships Program (EIPP)	\$25,000
	JusticeWorks Community	General Operating Support	\$25,000
	Mercury Policy Project	Zero Mercury Campaign – Exposure Awareness and Reduction	\$25,000
	Mossville Environmental Action Now	General Operating Support	\$10,000
Northern Lights Program, Howard Center	General Operating Support	\$25,000	

	Osborn Association-Family Ties Program	New York City Initiative for Children with Incarcerated Parents	\$25,000
	Project Reach Youth	Part-time Bi-Lingual Social Worker	\$25,000
	RESPOND	Enhanced Shelter Program	\$25,000
	Riverdale Mental Health Association	Chances for Children: Kingsbridge-Highbridge Project	\$25,000
	St. Mary's Women and Children's Center	Women's Learning Center	\$25,000
	STEPS to End Family Violence/Edwin Gould Services for Children and Families	Children's Therapy Program	\$25,000
	Vermont Children's Aid Society	Kids-A-Part Program	\$25,000
	2007 2-Year Grants	Battered Women's Services and Shelter	Extended Shelter Stay Program
Health Care Without Harm		General Operating Support	\$25,000
Hour Children, Inc.		Hour Early Learning Program	\$25,000
Julie's Family Learning Program		General Operating Support	\$25,000
Little Sisters of the Assumption Family Health Service		Early Childhood Program	\$25,000
Project Hope		The Children's Center	\$25,000
West Harlem Environmental Action, Inc.		Our Housing is Our Health Campaign	\$25,000
Women's Prison Association		Youth Services Program	\$25,000
2008 Capacity Building	Alternatives for Community and Environment	Strategic Planning Process and Leadership Transition	\$10,000
	The Guidance Center, Inc.	Implementing Client Information System	\$25,000
	JusticeWorks Community	Strengthening the Board of Directors' structure and operations	\$7,000

	Vermont Children's Aid Society	Developing a systematic approach to collecting and analyzing outcome and program data	\$20,000
2008 Next Generation	Friends of the Children Kings County	General Operating Support	\$20,000
	The Guidance Center, Primeros Amigos	General Operating Support	\$5,000
	Westchester Jewish Community Services, Parent Child Home Program	Parent Child Home Program	\$15,000

### 2008 Trustee Discretionary Grants

The 3 trustees of the Sills Family Foundation made a total of 20 discretionary grants, ranging in size from \$500 to \$20,000, and totaling \$150,000.

#### Art Sills

Cambridge Friends School – \$20,000

Cambridge Family and Children & Children's Service – \$10,000

Brookline Education Foundation – \$5,000

Family Center Vermont – \$5,000

School is Open – \$5,000

The Mosaic Project – \$2,500

Mosaic Multicultural Foundation – \$2,500

#### Peter Sills

Vermont Food Bank – \$15,000

Centers for Social Responsibility – \$10,000

Family Center of Washington County – \$10,000

NEGES – \$10,000

VSA Arts of Vermont (Vision Strength Access) – \$2500

REaCH (Rutgers Early College Humanities Program) – \$2500

Deborah Larussi

Groundswell Community Mural Project – \$5,000

Meals of Marin – \$10,000

Office of Institutional Advancement at Hampshire College/ Denice O'Neill Scholarship – \$10,000

Sead program at Tucker Foundation/ Dartmouth College – \$20,000

Willie Mae's Rock and Roll camp for Girls/ scholarship for girls impacted by incarceration – \$2,000

Amy's Greenhouse – \$500

New Rochelle Fund for Excellence – \$2,500