



# Sills Family Foundation

## 2012 Annual Report

## **History and Mission**

The Sills Family Foundation is governed by a board of three family member directors and administered by The Philanthropic Initiative.

The Sills Family Foundation's primary grants program 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 children with incarcerated parents
- 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

In 2012, The Sills Family Foundation launched an Arts and Culture program to help organizations in the New York area serve the community through the intersection of arts, culture and social justice.

## **2012 Sills Family Foundation Grantmaking Overview**

In 2012, the Sills Family Foundation granted a total of \$879,000, a significant increase from the 2011 total of \$652,000. Of this \$879,000, the Board awarded \$549,000 through its regular competitive grantmaking process, \$40,000 through a special capacity building program, \$50,000 through its new Arts & Culture grantmaking initiative, \$180,000 as trustee directed discretionary grants, and \$60,000 through a mission driven selection process managed by a group of next generation foundation members. The Foundation made a total of 25 competitive grants, 5 Arts & Culture grants, 4 capacity building and 6 next generation grants in New York, Massachusetts, Vermont, Georgia, Texas, Louisiana, California, Washington State, and Jamaica.

We primarily make general operating grants. This allows our grantees to use the funds as needed, as opposed to being limited to a particular budget line. Our grantees report that this degree of flexibility is uncommon and has been particularly useful during the economic downturn. This year we have also been able to make additional one-time capacity building grants to long-standing grantees.

The Sills Family Foundation's support for programs for children with incarcerated parents continues to be a growing area of focus. In light of this trend, we are continuing to alert some of our other grantees that we will be directing additional funds in that area and will be discontinuing grantmaking to their organizations in 2013.

In 2012 we added an additional focus area, supporting Arts and Cultural Organizations in the greater NY area. We have made our first five grants in this area, and will be increasing our ability to give in the coming years. We are focusing in particular on organizations that strengthen the intersection of arts, culture and social justice.

The Foundation's second generation is continuing its engagement in the grantmaking process, and is deepening its awareness of issues impacting families in crisis.

The Sills Family Foundation continues to support environmental justice organizations, as well as organizations doing critical work in providing services to families in crisis, and ensuring that the youngest children of families in poverty are receiving high quality early education.

## **Sills 2012 Strategic Grants**

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

### **Incarcerated Mothers and their Children**

- ❖ **The Center for Children and Families, Columbia University School of Nursing  
New York, New York and Burlington, Vermont**

The Center for Children and Families was awarded \$25,000 to support the “Shared Parenting” program at Bedford Hills Correctional Facility (New York) and Chittenden County Correctional Facility (Vermont). “Shared Parenting” is a recently piloted intervention program that uses professionally facilitated group process to strengthen the co-parenting relationship of incarcerated mothers and the guardians of their children in the community. The goal of the program is that over time the child(ren) will experience a more unified adult presence in their lives along with reduced feelings of conflicted loyalty and displaced guilt, the guardian will feel supported, and the mother less isolated and more responsible for her child(ren)’s welfare. Funds will be used to pay the salary and expenses of a senior staff associate of the Chittenden County Correctional Facility who will coordinate the design, implementation and evaluation of the intervention at two sites over the course of one year, beginning in September 2012. *(First year of funding)*

- ❖ **The Children’s Center at Bedford Hills (Hour Children)  
Bedford Hills, NY**

The Children’s Center at Bedford Hills received \$25,000 for general operating support. Children’s Center programs include transportation services, parenting education, advocacy, the nursery unit, the Overnight Program, and the Summer Program. During this funding year the Children’s Center will continue their process of reviewing and updating existing parenting education curricula and introducing new curricula, developing quantitative measures to evaluate existing programs, and increasing the number of participants in both the Overnight and Summer Programs. Past funding had specifically financed the cost of transportation for children of women incarcerated at the Bedford Hills Correctional Facility to and from their homes, so that they could participate in overnight visiting programs offered by the Center. *(Fourth year of funding)*

- ❖ **Circle (formerly Battered Women’s Services and Shelter)  
Barre, VT**

Circle was awarded \$20,000 to develop and implement housing and programming options for incarcerated women reentering Washington County. The program will include a referral process, professional development opportunities for staff, and specialized programming for battered women charged with crimes. Circle will also research best and emerging practices of family reunification models for incarcerated women with their children; promote community support and resources for incarcerated women reentering Washington County;

create agreements with the Network and DOC; and reserve living space in their emergency shelter for incarcerated women transitioning back into the community. The Directors extended an additional \$5,000 challenge grant to encourage Circle's Board of Directors to provide financial support alongside volunteer service. The Foundation will match certain incoming donations received by February 28, 2013 up to \$5,000. (*Tenth year of funding*)

❖ **Community Works West**  
**Berkeley, CA**

Community Works West (CWW) received a \$25,000 grant in support of the One Family Initiative, and its continued implementation of Parenting Inside/Out, an evidence-based parenting curriculum designed specifically for jailed parents, in San Francisco County Jails #2, #5 and #6. This parent education program makes frequent, consistent contact visiting as meaningful as possible for families by enhancing bonding and communication, which will prepare parents for reunification and successful reentry when they leave jail and help lower rates of recidivism. During this funding period CWW will work to enhance the program's integrity and sustainability by explicitly identifying, reinforcing, and institutionalizing the key elements of the program model; and ensuring that both staffing and program partnerships reflect and reinforce those key elements. A second award of \$19,000 was granted to support Nell Bernstein's book *Burning Down the House: Re-Imagining Juvenile Justice*. (*Fifth year of funding*)

❖ **Greenhope**  
**East Harlem, NY**

Greenhope received \$25,000 for general operating support. Greenhope offers comprehensive residential treatment services, supportive housing, and a range of prevention and outpatient programs to formerly incarcerated women, women referred by the courts as an alternative to incarceration (ATI), and women from the community who require substance abuse and HIV prevention and treatment services. Eighty percent of the women served by Greenhope have children, and are provided with advocacy services to assist them in re-unification efforts. Greenhope clients have a recidivism rate of less than 10%, contributing to their selection by the New York State Division of Parole as the program to receive and rehabilitate all female parolees coming out of prison who were natives of Harlem before their imprisonment. In the coming year, Greenhope will focus on the expanding services provided by the Child Development Center to enable women to reunite with their young children after incarceration, improve their parenting skills and repair the early mother-child attachments that were interrupted at a critical developmental stage in the lives of their children. (*Second year of funding*)

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

Hour Children was awarded a \$25,000 grant for general operating support, which will allow them to continue fulfilling their mission of supporting pregnant women and mothers while incarcerated in NYS correctional facilities, and providing crucial housing and post-release services that prevent recidivism and provide for and protect their children with compassionate and loving care. In 2011, Hour Children provided 57 women and 52 children with transitional/communal housing, enrolled 32 children in their after-school program, and provided employment readiness, job training, and job placement support for 37 women. In

the coming year, Hour Children will focus on maintaining on growing its services including the Hour Mentoring Program that begins during an offender's incarceration and continues through her release and re-establishment in the community and with her family, as well as the Hour Working Women and Hour Friend In Deed mentoring programs. Hour Children also looks forward to the grand opening of its new, permanent supportive housing structure, which will provide 18 housing units and new administrative space. *(Tenth year of funding)*

❖ **Housing + Solutions, Inc.**  
**Brooklyn, NY**

Housing + Solutions received a \$20,000 grant to support Drew House, a unique Family Alternative to Incarceration program, which provides housing for women who have committed a non-violent felony to live with their children while they fulfill the Court's mandates for periods ranging from eighteen months to two years instead of being incarcerated in NY State Prison. If a participant successfully completes her mandated sentence, the felony charge is dismissed and will not follow her and diminish future employment or housing opportunities for her and her family. In the next year Housing + Solutions will focus on expanding the Drew House model to serve ten new families and expanding services for family members to improve mental and physical health, and family stability. *(First year of funding)*

❖ **Lund Family Center**  
**Burlington, Vermont**

Lund Family Center was awarded a \$20,000 grant to support the Outcomes Capacity Building Project, which will help integrate data tracking into the daily work of staff in an effort to track the progress of clients through the array of comprehensive services provided by Lund's programs. Such efforts will make data and results collection a by-product of staff's daily efforts, rather than an additional layer of work and allowing staff to track client history. Monitoring data will help staff to track progress as well as to document clients' transitions beyond Lund's services and into their communities. Past Sills funding has supported Kids-A-Part since 2006, a program that supports children of incarcerated parents, as well as their families, to reduce trauma and maintain strong family ties. The Kids-A-Part program was transferred from Vermont Children's Aid Society to Lund Family Center in April 2011. *(Second year of funding)*

❖ **Northern Lights Program at the Howard Center**  
**Burlington, VT**

The Northern Lights Program (NL) at the Howard Center was awarded a \$20,000 grant for general operating support to sustain its efforts to provide housing and support to women transitioning from prison back to the community. Northern Lights houses 11 women at a time for seven to twenty month stays, where they are supported by community providers, service providers, and each other as they develop skills, reconnect with their children, seek employment, improve their health, and make positive connections. Northern Lights' mission is to provide the opportunity for returning female offenders to build the foundation necessary for long-term safety and independence for themselves and their families. *(Fifth year of funding)*

❖ **The Osborne Association  
Bronx, NY**

The Osborne Association received \$25,000 for continued support of Children & Youth Services to children with incarcerated parents and the Youth Advisory Board (YAB). The YAB consists of 10-15 members, 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. YAB members advocate to their government representatives, speak at conferences and trainings, and plan community organizing. In the next year, the YAB will develop a new focus on engaging other youth leadership organizations throughout the city, as well as expanding the individual supports offered to members by developing an individualized service and goal plan for each member. Sills funding provides a portion of the incentives offered to YAB members for regularly attending weekly meetings and events. Other services include creative writing workshops, academic tutoring, pro-social activities with adult role models, college prep, recreational activities, prison /therapeutic visiting, case management, technical assistance/case consultation, and televisiting. *(Seventh year of funding)*

❖ **Pernet Family Health Service, Inc.  
Worcester, MA**

Pernet Family Health Service was awarded a \$25,000 grant to support their Incarcerated Fathers Program, which promotes responsible fathering through counseling support groups at the Worcester County Jail and House of Correction and three other locations in Worcester, MA. Pernet is at the beginning stages of implementing the expansion of the Fathers and Family Program by beginning to follow up with fathers that have been released from jail and their families. The program will impact over 50 families by improving parenting skills and nurturing a healthy relationship between incarcerated fathers and their children/families. These funds will specifically support the salary and expenses of the program director and a co-facilitator of fathers groups at the local House of Correction. *(Second year of funding)*

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

St. Mary's was granted \$25,000 to support the Incarceration Intervention/Prevention Initiative, which will serve families in Margaret's House and St. Mary's Home shelters who are confronting criminal justice-related issues, as well as prevent teens and children from criminal activity that often leads to incarceration. A significant number of the adult and teen mothers served by St. Mary's have family members who are incarcerated, face unresolved criminal charges, or have been incarcerated themselves. Continuing the work of this initiative, St. Mary's will train staff to understand the issues surrounding children with incarcerated parents and equip them with intervention strategies to support the development of resiliency and coping skills. The program will support the development of teens' and children's behavior management, self-esteem, child and maternal/family bonding, and academic success. Past Sills funding has supported education and training programming, including the Women's Learning Center and Women @ Work Plus. *(Eighth year of funding)*

❖ **Vera Institute of Justice**  
**New York City, NY**

Vera Institute of Justice received \$25,000 to support Common Justice, a participatory justice project in Brooklyn that brings together the victim, the perpetrator, family and community members impacted by a crime for a face-to-face dialogue to determine an appropriate response to the harm caused. The project aims to provide a respectful and effective means of accountability, healing, and opportunity to break cycles of violence. It also helps minimize the use of incarceration where it does not serve the public interest. The project was launched in 2009 and has recently moved out of its pilot phase. This grant will help to support operations, maintain the case load at full capacity, and support efforts towards expanding and further testing the program model. In the next year, Common Justice aims to implement the results of a major review and refinement of its Theory of Change as part of moving toward an outcomes-driven performance management model. *(Second year of funding)*

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

The Women's Prison Association received a \$25,000 grant for general operating support, which is critical to provide a continuum of services to help women re-join their communities, reunite with their families and establish fulfilling, law-abiding lives after a period of incarceration. WPA operates from four community sites in Manhattan and Brooklyn and offers emergency assistance, case management, support securing and maintaining housing and employment, and programs that work directly with children and mothers. In addition to direct client services, the WPA's Institute on Women & Criminal Justice continues to pursue public policy and advocacy efforts to foster public awareness and changes in the way public systems deal with women and crime. The grant will help support WPA's goals to enhance communications capacity and re-open the Hopper Home, a transitional housing program for homeless women. *(Ninth year of funding)*

## Families in Crisis

### ❖ **Community Connections for Youth Bronx, NY**

Community Connections for Youth received \$20,000 for their South Bronx initiative, which mobilizes grassroots faith and neighborhood organization in the Mott Haven neighborhood of the Bronx to divert youth from further juvenile justice system involvement. The South Bronx Community Connections project provides alternative-to-incarceration services for youth, ages 13-15 that are facing charges in Bronx Family Court. If they successfully complete the program, the Family Court Prosecutors agree to drop the charges. CCFY grew out of a Soros Justice Fellowship awarded in 2007 to the organization's founder, Reverend Ruben Austria. Rev. Austria advocated for the redirection of funding for failing youth prisons back into communities with high rates of youth incarceration. In 2009, Rev. Austria incorporated CCFY to advance the vision of training and equipping community members to take a leadership role in the juvenile justice reform movement. In the next year, the South Bronx Community Connections initiative hopes to enroll at least 50 youth referred by the Bronx Family Court. *(First year of funding)*

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

Julie's Family Learning Program was awarded \$25,000 to support the general operations of their Adult and Children's Services. Julie's is dedicated to helping low-income children and their mothers break the cycle of poverty, and has been providing comprehensive family support and education programs for low-income families in crisis in South Boston for over 30 years. The grant will help support integrated services including high quality child-care, Montessori pre-school, and parenting and life skills education. In the coming year, Julie's will focus on providing on-site individual counseling with licensed certified behavior counselors who specialize in addressing addictive behaviors for adult learners. In addition, Julie's will work to identify additional external resources to support a growing number of pre-school children and their parents with learning disabilities and/or challenges. *(Eighth 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 therapeutic interventions for children to help counteract the debilitating effects of domestic violence on emotional development. The program offers individual play or art therapy sessions for children, as well as case management, housing, civil legal, and benefits advocacy services to help stabilize the entire family. This grant will support individual play therapy sessions for 45-50 children per year addressing loss, abandonment, abuse, family relationships and other traumas; family therapy sessions to strengthen parent-child attachment and communication; two twelve-week children's groups; and two twelve-week parenting groups addressing parenting skills, child development, impact of domestic violence and incarceration on the family, trauma, and other related topics. *(Eighth year of funding)*

❖ **The Visiting Nurse Service of New York  
Bronx, NY**

The Visiting Nurse Service of New York received a \$25,000 grant in support of the Bronx Nurse-Family Partnership Mental Health Services, a community health program helping transform the lives of vulnerable mothers pregnant with their first child. Each mother is partnered with a registered nurse early in her pregnancy and receives ongoing nurse home visits that continue through her child's second birthday. This grant will specifically fund the psychiatric social worker, who works with women who are pregnant or parenting to reduce/alleviate her stressors and/or obtain psychiatric treatment. VNSNY seeks to promote the health and well-being of patients and families and provides skilled nursing, rehabilitation therapy, social work, mental health, pediatric and hospice home health services to more than 900 families. *(First year of funding)*

## Environmental Justice

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

Advocates for Environmental Human Rights was granted \$20,000 for general operating support. AEHR is dedicated to upholding the human right to live in a healthy environment, holding companies accountable when this right is violated, and advocating for public policy that supports this right. General operating funds will be used to manage litigation in the Mossville, LA human rights case; leverage additional funds to hire a staff attorney with nonprofit fundraising experience; work on the Environmental Justice, Health & Human Rights Project, which provides legal support to 20 environmental justice organizations located in each of the 10 EPA regional offices; and prepare a report to raise awareness of the need for federal adoption of the UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement in order to ensure human disaster response and recovery as more people are vulnerable to extreme weather events. *(Ninth 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 through an environmental justice curriculum, organizing and membership program, and youth-led campaigns in Roxbury, Dorchester, and across the City of Boston. Funds from the Sills Family Foundation will allow REEP to support six to eight youth organizers; conduct youth-led environmental justice campaigns; reach 100 teens; and complete two to three youth-led environment justice action projects in Boston Public Schools and summer camp programs. At least 20 members are now actively participating and leading REEP's campaigns alone, meeting bi-weekly in three campaign committees, with 30-40 more who are easily mobilized for actions and events. *(Ninth year of funding)*

### ❖ **Coming Clean** Jamaica Plain, MA

The Coming Clean collaborative received a \$20,000 general operating grant to help define the vision, focus, strategies, and tactics of the toxics and environmental health and justice movement. Coming Clean works to transform economic injustices, racial discrimination, and pollution-related health disparities into environmental justice, economic justice, social justice and better democracy. In the coming year, Coming Clean will provide scientific resources to community groups and other partners as campaigning tools that show the public health impacts of exposure to the chemical and dirty energy industries; support unified approaches to policies on labeling, chemical ingredient disclosure, safety, and toxic chemical substitution; and challenge the chemical and dirty energy industries in several important ways: around common health impacts, economic inequalities, and adverse fracking chemical exposures. Approximately 350 individuals and 200 organizations are a part of the Coming Clean collaborative. *(First year of funding)*

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

Community In-Power and Development Association (CIDA) was awarded \$10,000 for general support to help continue its mission to protect, educate, and alert the underserved communities in Port Arthur, Texas, of the dangers of toxic chemicals being released into their community. CIDA hopes to transform dilapidated, underserved areas into healthy, safe, and economically vital communities by uniting and educating local residents on the importance of working together to promote healthy change. Presently, CIDA offers after-school, mentoring, health, and job readiness programs aimed at empowering low-income residents. *(Seventh year of funding)*

❖ **Mercury Policy Project  
Montpelier, VT**

The Mercury Policy Project (MPP) was awarded a \$20,000 grant to continue to expand their *Zero Mercury Campaign - Exposure Awareness and Reduction* efforts, which seeks to reduce 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. Specifically, the campaign will advocate for strengthening the Federal fish advisory for mercury; counter the tuna industry efforts to increase exposure to methylmercury by promoting consumption of canned tuna by women of childbearing age; and reduce exposure to methylmercury among school children by encouraging public schools to reduce serving of canned tuna fish in schools across New England and New York. *(Ninth 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, which will further its ongoing efforts to hold local industrial plants accountable for negative health effects caused by toxic pollution in the community. MEAN works with leading environmental health experts to provide educational workshops to local medical providers and residents on how to diagnose environmental illnesses, and is continuing work to establish a free health clinic. The health clinic will allow the residents of Mossville to be tested for exposure to toxins and also provide basic wellness care to treat some of the illnesses that are caused or exacerbated by the toxic pollution. Past Sills funding has been used to support health fairs and symposiums to raise awareness of the connection between pollution and health; fund the travel of environmental health experts to come and make presentations to the local health professionals in the community; offer free screenings to local residents; continue shareholder activism work; and execute the community's soil testing. *(Fifth year of funding)*

## Arts and Culture

### ❖ **ArtsWestchester** **White Plains, NY**

ArtsWestchester was awarded a \$10,000 grant for the Artist Residency Program for Senior Citizens, which provides four multi-session performing, visual and/or art residencies at low-income, county subsidized senior residences in Mount Vernon. The artist residencies are designed to foster socialization by bringing people together for a shared, art-making experience. The artist residencies engage participants in challenging, creative, and productive activities such as designing jewelry, making a mural, participating in creative movement or an oral history project. The sessions are designed to encourage conversation and interaction, as well as reinforce cognitive and social skills.

### ❖ **Brooklyn Academy of Music** **Brooklyn, NY**

Brooklyn Academy of Music received a \$10,000 grant in support of DanceAfrica, an African dance program celebrating African and African-American dance, music, and culture. DanceAfrica began in 1977 to heighten awareness of African culture and has evolved into a high-spirited celebration that brings the entire community together. Under the artistic direction of Founding Elder Chuck Davis, DanceAfrica features performances by traditional and contemporary dance companies from Africa and its diaspora at the BAM Howard Gilman Opera House. The week-long spring festival traditionally offers five dance and music performances; master classes; and outdoor bazaar, a global marketplace for African, African-American, and Caribbean arts, crafts, and food featuring over 200 vendors and attracting up to 30,000 visitors per year. DanceAfrica usually takes place in May as part of BAM's Winter/Spring Season.

### ❖ **Brooklyn Museum of Art** **Brooklyn, NY**

Brooklyn Museum of Art received a grant for \$10,000 to provide support for their art education school partnership program with PS1, an elementary school located in Brooklyn's Sunset Park neighborhood. Funding will allow the Museum to continue to provide gallery- and studio-based lessons that help reinforce student learning of classroom curricula as well as professional development opportunities for teachers. In the next year, the program will serve approximately 450 students and 8 teachers in 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, and provide students and teachers with opportunities for sustained exposure to the visual arts as a way to promote lifelong engagement. The Brooklyn Museum's mission is to act as a bridge between the rich artistic heritage of world cultures, as embodied in its collections, and the unique experience of each visitor.

### ❖ **Community Word Project** **New York, NY**

Community Word Project was awarded a \$10,000 grant for its Collaborative Arts Residency Program. The program provides a sustained experience in the arts that helps students develop life-long tools and skills including literacy, creative thinking, teamwork, and public speaking, to unlock creative potential and prepare them to take their places as leaders.

CWP works closely with partnering teachers to integrate into the classroom curriculum and provides weekly workshops that integrate individual and collaborative creative writing, visual arts, photography, music/rhythm, and performance to ensure that every student can experience success. In the 2012-13 school year, the program will reach 2,000 students through 65 classroom-based arts-in-education residencies in 14 public schools and 7 branches of the New York Public Library and Queens Public Library.

❖ **Groundswell  
Brooklyn, NY**

Groundswell was granted \$10,000 for the design and launch of a Merit Badge system of achievement to support, measure, and reward youth learning within Groundswell's core Mural Apprenticeship programs. The development of the Merit Badge system will connect Groundswell's goal of supporting the learning of young people with the strengthening of its evaluation methods. Groundswell will be able to quantitatively measure aggregate youth achievement each year and qualitatively measure the value of that achievement to participants. Groundswell's Four C's (Creativity, Collaboration, Critical Thinking, and Compassion) are built into each of its projects, which offer youth opportunities for personal, artistic, civic, and professional development.

## **Sills 2012 Capacity Building Grants**

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

Hour Children was awarded a \$10,000 capacity building grant to support the Hour Friend in Deed (HFID) program, which provides adult mentors to children impacted by incarceration. Beginning December 1, 2012, Hour Children assumed responsibility for the operations of the Bedford Hills Correctional Facility's Children's Center and residential Nursery unit. Through the family services program (including services such as visitation and transportation; parenting education; advocacy; and a Teen/Pre-Teen program), HFID staff will have broad access to inmate mothers from the Facility's general population and their children which uniquely positions Hour Children to identify and address the currently un-met mentoring needs of these children. Funding will provide support for the increased number of children served by our HFID program.

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

Julie's received a \$10,000 capacity building grant to provide salary increases for staff which have not received raises in the last four years. The four staff members making over \$40,000 incurred 10% salary reductions in 2009. Julie's currently has fourteen full-time and four part-time staff. Twelve staff have been with Julie's for 20 years or more. With this funding, Julie's seeks to enhance the financial capacity of every staff member, enhance staff morale and engender a sense of hope amongst staff that the organization is entering a phase of stability and growth. Funding will provide partial support of a 4% salary increase effective January 1, 2013.

### **❖ Osborne Association Bronx, NY**

The Osborne Association was granted \$10,000 for its Children and Youth Services (CYS) programming and to improve Osborne's ability to measure its impact. Funding for CYS will allow Osborne to organize services for children of incarcerated parents into three age groups and offer youth ages 14 to 18 a core youth leadership program, informed by positive youth development principles and best practices. This program will consist of a series of workshops aimed at helping the children address health, self-esteem, healthy relationships, goal-setting, understanding their legal rights, financial literacy and job/career planning, educational success, preparing for college and more. Critical to the success of the core programming is a close examination and revision of Osborne's intake, assessment and program evaluation tools. With different points of entry and varying levels of service involvement, it has been a challenge to gather baseline data on participants and to evaluate

the impact and effectiveness of services. The revised tools will be rolled out with the implementation of the core workshop series.

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

Women's Prison Association received a \$10,000 capacity building grant to further staff and organizational development by implementing new gender-specific tools. In recent years, new evidence-based interventions designed specifically for criminal justice-involved women have been made available. WPA aims to universalize its gender-responsive interventions by integrating the Women's Risk and Needs Assessment and the *Moving On* curriculum within the agency's programs. The WRNA tool is used to identify a woman's risks of reoffending and to develop service plans to address those risks/needs. *Moving On: A Program for At-Risk Women* is a gender-responsive cognitive behavioral intervention designed to help women to mobilize and develop personal and social resources that mediate the impact of risk for future criminal behavior.

## **Sills 2012 Next Generation Grants**

### **❖ Centerforce/Oakland Children's Hospital Collaboration: San Rafael, CA**

Centerforce received a grant for \$6,800 to provide support for incarcerated mothers and their children who are part of the joint collaboration between Centerforce's MOMS project at Santa Rita jail and the Early Intervention Services Unit (EIS) at Children's Hospital & Research Center Oakland. The model will pilot a joint collaborative consultation and treatment approach to determine needs and implement treatment strategies for parent, child and caregiver that are strength based and intended to improve outcomes for child health, mental health and wellbeing during the re-entry process. Sills funding will support the development of the pilot model and help to increase the capacity of the MOMS staff at the residential housing unit to identify developmental and social emotional vulnerabilities in young children and provide support to parents. Last year's funding helped implement focus groups with mothers inside Santa Rita Jail. These groups laid the foundation for this phase of the project by identifying the key issues for parent-child attachment and relationship building once mothers are released from incarceration. *(Second year of funding)*

### **❖ Communities In Schools of Auburn Auburn, WA**

Communities in Schools of Auburn was awarded a \$16,600 grant to provide integrated support services to students in four local elementary schools. CISA provides integrated support services for students focused on two of the most significant risk factors for dropping out, poverty and lack of academic success. The key features of the CIS integrated support model are: needs assessment (school and student levels), identification of community partners, coordinated service delivery at the school site, data collection, evaluation and modification of service strategies. This model has been shown to produce positive outcomes for the students and schools it serves including higher graduation rates and academic achievement. The Sills grant will provide support for ½ time on-site coordinator salaries, expenses for students in need, and program costs. *(Second year of funding)*

### **❖ Community Works West - Project WHAT! Berkeley, CA**

Community Works West was awarded \$10,000 for Project WHAT! (**We're Here and Talking**), a leadership development and job-training program for young people with an incarcerated parent. Project WHAT! raises awareness of the impact of parental incarceration on young people with the long-term goal of improving services and policies affecting these children. It is the only program in California that hires children of incarcerated parents to train social workers, mental health professionals, policy makers and administrators about issues relating to this population. These youth will provide presentations to over 800 service providers, public officials, and youth audiences at schools and organizations throughout the year. The Sills grant will provide funding for a part-time program coordinator as well as provide stipends for two peer mentor youth and four youth advocates. *(Second year of funding for Next gen, Fifth year for foundation)*

❖ **Family Services of Westchester  
Port Chester, NY**

Family Services of Westchester (FSW) was awarded \$9,000 in support of EMERGE (Educating Mothers to Embrace Re-entry and Gain Employment). EMERGE is a parenting education program for incarcerated women to prepare them for re-entry into the community. The overarching goal of EMERGE is to provide parenting and employment skills education to the target population of mothers incarcerated in the Westchester County Department of Correction (DOC) in order to best prepare them to successfully rejoin their children and families when they are discharged into the community. The Sills grant will help fund an additional part-time staff member to assist the part-time educator in filling a critical need for services (in the form of support groups and case management) upon release and re-entry into the community. *(Third year of funding)*

❖ **Green Chimneys Children's Services  
Brewster, NY**

Green Chimneys received \$7,600 for the Nature-Based Career Training Program to provide opportunities for LGBTQ youth to explore careers in nature-based professions. The program supports the development of individual, interpersonal, and professional skills that will help youth make valuable connections between their urban lives and the natural world and prepare them for successful career paths in their chosen fields. The program has three six-week phases, which focus on building competencies and providing supportive services including job placement and stipends for education and work clothes. In the next year, Green Chimneys hopes to enroll 30 LGBTQ youth in the career training program, continue to provide career related support for program graduates from 2011/2012, and secure in-city externship placements for 100% of youth enrolled in the program. *(First year of funding)*

❖ **The American Friends of Jamaica, Inc. / Cornwall Regional Hospital  
Jamaica, W.I.**

The American Friends of Jamaica, Inc. will receive a \$10,000 grant for the Pediatric Ward of Cornwall Regional Hospital in Montego Bay, Jamaica. Cornwall Regional Hospital is a large public hospital suffering from lack of medical and financial resources. This grant will be used to purchase needed medical supplies for the pediatric ward. *(Second year of funding)*

## Sills 2012 Grants Summary

### Strategic Grants

Name of Organization	2012 Program/Purpose	Grant Awarded?
Advocates for Environmental Human Rights	General Support	\$20,000
Alternatives for Community and Environment	Roxbury Environmental Empowerment Project	\$25,000
The Center for Children and Families, Columbia University School of Nursing	“Shared Parenting” at Bedford Hills Correctional Facility and Chittenden County Correctional Facility	\$25,000
The Children’s Center at Bedford Hills	General Support	\$25,000
Circle	Housing options & programming for battered women charged with crimes	\$20,000
Circle	Challenge grant	\$5,000*
Coming Clean	General Support	\$20,000
Community Connections for Youth	South Bronx Community Connections	\$20,000
Community In-power and Development Association	General Support	\$10,000
Community Works West	One Family/Parenting Inside Out	\$25,000
Community Works West	Nell Bernstein Book	\$19,000
Greenhope	General Support	\$25,000
Hour Children, Inc.	General Support	\$25,000
Housing + Solutions, Inc.	Drew House Family Alternative to Incarceration Program	\$20,000
Julie’s Family Learning Program	Julie’s Adult and Children’s Services	\$25,000
Lund	Outcomes Capacity Building Project	\$20,000
Mercury Policy Project	Zero Mercury Campaign-Exposure Awareness and Reduction	\$20,000
Mossville Environmental Action Now	General Support	\$10,000
Northern Lights Program (HowardCenter, Inc.)	Northern Lights Program	\$20,000
Osborne Association	Children & Youth Services	\$25,000
Pernet Family Health Service, Inc.	Incarcerated Fathers Program	\$25,000
St. Mary’s Women and Children’s Center	Incarceration Intervention/ Prevention Initiative	\$25,000
STEPS to End Family Violence/Edwin Gould Services for Children and Families	The Children’s Therapy Program	\$25,000
Vera Institute of Justice	Common Justice	\$25,000
Visiting Nurse Service of New York	VNSNY Bronx Nurse-Family Partnership Mental Health Services	\$25,000
Women’s Prison Association	General Support	\$25,000
<b>Total Strategic Grants: \$554,000</b>		

\*To be made in 2013 pending a match

### Arts and Culture Grants

Name of Organization	2012 Program/Purpose	Grant Awarded?
ArtsWestchester	Artists Residency Program for Senior Citizens	\$10,000
Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM)	African Dance Program	\$10,000
Brooklyn Museum	School Partnership Program with PS1	\$10,000
Community Word Project	Collaborative Arts Residency Program	\$10,000
Groundswell	Merit Badge System of Achievement	\$10,000
<b>Total Arts and Culture Grants: \$50,000</b>		

### Capacity Building Grants

Name of Organization	2012 Program/Purpose	Grant Awarded?
Hour Children	Hour Friend in Deed (HFID) program	\$10,000
Julie's Family Learning Program	Salary increases for staff	\$10,000
Osborne Association	Children & Youth Services and measurement	\$10,000
Women's Prison Association	Staff and organizational development	\$10,000
<b>Total Capacity Building Grants: \$40,000</b>		

### Next Generation Grants

Name of Organization	2012 Program/Purpose	Grant Awarded?
Centerforce	Centerforce/Oakland Children's Hospital Collaboration	\$6,800
Communities In Schools of Auburn	Site coordinator salary and students in need	\$16,600
Community Works West	Project WHAT!	\$10,000
Family Services of Westchester	EMERGE	\$9,000
Green Chimneys Children's Services	Nature-based Career Training	\$7,600
The American Friends of Jamaica, Inc.	Pediatric Ward of Cornwall Regional Hospital	\$10,000*
<b>Total Next Generation Grants: \$60,000</b>		
*Pending		

## **2012 Trustee Discretionary Grants**

The 3 trustees of the Sills Family Foundation made a total of 28 discretionary grants, ranging in size from \$2,000 to \$25,000, and totaling \$180,000.

### **Art Sills**

<b>Name of Organization</b>	<b>Grant Amount</b>
American Red Cross	\$5,000
Amnesty International	\$5,000
Cambridge Family and Children's Service	\$5,000
Cambridge Friend School	\$25,000
Colby College	\$5,000
The Guidance Center	\$5,000
Hampshire College	\$5,000
School Is Open	\$5,000

### **Peter Sills**

<b>Name of Organization</b>	<b>Grant Amount</b>
Advocates for Environmental Human Rights	\$5,000
Brooklyn Community Services	\$3,000
The Center for Independent Documentary "Mothers of Bedford" film	\$5,000
Children's Defense Fund	\$2,500
Corporate Accountability International	\$5,000
FJC A Foundation of Philanthropic Funds	
• The Doula Program to Accompany and Comfort - Visiting program for terminally ill patients	\$10,000
• New York Juvenile Justice Initiative	\$2,000
Jewish Community Center of Mercer Island Washington Scholarships for disadvantaged youth	\$5,000
Rutgers University REaCH summer program for disadvantaged youth	\$2,500
Twinfield Union School Twinfield Together Mentoring Program	\$5,000
Vermont Foodbank	\$5,000
Vermont Children's Aid Society	\$5,000
VSA Vermont Art programs for the disabled	\$5,000

**Deborah Iarussi**

Name of Organization	Grant Amount
<b>Brooklyn Recovery Fund at the Brooklyn Community Foundation</b>	\$12,500
<b>Craft Emergency Relief Fund</b>	\$10,000
<b>Family Services of Westchester</b> The Sharing Shelf program	\$2,500
<b>Groundswell</b>	\$5,000
<b>Hampshire College</b> Denice O'Neill Scholarship	\$7,500
<b>Tucker Foundation at Dartmouth College</b> SEAD program	\$20,000
<b>Willie Mae Rock Camp for Girls</b> Scholarship for girls with incarcerated parent	\$2,500