

Foothills Footnotes

Foothills Celebrates 20 Year Anniversary

On September 21, 2006 we celebrated 20 years of serving the Northern Greenville County community. Dignitaries, former Board members and community leaders came to help us celebrate and to show their continued support for Foothills and our programs and partnerships.

20 years ago, in 1986, Slater-Marietta Human Services became incorporated thanks to Dill Blackwell and a grant for \$50,000 from the State Reorganization Commission. We were one of seven pilot projects in the state of South Carolina designed to offer a variety of programs and services to

families living in a rural and isolated area. Greenville County Health Department was our first partner.

Over the next few years several new partners began offering services at our facility. We also began searching for new sources of funding. By 1988 we were considered a "one stop shop" model for the state.

During the 1990's the United Way began to provide funding. This funding along with new contracts with more outside agencies allowed us to begin providing more services to our clients. Many changes took place in the 1990's includ-

ing the medical clinic opening and becoming a separate agency, the first agency name change, and a new executive director being hired.

In the first 7 years of the new century changes have continued as the agency's name again changed. The new name, Foothills Family Resources, reflected the shift of the agency's focus to eliminating poverty in Northern Greenville County. The original renovation of a portion of the building was completed and a second renovation of the remainder of the building is currently in process.

If you have never visited our office, why not stop in



and see what Foothills is all about. We would love to have you, and to tell you more about the invaluable work we do. Feel free to stop in during business hours and have a tour, ask some questions and get to know us a bit better. You will be glad you did.

Co-located Services

One of the main reasons Foothills Family Resources continues to exist is that we offer a variety of needed services in one location. People who may not be able or willing to travel to Greenville to apply for food stamps, Medicaid or WIC, will come here, to Slater. It is more convenient and for the 38% of our clients that lack consistent means of transportation that convenience is a necessity.

Imagine if you

We CAN eliminate poverty in Northern Greenville County, but we can only do it with YOUR help.

were one of the people who live in Northern Greenville County whom rely on other people to take you to appointments. Would it be easier to find a ride to Slater or to Greenville? This question fuels much of what we do here. How can we make our services accessible to a population that desperately needs them?

This is why we are so proud of our co-located services. These partners contribute to the well-being of all our clients. Because of a comprehensive intake form, we can refer clients to other services of which

they may not be aware. A client may come in for Food Stamps, and be referred to our Food Pantry, Medicaid, WIC, Job Link and Family Learning Team, all because these services are available in one convenient location.

If you have not supported Foothills Family Resources, why not consider making a contribution today? Your contribution is tax deductible and you will make an impact on a community that truly needs your help. We CAN eliminate poverty in Northern Greenville County, but we can only do it with YOUR help.

Business of the Month

Foothills Family Resources was given the honor of being selected as the Travelers Rest Area Business Association's (TRABA) Business of the Month for October 2006. Janet Chandler was presented with the

award by TRABA president Grant Bumgarner on October 10, 2006 at the TRABA meeting. Our appreciation goes out to the TRABA for recognizing the invaluable services we provide to Northern Greenville County residents!



Our Current Services

The following services are based on income and family size:

A DSS Case Worker takes the first three walk in appointments daily for Food Stamp signups.

The Department of Health is present every 2nd Tuesday for WIC and childhood immunizations. Call 282-4326 for a WIC appointment.

A Medicaid Outreach Specialist helps people apply for Medicaid benefits by appointment only.

The following services are available to all residents of Northern Greenville County:

Parents as Teachers works with

families with children from birth to age five teaching child development and parenting skills.

The Greenville Literacy Association provides ESL, basic computer and pre GED skills.

The Family Learning Team provides GED assistance for adults and free child-care while parents attend classes.

The Food Pantry is open daily to anyone who needs canned goods. Bread may also be available.

Families First helps families in crisis pay for utilities, rent, mortgage and medication. Eligibility

is based on circumstances.

Generic Case Management is available.

Foothills Job Link assists individuals in finding jobs.

Vocational Rehabilitation provides job placement help to disabled persons on Thursdays.

Home Fire Safety, a program in cooperation with the Slater-Marietta Fire Department, provides smoke detectors, fire extinguishers and fire safety information to local families.

Piedmont Women's Center conducts free pregnancy testing and counseling every Wednesday.

Featured Program: Greenville Literacy Association

Ask Nancy Collins with Greenville Literacy Association what she likes most about working in Slater and she'll tell you it's the students. "The students are great to work with, everyone here is really nice and friendly. It is rewarding to be able to help students learn and reach their goals."

The center is always in need of tutors to work with students one on one or in groups.

Nancy works hard as the only employee at the Sargent Learning Center. The most challenging part of her job is definitely getting volunteers to help tutor and motivate students. She wants people to know that "tutoring is very rewarding and you don't need any experience, we will train you. The center is always in need of tutors to work with students one on one or in groups."

The current schedule is: Mon-

day Pre GED Science 3:15p-4:30p. Tuesday Math class from 9:00a-10:00a and 10:00a-11:00a, Pre GED Social Studies 3:15p-4:30p. Wednesday Pre GED Reading 9:00a-10:30a. Thursday Math Lab 1:00p-3:00p, ESL class 7:00p-8:30p. Friday ESL class 10:00a-11:30a, Pre GED Writing 3:15p-4:30p.

For more information call the Sargent Learning Center at 836-564.

Parents As Teachers “Parents are their children’s first and most important Teacher”

This program provides, at no cost to you: **books for your baby, parent/child activities, parent meetings with childcare, zoo night, developmental screening, home visits from a certified parent educator, and a referral service.**

The holidays are upon us.
Safety is an issue.

For infants, toddlers and all children that still mouth objects, avoid toys with small parts that could pose a choking hazard.

Many holiday related accidents can be avoided.

Here are some safety tips.

Select toys to suit the age, abilities, skills and interest level of the child.

For infants, toddlers and all children that still mouth objects, avoid toys with small parts that could pose a choking hazard.

Look for sturdy construction, such as tightly secured

eyes, noses and other small parts.

For all children under age 8: avoid toys that have sharp edges and points, and do not purchase electric toys with heating elements.

Be a label reader. Look for labels that give age recommendations and use that information as a guide.

Check instructions for clarity. They should be clear to you and when appropriate to the child,

Have a safe holiday.

Families First “Helping families in crisis”

Fall is here and with it, cooler temperatures. During the winter months, when energy bills are high, our clients are sometimes faced with the choice to pay for food, heating or rent and this is where the Families First program comes in. Through this program, clients can receive assistance once a year with a utility and once a year with either a rent or mortgage payment. Guidelines do apply for these services. Our food

pantry is available to those in need of food. Unlike emergency assistance, food pantry assistance is available once a month. Donations to our pantry are always welcomed and greatly appreciated. If you or your organization would like to sponsor a food drive, please contact us at 836-1100 to discuss this opportunity.

Christmas is just around the corner. Country Santa will be assisting needy families in our area again this year! Thank you Country Santa! To apply for Santa assistance, please call 836-1100.

“During the winter months, when energy bills are high, our clients are sometimes faced with the choice to pay for food, heating or rent”

Featured program: Piedmont Women’s Center

Piedmont Women’s Center has been positively affecting people’s lives for over 15 years. Slater director, Tami Howell, knows the rewards and the challenges. “I love being able to affect change in someone else’s life. Helping them see through difficult circumstances and offering them support gives me great joy,” Tami says.

Helping women during hard

times is not an easy thing to do. Many times P W C deals with teens and the after effects of bad choices. They see – teenage pregnancies; post abortion young women; physically scarred young women who have contracted diseases; low self esteem; abused young women; spiritually adrift; and more. P W C is a caring place that offers more than just free

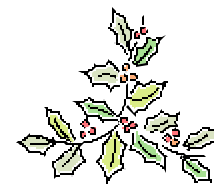
pregnancy tests. They help women deal with all these issues.

If you have a heart for this type of ministry to young women, there are 3 required trainings per year. Please contact Tami at 848-1407 or on Wednesdays at 836-0715.

Our Pantry needs food! We are always in need of the following items:

Peanut Butter
Jelly
Spaghetti Sauce
Canned Vegetables
Canned Fruit
Canned Meats such as
Tuna
SPAM
Chicken
Salmon

We're on the WEB!
www.foothillsfamilyresources.org



All of us at Foothills wish you and your family a happy, safe and prosperous holiday season.

Michele, Janet, Kerstin and Candace

Foothills Family Resources

PO Box 246
3 Main Street
Slater, SC 29683

Phone: 864-836-1100
Fax: 864-836-1105

Our Vision is a community where all residents have equal access to resources needed to improve quality of life, increase self-sufficiency, and ensure the well being of future generations.

Our Mission is to improve the quality of life in Northern Greenville County by providing residents a gateway to comprehensive services, programs and resources that support, educate and empower.

The Strawberry Patch/Donor's Corner

Thanks so much to all our sponsors. Without your donations our agency could not fulfill it's mission.

Bank of Travelers Rest
Blue Ridge Electric
BMW Manufacturing
Boy Scout Troop 007
Carolina First
Cliffs Valley Community Relations Committee
Coca-Cola
Duke Energy
G-five
George Coleman Ford
Greenville Friends
JPS Glass

Leopard Forest Coffee
Main Street Guitar and Drum
Slater Church of God Congregation
Slater Drug
Slater United Methodist Church Sunday School
Spinx
Travelers Rest Area Business Association
Travelers Rest United Methodist Women
Trinity Presbyterian Church
United Way of Greenville County
Upstate Parent Magazine
Harry Cato
Ray and Judy Chapman
Joe Dill

Amy Gardner
Marilyn Hill
Dan Livengood
Chantal Patton
James Pierce
Wendy Redmond
Tammy Rochester
John Short
Jo Slaughter
Senator J. Verne Smith
Laura Townes
Frank and
Becky White

