



**familyconnections**

Counseling resources with *family* in mind

# THE CONNECTION

www.familyconnectionsinc.org

## WVCCCA AWARD WINNERS

**VOLUME 9 Edition 2 2013**

**CLINIC**—Call for information about our counseling services:

Weirton Medical Center  
Medical Office Building  
651 Colliers Way, Suite 412  
Weirton, WV 26062  
Phone: (304) 723-3423  
Fax: (304) 723-3426  
E-mail:  
admin@  
familyconnectionsinc.org

**BROOKE PLACE**—Call for a referral for residential group treatment for girls:

P.O. Box 348  
Tent Church Road  
Colliers, WV 26035  
Phone: (304) 527-3303  
Fax: (304) 527-3306

This facility is funded in part under an agreement with the Bureau of Children and Families, WV Department of Health and Human Resources

Email:  
brookeplace@  
familyconnectionsinc.org



Family Connections, Inc. of is pleased to announce that two individuals closely associated with the organization were chosen as award winners at the West Virginia Child Care Association's Awards Banquet recently held Charleston. Among those recognized were Patty McConnaughey, RN at Brooke Place and Cora Childers, retired licensing specialist for the WV Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau of Children and Families.

McConnaughey received her award for WVCCA Children's Service Worker of the Year while Childers received hers for Community Service Worker of the Year. The awards banquet is an annual affair of the West Virginia Child Care Association which honors individuals who provide exemplary service to West Virginia's children. Member agencies may nominate their own employees, child advocates from outside their agency, foster parents and community leaders whose work in some major way has positively impacted children's lives. Shown on the right are: Joanne Dobrzanski, Executive Director, Family Connections, Patty McConnaughey, R.N. and Heather Collins, President, WVCCA.



As a registered nurse, McConnaughey is charged with overseeing the medical care of the residents of Brooke Place. According to Family Connections' Executive Director, McConnaughey's ability to see beyond the horizon, to anticipate problems before they happen, makes her a terrific asset and colleague.

As a Licensing Specialist, Dobrzanski stated Childers was charged with the "health, safety, well-being and permanency" of West Virginia's most vulnerable children. There was never any doubt that Childers, recognized the importance of her professional career.

Dobrzanski concluded, "We were excited to nominate Patty McConnaughey and Cora Childers for the West Virginia Child Care Association awards and we did so without reservation. They both fulfill and exemplify the mission of Family Connections which is dedicated to the care, welfare and respect of families and individuals who comprise them." Shown in the left photo is: Joanne Dobrzanski, Cora Childers, Heather Collins.

## Brooke Place Wish List

- |   |                                     |                       |
|---|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Gift cards for girls' birthdays                   | Underwear—all sizes                 | Toiletries            |
| Overnight carry all bags/satchels for home visits | Mesh bags for large laundry baskets | Standard Size Pillows |
| Pajamas—S,M,L,XL                                  | Batteries, all sizes                | Twin Blankets         |
| Slippers  | 60 watt light bulbs                 | No show socks         |
| Regular white towels                              | White twin sheet sets               | Flash drives          |
| Toilet paper, paper towels                        | White washcloths                    | Puzzles/Board Games   |

# The Pieces of Me <3

I am 13 and I have enjoyed photography ever since I have been here. Mike, our site director has trusted me with his camera. I have made it a hobby that I enjoy and use as a coping tool. I feel like I can express myself in my pictures. The girls don't mind if I use them as my models. They love to have their pictures taken like any other teenage girl. In school, I am in yearbook class, taking pictures of different things like sports, clubs and many things. People



say I have a very nice talent. They also say it looks so professional when I show my pictures. Joanne says "You look as cute as a button when you take pictures." When I go to high school I want to be in classes where I can do what I like. On some of our outings I would bring the camera and snap pic-

tures when the girls are not paying attention to me and just having fun. These are an example of my pictures. You may think it's off the internet but its not, I took these over the summer and I am proud to show every one my talent. I want to say that Brooke Place has changed my entire life, so as long as you believe in yourself you can succeed. Love you all and God bless<3

Written by a 13 year old resident of Brooke Place.

## WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS



Bernice Pitcock and Zachary Stewart



Bernice Pitcock and Gary Pitcock

Zachary Stewart and Gary Pitcock are the two newest members of Family Connections Board of Directors. Stewart is a Weirton native and received a bachelor's degree from West Virginia University before pursuing a law degree from Michigan State University College of Law. Stewart is licensed to practice law in WV and PA and maintains an office in Weirton. Pitcock, who recently retired with forty four years from The Kroger Company, is President of the board at Weirton Transit Corporation, serves on the board of the Weirton Lions Club, and is a member of the Northern Panhandle Osiris Shrine Club.

## FUND DEVELOPMENT AUXILIARY NEWS

The auxiliary members have been busy throughout the summer months making their presence known by setting up booths at local fairs and festivals and educating the community about the services Family Connections and Brooke Place have to offer. Shown on the



left is Brooke Place Child Care Worker Onisha Gilbert with Barbara Glaspell, winner of the WVU basket raffled at Christmas in the Park. On the right: Ryan Lancaster front; back row, left to right, Vicki Williams, fund development auxiliary, Mike and Bev Shultz winner of the gas card raffled at Riverfest in New Cumberland, and auxiliary member



Carolee Lancaster. If you would like further information, please contact Jean at 304-527-3303.

### MISSION STATEMENT

*Family Connections is committed to helping individuals function to the best of their abilities by engaging the resources that exist naturally within their family and community. Interventions provided by Family Connections are theory-based and are guided by the principle that the individual is best treated within the context of their family. Family Connections is dedicated to the care, welfare, and respect of families and the individuals who comprise them.*

*family connections, inc.*

P.O. Box 348

Colliers, WV 26035



*By giving a contribution in memory of or in honor of a family member or friend, many generous people have found a way to express their caring spirit while investing in the lives of those served by Family Connections.*



**In Memory of Robert and Alice Hamilton**

**By Heather Hamilton and Tom Brown**

**In Honor of Family Connections Employees**

**By Joanne Dobrzanski**