It is hard to characterize years without some “yes buts”. Many good things happened, including almost three thousand people and their families achieving goals with our wonderful staff. 2011 was also a year of a devastating flood, which badly affected Tioga and neighboring counties. And New York State in a big way cut their expenses without tempering the costs of human services for vulnerable people.

Franziska Racker is resilient because it has to be. But that comes at a cost to staff, who lost some benefits, went through the year without raises, and had in many cases to increase productivity from an already high standard. We did not reduce programs or services, and continued to provide useful supports as we have always done. 2011 reminds us that the advocacy part of our Mission is not finished. We never argue for the status quo, and it is clear to us that we could be very effective helpers if regulators backed off and there was more flexibility and creativity in how money can be spent. The future is always the undiscovered country, one that we can influence and not just wait for. All of the Centers futures have been positive, and I expect that to continue.

Franziska Racker

Notes from Roger

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Phyllis Joyce
Vice-President: John Rudd
Treasurer: Kara Taylor
Secretary: Howard Schler

DIRECTORS

Bob Bantle
Yvonne M. Everhart
Elizabeth Gesin
Dr. Jeffrey Lewis
Stephen Lipinski
Brian McAree
David McNeil
Gill Murphy
Cal Organ
Christine Schweitzer
Kevin Shreve
James Willard

EMERITI DIRECTORS

Dave Dunlop
Sam Forcucci
Margaret Gibson
Tom Longin
Dan McNeil
Dave Palmer
Chuck Tompkins
Fred A. (Ben) Williams

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS

W. David Banfield
Carolyn Bartell
Tom Bohn
Sam Brewer
Karin Burgess
Daphne Cornell
Rick Cowan
John Crosby
Eugene C. Erickson
Jerome Hass
Meg Keilbach
Richie Moran
Kate O’Connell
Sarah Rich, Ph.D.
George Schneider
Paul Steiger
James Turner, Ph.D.
Cal Walker
Jen Whittaker
Eugene Yarussi

2011 was a busy year! We broke ground and began construction on our “Making Room” project in July. The project is moving along beautifully! First contractors completed the much needed asbestos abatement in the preschool building. Then they began the renovations, installing the new heating and cooling systems. Work also continues on the addition of the new 9,000 square feet for program space and our new Learning Center. Our plan is to have all the renovations completed by July 1, just in time to move the children back into their beautifully renovated school for summer session 2012. We will cut the ribbon on our new Learning Center on Friday, October 12, and you are invited!

Franziska Racker, Executive Director, and Roger Sibley, Executive Director, in front of what will be the new entrance to the agency and the Learning Center.

“MAKING ROOM” CHALLENGE MATCH ANNOUNCED

We are encouraged by the wonderful support we have received for this project. While our “Making Room” Capital Campaign heads into the final phase of fundraising, our goal of $3.5 million is within reach. We passed the $3 million mark at the end of 2011 and to help us get to goal, we are thrilled to announce our “Making Room” Challenge Match. Thanks to the generosity of a special group of donors we are calling our Match-Makers, we have a $200,000 Challenge Match to take us to goal. This match is given to help us raise the last dollars needed to complete our fundraising and is also in honor of our executive director of 33 years Roger Sibley.

To learn more about “Making Room” and the Challenge Match, and to get involved, call Perri LoPinto at 607.272.5891 x 234.

Special Thanks to our generous Match-Makers:

- Cargill Deicing Technologies
- Margaret “Gibby” Gibson
- Emerson Power Transmission
- The United Way of Tompkins County Shepherd Fund
- The Triad Foundation
- Tompkins Trust Company
- David and Christine McNeil
At her son EJ’s 15 month well check up, Shelby communicated to the Doctor that she didn’t feel her son’s development was on track with other children his age. She noticed that EJ’s language skills were delayed and that he wasn’t as social as other children. EJ’s pediatrician recommended contacting Early Intervention Services. This was Shelby’s first encounter with Kim DeRouchie, Service Coordinator for Tioga County Early Intervention. “Kim is great, and she’s been so easy to work with, first with EJ, and then when I needed her help again with EJ’s younger brother Orion,” states Shelby.

Kim assessed EJ in the family’s home and did share Shelby’s concern that EJ may have a disorder on the autism spectrum. EJ immediately began speech and occupational therapy through Tioga County’s Early Intervention Program. Through Kim’s suggestion, Shelby decided to pursue an evaluation through Dr. Karen Fried, Director of Autism Services at Racker Centers. Upon that evaluation, EJ was diagnosed with autism.

As EJ approached his third birthday, the age at which he would no longer qualify to receive Early Intervention Services; Shelby began to research various program options. That is when she learned of the Special Services; Shelby were able get EJ completely toilet trained in just two weeks this past fall.

Shelby’s concern that EJ may have a disorder on the autism spectrum. EJ immediately began speech and occupational therapy through Tioga County’s Early Intervention Program. Now in his second full year of preschool, Shelby states, “You would never know two years ago that he did not talk!” Miraculously, with Marcy’s suggestions and through closely working together, classroom staff and Shelby were able get EJ completely toilet trained in just two weeks this past fall.

Anne Seepersaud is the Service Coordinator at Franziska Racker Centers who has worked with EJ since he started the preschool program. Her role is to work with the preschool therapists, the teacher and Shelby so they can all work as a team to best meet EJ’s needs. Anne states, “Shelby is very involved and is great to work with. She wanted to receive ongoing communication from EJ’s therapists and teachers through a communication book and emails. I was the intermediary among everyone so that Shelby was receiving the information she needed to continue EJ’s work at home.” In addition to facilitating this teamwork, an important role of Service Coordination is providing the family with information on community supports that are developmentally appropriate. Anne assisted Shelby in securing funding for “Mommy and Me” gymnastics classes for her and EJ, so EJ could become more involved in the community. In addition, Anne helped the family secure designated funds for fire extinguishers for their home, and assisted Shelby in utilizing Racker Centers’ Family Support Respite services so that Shelby had the resources for someone to watch the boys when she needed to run errands. “It sounds small, but sometimes these small things make life so much easier for the family,” Anne states.

For the last six months, the preschool team has worked with Shelby on helping EJ transition from preschool to prepare him for Kindergarten. Anne set up a tour of the Candor Elementary school and facilitated a meeting with Shelby and the special education teacher there. Through all of this teamwork, Shelby is now better aware of the typical skills that a kindergartener needs to be successful.

Shelby states, “EJ’s social skills are amazing now. We can participate in play groups; he plays with his younger brother. He is not shy. In fact, he is very polite and very respectful.” Mary Balfour, EJ’s speech language pathologist agrees. “He knows and uses the names of his peers and familiar adults, as well as polite language. To remember that he was nonverbal just a year ago makes his progress astonishing.”

Shelby doesn’t know what she would do without the services available through the county and Franziska Racker Centers. Her youngest son, Orion, will start in the 3-5 year program at Racker Centers’ Owego site this summer. “With all of the progress that EJ has made, I am excited just to see what will happen now. Their needs are so different and they are each being accommodated in different ways,” says Shelby. “Racker Centers’ staff really tries to help us with whatever we need, from Anne to the tireless work of Marcy, Ruth, Abe, Mary and all of the staff in the preschool that have helped us over the last two years.”
"Making Room" CAMPAIGN DONORS  
estate gift

CORNERSTONE GIFTS

Jean Dunlavey  
Margaret Gibson  
Cargill Deicing Technologies  
Kevin P. Stearns  
Triad Foundation

Kust Polho*  
BorgWarner Morse TEC  
Dave and Peggy Dunlop  
Emerson Power Transmission Corp.  
J.M. McDonald Foundation

Anonymous  
Affiliated Psychological Consultants, P.C.  
Pete Aikins and Cornie God  
Kazi Akhtar and Zia Ahmed  
Rena G. Anderson  
Daniel and Janet Anthes  
Jennifer Anthes  
Robert Aragon  
Neil and Judith Ashcroft  
Eric Ayarlaw  
Beverly Ballou  
Beverly Baker  
Jacoba Baker  
Rosetta Baker  
Caren Baldin  
Melje Baldin  
Fred and Helene Ballantine  
Paul and Diane Banyard  
David and Mary Lee Banyard  
Rick and Maryanne Banks  
Suzeanne and Curtis Bonto  
J. Robert Barlow  
Caroline and Gene Bartell  
Elizabeth Bassette  
Roger Batchelder  
Walter and Marilyn Baurle  
Rosanne Beach  
James Beatty  
Steven and Beverly Beeler  
Elizabeth Beeler  
Vide and Vaugh Bahn  
Bernard and Linda Bons  
William and Nancy Bently  
Bill and Louiser Bement  
Caroline Bennett  
Thomas and Joyce Bennett  
Crystal Benton  
Arthur Berkeley  
Amie and Ted Berrien  
Robert and Phyllis Betzer  
Binder Electric Corporation  
Erik Bittenbauer and Ellen Burton  
Richard and Lourin Butano  
Paul and Suzy Blanchard  
Katie Boardman  
Nancy Furbk Bonn and Fred Bonn  
Caetl Bontbich  
Joseph and Cheryl Borden  
Beverly Bortz  
Michael Boui  
Monica Brou  
Joel and Susan Brock  
Bethany Brown and Bradley Smith  
Creighton and Dora Brown  
Gina Brown  
Paul Brown  
David and Joan Brumberg  
Francis and Joyce Budny  
Sue Budney  
James Bugh  
Elizabeth Burdick  
Karin Burgess  
Mark and Albert Burkhart  
Doris Burton  
Jim and Terry Byrnes  
Dr. and Mrs. Leo Cacciotti  
Cecilia Campbell and Josephine Gagliano  
Michael and Michelle Cannon  
Patricia Caride  
Stanley and Carol Carpenter  
Joseph and Jackie Casavant  
Mary Louise Cauayed  
Cayuga Landscape  
Cayuga Signs  
David Cedarbaum  

FRIENDS OF THE CAMPAIGN

Anonymous  
Judith Chadon  
LARRY and Arlene Chisholl  
William and Anne Chernish  
Tony and Roberta Chisholm  
Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Tony and Jill Ciccone  
James M. Crana  
Andrea Clark  
Leslie and Benjamin Clark  
Leslie and Kay Clenden  
Roy and alma Coats  
Helen S. Cogan  
Commmuniquf Design & Marketing  
Margaret Crompton  
Pamela Corel  
George and Diane Conneman  
Betty Coak  
Dean Corbin  
Brad and Nancy Corlitt  
Daphne and Erin Corell  
Cornell University  
Portland Eye Center  
Maria Cottrell  
Waltan and Jean Cove  
Rick and Jill Cowan  
Gayre and Caroline Cox  
John Crosby  
William Currie/Morgan Stanley Smith Barney  
Rick and Marline Darfer  
P.T. and Joan DelBeno  
David Delchamps  
Dorothea Delkly and Shawn Pompe  
Victoria and Jean Delkly  
Susan Detr  
Martin and Sandra Deutsch  
Martha and Bill DeWrie  
Roy and Fran Dalendar  
Ann Dexter  
Chuck and cris Donovan  
Dora Donovan  
David Drucker  
Dan and Patricia Dewrey  
Milford Droudfel  
Horton and Shirley Duffey  
Timothy and Susan Dunford  
Ronald Over  
Jan Dyson  
Michael Einfeld  
Flrence Eastely  
Sandie L. Elyth  
Maria Eizer  
Eveln Senvins Beke  
Nancy Emerson and Roy Luft  
Arvela Erek  
Lawrence Endo and Caron Bove  
Virginia Estabrook  
Chuck and Evonne Everhart  
Kelly Farvorth  
Jeffrey and Joyce Marsh  
Martha Ferger  
Angela Fey  
Myra Fincher  
First National Bank of Orey  
Stephnie Fitzpatrick  
Frank and Jill Fenney  
Christine and Brian Flanagan  
Stephen and Elena Flash  
Wayne and Marilyn Fleming  
Steve Fontaine and Carla Galbrath  
Barbara Foote  
Shelia and Rob Foote  
Olen and Kathy Furtar  
Michael Forster  
Raymond Fox  
Fronteines Design  
John H. L. Fuchs  
Sue Fuller  
Michele Gallagher  
Greg and Betty Galvin  
Kathleen Garner  
Lowell Garner and Susan Lustick  
Raeider and Sally Gates  
Liz and Jan Gieson  
Nancy Gibson  
Mag Cillard  
Catharine Joyce

KEYSTONE GIFTS

Cornell University  
John and Ann Racker Costello  
Bob and Vanne Cowie  
Don and Sue Dickinson  
Fred L. Emerson Foundation  
Norma Jayne*  
Catharine Joyce

Dr. Howard Kelley* and Family  
Judith K. Leavitt  
Dan and Rose McNeil  
David and Christine McNeil  
Roger and Carole Sibley  
Tompsink Trust Company  
United Foundation of Tompkins County  
Wegmans Food Markets

Eugene and Jeanne Yarussi

Tim and Mary Ann Colbert  
Legacy Foundation of Tompkins County  
Steve and Kathy Lipinski  
Philipp and Peggy Meyer  
Dob Steerette and Tom Owens

MILESTONE GIFTS

John and Elaine Alexander  
Dan and Eve Brown  
FCFU Community Credit Union

STEPPING STONE GIFTS

Anonymous  
Barry and Molly Adams  
Bob and Melinda Balentine  
Mikoff Design Associates  
and Lanny Joyce  
Kevin and Lindsey Kaufman  
Meg and Eric Keibach  
Lam Family Fund of the Community Foundation  
Stuart and Ruth Lewis  
Perrin and Mic MoPinto  
Mckinnon Marketing Group  
Richie and Pat Moron  
Muc Murphy  
Northwestern Mutual  
Col and Joan Organ

Dave and Shirley Palmer  
Howard and Lauren Scher  
Fred Schneider and Mimi Bussan  
George and Bobbie Schneider  
Andrew and Rosemary Sciarabba  
Sciarabba Walker & Co. LLP  
Dorb and Jon Scriver

Chuck Tauck  
Tompkins Charitable Gift Fund  
Elizabeth van Leer  
Mark and Lynn Weidman  
Eric and Deborah Whitney  
Jen and Sean Whittaker  
Joel and Cathy Zumoff

The Helen Thomas Foundation as administered by the Community Foundation of Tompkins County  
Gregg Hoffmire and Leslie Raymond  
Robert and Mary Hutchens  
Ithaca Sertoma Club  
Dick and Joanne Huggett  
David and Linda Huggett  
Lee and Carol Hubbell  
William and Anne Hugos  
Frank and Jill Humels  
David and Diane Hursch  
Barbara Hutt  
Deborah Hutt  
Laura Hunter  
Norma Huntley  
Marvin Huyck  
Paul and Suzy Huzzard  
Bob and Janice Hymas  
Judy and Jon Hyman  
Kathleen Juscak  
James and Janet Jacoby  
Andre and Elen Jagersdorff  
Mark and Mickie Jaquet  
Bri Gough  
Jim and Linda McCall  
Gaelle Jeon-Batia  
Deborah Jones  
Susan Kaplan  
Ralph and Nancy Kidney  
Joe and Patty Kiley  
Julia and age Kiley  
Suzanne Killen  
Jerome Knese  
Barbara Klockowski  
George Kados and Linda Grace-Kados  
Judith Komor  
Mark and Mscie Kroot  
Kyle Kubick and Marie Garland  
Brenda Kuhn and Andrew Yale
Marianne O’Shaw and Ira Kamp
Thomas and Kathleen Overbaugh
Mary Jean Palmer
Corine Park and Mike Bostford
Lisa Pote
John and Ann Pavia
Marianne Pollard
Renie and Marty Petrovic
Pi Kappa Phi
John and Beverly Poli
Larry and Pamela Postle
John Potter
The Realkeys Family
Virginia Redder
David Redmond
Victor and Joyce Remedor
Charles and Ruth Renfou
Nicholas and Agnes Renzi
Bev Rhein-Fitzpatrick
Florence Ricciott
Sarah Rich
Richards and McCutcheons DDS
Mary Richards
Richardson Bros. Electrical Contractors
Dorothy Rinaldo
Virginia K. Rinker
David Robbins
Laurie and Bill Roberts
Martha and Steve Robertson
Wendy Robertson and Doug Antczak
Dan and Becky Robinson
Elma Robinson
Duncan and Pauline Rogers
Peter and Donna Rogers
James and Marie Rolon
Bob and Eleanor Romawski
Ward Ramsey
George and Kay Ross
Arthur and Ellen Rosten
Elliot and P. A. Robinson
John Rudd and Beverly Chin
Stellorina and Barbara Ragusa
Philip and Maria Rumieta
Tudy Runningwater
Paul and Julianne Russo
William and Kathryn Russell
Marlyn Ryan
Sherie Saluc
Carolyn Sampson
Steve and Karen Sass
Frank and Pauline Sattler
Catherine Savage
Erich and Cheryl Schaefer
Lauren Scher
Dan and Mary Ellen Scherer
David and Rebecca Scherd
Christian Schweitzer
Beatrice Schwerin
Thomas Scott
Gwen Sequeit and Laurel Southard
Miles and Rose Seely
Shelly Sennett
Rose Marie Sergine
Margaret Shablya
Barbara Shelford
Gregory Shembo
Michael and Karen Shuler
Zachary Shulman
Henry and Sandy Silvey
Judy Sillie
Kirk Sigel
Michael and Sandra Simkin
Albert and Jeanette Sinevag
Carlston Smith
Doug and Paula Smith
Elizabeth Smith
Robert Smith and Alice Moore
Tom and Ethelicia Smith
Rob and Diana Snowly
Margaret Solomon
Rowene Sorell

Frans Spadofora Manarolia
John and Carol Spence
Sqvunlty Chet Ccr Wash
Paul Stagner
Dane Stevens
Guy Stillman
David Stimson and Elizabeth Ashford
Jean Stinson
David and Martha Stiphout
Robert and Jean Stanton
Margaret (Peg) and Dave Stoyel
pam and James Stroz
Violet Street
Robert and Naomie Strichtan
Jean and Cushing Strout
Melville Staple
Carol Sullivan
Robert Sweet
Joan Swenson
Marinai and David Taube
Kara and Eric Taylor
Mike and Judy Taylor
Audrey Terry
Larry and Alice Thayer
The Frame Shop
Therm Incorporated
Edward Thomas and Kathleen Strickland
Joseph and Margaret Thomas
Thomas L. Strick
Susan Thomas
Pamela Thorne
Chuck and Ann Tompkins
Frank and Melanie Touzer
Jessica Traylor
Jeff True and Susan Schattschneider
Chris Trues
John and Pia Tucker
Thomas and Claudia Tull
Orlando Turco
James and Janice Turner
Robin Tuttle
David and Lucy Tyler
Tyler’s Cleaners
Curt and Amanda Ufford
Dave Urich
Joe Urich
Margarette and Norman Uphoff
John and Marcy Van Duren
Harold and Cindy van Es
Frank Van Sicke II
Art Van Tienhoven
Joan Van Vranken
Marcie Vanc
Anthony Vojvodic and Lindsey Petrovic
Charles and Betty Waite
James Wallace, Ph.D.
Richard Walterkin and Dawn Averkhute
Waren Real Estate of Ithaca
Sandra Warran
William and Nanna Wasmuth
Betty Watkins
Don and Barbara Wayman
John Webster and Amy Russ
Paul and Fannie Welch
Mark and Ellen Wheeler
Maurice and Staff White
Niki White
James and Karen Willard
David and Katherine Williams
Fred (Ben) Williams
Glen and Diane Witham
Lou and Fran Witham
John Without
Ken and Marie Woodman
Bruce Wright
Shelley Wright
Christine Wu
Bettie Lee Vigo
Robert and Agnes Zavaski
Eline Zirbel

“Starry Night” respite house was built to serve the need for short-term stays for those with developmental disabilities while their families use that time to take care of personal business, or to enjoy some “respite” time of their own. Historically, respite homes emphasized the time that families would have away from their family member in need of care, whether it be to accomplish tasks or to take some needed rest from care-giving. The same philosophy continues with the opening of “Starry Night,” with just as much emphasis and planning going into the experience for the individual staying at the house. The staff at the respite house want visitors to feel as though they are checking in to a Bed and Breakfast for an exciting or relaxing getaway. The individuals staying each weekend are carefully placed with others having some of the same interests so that residents can enjoy their “away time” engaging with new people and sometimes establishing growing friendships.

Activities are planned by staff to ensure that guests are able to enjoy their time with games, and by visiting regional attractions and experiencing a weekend break from their normal routines.

Continued on page 17...
Franziska Racker Centers had a great year programmatically, serving almost 3,000 people in 2011 with an annual budget of approximately $27 million. Operating revenues combined with public support exceeded operating expenses resulting in a surplus. We rely upon your strong support, which enables us to provide opportunities for our participants that might not otherwise be possible.

**Operating Revenues and Public Support**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Type</th>
<th>Revenue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residential Services</td>
<td>$12,082,323</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children’s &amp; Clinical Services</td>
<td>7,507,737</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Support Services</td>
<td>4,297,651</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counseling for School Success</td>
<td>2,408,002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-Investment Return</td>
<td>59,206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-Miscellaneous Revenue</td>
<td>21,822</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-Prior Period Adjustments</td>
<td>12,508</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-Fundraising &amp; Capital Campaign</td>
<td>724,725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL REVENUE</strong></td>
<td><strong>$27,114,774</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Operating Expenses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expense Type</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employee Related Expense</td>
<td>$21,658,635</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facility and Vehicle Expense</td>
<td>2,226,905</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Expense</td>
<td>1,840,131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Expense</td>
<td>841,575</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Expense</td>
<td>274,188</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contingency Expense</td>
<td>(400,865)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td><strong>$26,440,569</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Change in Net Assets**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$674,205</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Carrie was concerned about Karley’s development as an infant, but when she pushed for answers at Karley’s doctor’s appointments, she was simply told not to worry. Finally at age two Karley was evaluated and it was determined that occupational therapy and speech therapy would help her.

**Carrie noticed that Karley was the only baby she knew that would cry to get into her crib rather than out.**

Soon after that, the family moved to Tompkins County and began working with Jared, a Service Coordinator with the Tompkins County Health Department. Jared was the first person who began talking to the family about the possibility of Karley having autism. Carrie immediately began researching and found that the suggestion of autism resonated. Carrie noticed that Karley was the only baby she knew that would cry to get into her crib rather than out. Karley used to bite herself, pull her hair out, and had a very difficult time being out in public because she would have panic attacks. When Karley was taken to an out-of-town specialist to be evaluated for autism, the family received discouraging news. They were told by the specialist that Karley would likely never talk and that they should prepare to have her live in a group home when she grew up.

This is when Jared recommended some community resources for the family to consider, including Franziska Racker Centers’ Partnership Program, an intensive classroom program specialized for preschoolers with autism. Carrie looks back at this as the most terrifying time. She states, “I remember being so scared to hand over the care of my two-year-old on a regular basis to people I didn’t even know. I thought that Karley was too young to be away from her mommy every day.” Now she looks back and is terrified of what Karley’s life might be like today if she hadn’t made that hard decision five years ago. “I didn’t know at the time, but that very well could be the most important decision I will ever make for my daughter.”

Karley attended the Partnership Program classroom at Racker Centers. Carrie remembers how happy she was to see that the Centers really put Karley first. “They did whatever she needed; it was really centered on her.”

In the beginning, Karley did not speak and wouldn’t play or interact with other children. She did not understand pretend play and was very shy. Teachers and staff worked with Karley on interacting with others. At first her speaking began out of functional necessity. She would talk when she needed something. At home one evening Karley had been looking out the window. She came over to her mother, pointed and told Carrie there was a bird outside. Carrie cried because she was so thrilled to see that Karley had chosen to talk to her just to describe something and initiate a connection.

Today Karley is a very active, talkative seven-year-old in a mainstream classroom at Casavant Elementary School. She is the captain of her cheerleading team, a Girl Scout, plays softball, wrestling and basketball and tells Carrie that when she grows up she wants to be a rock star, a famous artist and a crossing guard. She is well on her way after recently singing in front of her entire school at Casavant.

Carrie states, “Karley’s years at Racker Centers taught me that I can accept any limitations that Karley has, but that I will not accept anyone else putting limitations on her because of her diagnosis. She’s already achieved more at the age of 7 than she was ever expected to and I know she will just continue to do so.”
For more than 30 years, we have been a Friend of Franziska Racker Centers. Your generosity helps us to fill funding gaps, allows for program enhancement, and supports new and innovative services for people with disabilities in our community. We are thankful for the ongoing support of all our Friends, and fondly remember those that have left us, some in the past year.

Many of our Friends gave some of their gifts In-Kind. These donations are items or services that directly enhance ongoing programs. Monetary gifts may have been given to Unrestricted Annual Support, allowing us to address areas of greatest need within the agency, or they may have been designated to one or more of the seven funds described below.

- **Bahn Family Fund** created by Donna and Tom Bahn, provides resources and supports for families with children having special needs.
- **Frances G. Berko Lectureship Fund** created in memory of Dr. Berko, the Centers’ executive director from 1964 to 1974, supports community education and professional development for those working in the disability field.
- **Richard M. Leavitt, M.D. Memorial Fund** created by Judy Leavitt and her sons, provides support for special experiences for children and young adults with disabilities.
- **Tompkins Trust Company Bridge Fund** supports otherwise unfunded clinical services for children throughout the year.
- **Frances V. Wilson Memorial Fund** created by Margaret Gibson in memory of her dear friend, provides financial support for needed items not covered by traditional funding sources.
- **Scriber/Cash Family Fund** created by Jody and Kent Scriber and David and Lori Cash, supports community-based experiences for preschool and elementary age children with special needs.
- **Franziska W. Racker Memorial Fund** created in memory of our former medical director and the agency’s namesake, supports otherwise unfunded adult services.

Many of our Friends have given in recognition of the Centers’ contributions to special needs in the Ithaca area. Some of these include:

- **Frances V. Wilson Memorial Fund** created by Margaret Gibson in memory of our former medical director and the agency's namesake, supports early childhood services, an area that was dear to Dr. Racker's heart.
- **Richard M. Leavitt, M.D. Memorial Fund** created by Jody Leavitt and her sons, supports special experiences for children and young adults with disabilities.
- **Racker Fellows** supports new and innovative services for people with disabilities in our community. We are thankful for the ongoing support of all our Friends, and fondly remember those that have left us, some in the past year.

To make a tax-deductible gift, please mail a check made payable to Franziska Racker Centers to:

**Franziska Racker Centers**

**125 Old Willow Road**

**Ithaca, NY 14850**

When you contribute to Franziska Racker Centers you become a Friend of the Centers. If your contribution is $1000 or more, you become a Racker Fellow or Business Partner. Your generosity helps us to fill funding gaps, allows for program enhancement, and supports new and innovative services for people with disabilities in our community. We are thankful for the ongoing support of all our Friends, and fondly remember those that have left us, some in the past year.

Some of our friends gave gifts In-Kind. These donations are items or services that directly enhance ongoing programs. Monetary gifts may have been given to Unrestricted Annual Support, allowing us to address areas of greatest need within the agency, or they may have been designated to one or more of the seven funds described below.

- **Bahn Family Fund** created by Donna and Tom Bahn, provides resources and supports for families with children having special needs.
- **Frances G. Berko Lectureship Fund** created in memory of Dr. Berko, the Centers’ executive director from 1964 to 1974, supports community education and professional development for those working in the disability field.
- **Richard M. Leavitt, M.D. Memorial Fund** created by Judy Leavitt and her sons, provides support for special experiences for children and young adults with disabilities.
- **Tompkins Trust Company Bridge Fund** supports otherwise unfunded clinical services for children throughout the year.
- **Frances V. Wilson Memorial Fund** created by Margaret Gibson in memory of her dear friend, provides financial support for needed items not covered by traditional funding sources.
- **Scriber/Cash Family Fund** created by Jody and Kent Scriber and David and Lori Cash, supports community-based experiences for preschool and elementary age children with special needs.
- **Franziska W. Racker Memorial Fund** created in memory of our former medical director and the agency’s namesake, supports otherwise unfunded adult services.

Many of our Friends have given in recognition of the Centers’ contributions to special needs in the Ithaca area. Some of these include:

- **Frances V. Wilson Memorial Fund** created by Margaret Gibson in memory of our former medical director and the agency's namesake, supports early childhood services, an area that was dear to Dr. Racker's heart.
- **Richard M. Leavitt, M.D. Memorial Fund** created by Jody Leavitt and her sons, supports special experiences for children and young adults with disabilities.
- **Racker Fellows** supports new and innovative services for people with disabilities in our community. We are thankful for the ongoing support of all our Friends, and fondly remember those that have left us, some in the past year.

When you contribute to Franziska Racker Centers you become a Friend of the Centers. If your contribution is $1000 or more, you become a Racker Fellow or Business Partner. Your generosity helps us to fill funding gaps, allows for program enhancement, and supports new and innovative services for people with disabilities in our community. We are thankful for the ongoing support of all our Friends, and fondly remember those that have left us, some in the past year.

Some of our friends gave gifts In-Kind. These donations are items or services that directly enhance ongoing programs. Monetary gifts may have been given to Unrestricted Annual Support, allowing us to address areas of greatest need within the agency, or they may have been designated to one or more of the seven funds described below.

- **Bahn Family Fund** created by Donna and Tom Bahn, provides resources and supports for families with children having special needs.
- **Frances G. Berko Lectureship Fund** created in memory of Dr. Berko, the Centers’ executive director from 1964 to 1974, supports community education and professional development for those working in the disability field.
- **Richard M. Leavitt, M.D. Memorial Fund** created by Judy Leavitt and her sons, provides support for special experiences for children and young adults with disabilities.
- **Tompkins Trust Company Bridge Fund** supports otherwise unfunded clinical services for children throughout the year.
- **Frances V. Wilson Memorial Fund** created by Margaret Gibson in memory of her dear friend, provides financial support for needed items not covered by traditional funding sources.
- **Scriber/Cash Family Fund** created by Jody and Kent Scriber and David and Lori Cash, supports community-based experiences for preschool and elementary age children with special needs.
- **Franziska W. Racker Memorial Fund** created in memory of our former medical director and the agency’s namesake, supports otherwise unfunded adult services.

Many of our Friends have given in recognition of the Centers’ contributions to special needs in the Ithaca area. Some of these include:

- **Frances V. Wilson Memorial Fund** created by Margaret Gibson in memory of our former medical director and the agency's namesake, supports early childhood services, an area that was dear to Dr. Racker's heart.
- **Richard M. Leavitt, M.D. Memorial Fund** created by Jody Leavitt and her sons, supports special experiences for children and young adults with disabilities.
- **Racker Fellows** supports new and innovative services for people with disabilities in our community. We are thankful for the ongoing support of all our Friends, and fondly remember those that have left us, some in the past year.

When you contribute to Franziska Racker Centers you become a Friend of the Centers. If your contribution is $1000 or more, you become a Racker Fellow or Business Partner. Your generosity helps us to fill funding gaps, allows for program enhancement, and supports new and innovative services for people with disabilities in our community. We are thankful for the ongoing support of all our Friends, and fondly remember those that have left us, some in the past year.

Some of our friends gave gifts In-Kind. These donations are items or services that directly enhance ongoing programs. Monetary gifts may have been given to Unrestricted Annual Support, allowing us to address areas of greatest need within the agency, or they may have been designated to one or more of the seven funds described below.

- **Bahn Family Fund** created by Donna and Tom Bahn, provides resources and supports for families with children having special needs.
- **Frances G. Berko Lectureship Fund** created in memory of Dr. Berko, the Centers’ executive director from 1964 to 1974, supports community education and professional development for those working in the disability field.
- **Richard M. Leavitt, M.D. Memorial Fund** created by Judy Leavitt and her sons, provides support for special experiences for children and young adults with disabilities.
- **Tompkins Trust Company Bridge Fund** supports otherwise unfunded clinical services for children throughout the year.
- **Frances V. Wilson Memorial Fund** created by Margaret Gibson in memory of her dear friend, provides financial support for needed items not covered by traditional funding sources.
- **Scriber/Cash Family Fund** created by Jody and Kent Scriber and David and Lori Cash, supports community-based experiences for preschool and elementary age children with special needs.
- **Franziska W. Racker Memorial Fund** created in memory of our former medical director and the agency’s namesake, supports otherwise unfunded adult services.
“Starry Night” Continued from page 9...

Kim Lansdowne, Regional Residential Director who oversees the respite house states, “Families having used this as a resource so far, have commented on how beneficial this has been for them.” Kim explains that the most difficult aspect of the house up to now has been the enrollment meetings for families because they seem apprehensive until they see the house and learn more about the program. The leap of faith of leaving your family member who relies on you 100% for care for the first time can be very difficult. “The individual staying with us does great and has a wonderful time. The family members are the ones that may struggle at first or feel guilty leaving. That is until they come to pick them up and see what a great time they had!” Kim continues. “That is when it feels so good to see a family that can finally let go of the apprehensions and start enjoying the respite time as well.

When asking Janet McArthur what the experience has been like for her family, she states, “It has been ideal.” Her 28-year-old son Jimmy has stayed at “Starry Night” Respite House. 

“Starry Night” respite house is now complete including a fence for privacy and security. (Right) The house’s living room and kitchen area are comfortable and welcoming.

Kim displays artwork created during his stay at “Starry Night” Respite House.
In Honor / In Memory

In Honor of: Thomas A. Allen
Melvin and Pamela Ellis, Jr.

In Honor of: Robert Avery
Peter and Donna Rogers

In Honor of: William Baldini
Marti Baird
Neal Howard
Robert and Kathleen Kemple, Jr.

In Honor of: Nancy Barlow
J. Robert Barlow

In Honor of: Mary Bassette
Elizabeth Bassette

In Honor of: Edna Beatty
James Beatty

In Honor of: Guy Beaumont
Hugh Beaumont

In Honor of: Mary Tie Beier
Steven and Beverly Beier

In Honor of: Malcolm and Elizabeth Bikin
Maria Eisner

In Honor of: Hannah Brown
Donna Scott

In Honor of: Dan and Eve Brown
Eric Trotter

In Honor of: Donald W. Burton
Doris Burton

In Honor of: Betty Buscall
Tom and Donna Bohn

In Honor of: Lorraine B. Chase
Stephen and Cynthia Chase

In Honor of: Ann R. Costello
Richard and Patricia Miller

In Honor of: Richard and Patricia Miller
Dale and Patricia Mueller

In Honor of: Allison Cowan
Wayne and Darla Kunzman

In Honor of: Rick Cowan
John and Carol Spence

In Honor of: William DeWinter
Simon and Carole Levin

In Honor of: Jean Dunleavy
Helen Harrett

In Honor of: William Earl, Jr.
Mildred Earl

In Honor of: William Earl, Sr.
Mildred Earl
Lawrence Snyder
Mark and Lynn Weissman

In Honor of: Terri Ellis
Carolyne Mckay

In Honor of: Kelly Fancieth
Robert and Sally Silvia

In Honor of: Franzioka Rackers Centers
Family Resource Respite Program
Janice Lawrence

In Honor of: Franzioka Rackers Centers
Toddler Program Teachers
Kyle Kubick and Marie Garland

In Honor of: Mary Louie Gabelty
David Vattimo

In Honor of: Murray Gibson
Samuel and Louisa Cario
Nancy Gibson
Jessie Harper
Perni and Mick LaPinto
Dorothea Makris

In Honor of: Margaret Gibson
Betty Cook
Gerry and Caroline Cox
Verginia Estabrook
Olan and Katie Falker
Reeder and Sally Gates
Nancy Gibson
Bonnie Gordon
Gordon and Margaret Huckle
Marianne Mellinger
James and Connie Meyer
Laure and Bill Roberts
Margaret Solomon

In Honor of: Meg Gillard
Jenna Miller

In Honor of: Esther Ginsburg
Judith K. Leavitt

In Honor of: Anna M. Galick
Barbara Knickowski

In Honor of: Dorothy and Robert Graf
Donal and Janet Anechakosky

In Honor of: Robert D. Grant
Beverly Baker
Margaret Gibson
Jody and Kent Scriber
Bette Steele

In Honor of: Jason Gaves
David and Mary Lee Banfield
Dr. and Mrs. Leo Cacciotti
Jody and Kent Scriber

In Honor of: Joshua Griffin
Carlsmith Smith

In Memory of: Peter Hesler
Perni and Mick LaPinto

In Memory of: Mark Hesler
Peter and Donna Rogers

In Memory of: Mary Louie Gabelty
Lynna Jean Hall

In Memory of: Suzanne Hall
Denise and Allan Lentinii

In Memory of: Barbara Hall
Joseph and Jessica Ryan

In Memory of: Joan Helper
Robert and Dixie Buchanan

In Memory of: Lena Helper
Betty Miller

In Memory of: Melvin (Bill) Helper
Judith K. Leavitt
Rachel Samuel Leavitt and Helen Kim

In Memory of: Adele K. Heppel
Avilla Enck

In Memory of: Bob Howell and Ruan Reus
River and Leah Howell

In Memory of: Ben and Laura Hutchens
Robert and Mary Hutchens

In Memory of: Alice Jacoby
Barry and Holly Adams
Jane and Janet Jacoby
Charlotte Murray
Sarah Rich
S.C. Johnson Graduate School of Management

In Memory of: Jim Johnson
Hilary T. Fraser

In Memory of: Steven Hesley
Pet and Donna Rogers

In Memory of: Joyce and Guy Hjul
Deborah Alberanie
Elia Blokensy and Vivian Leonard
Faculty and Staff of Varick Valley Middle School
Howard and Ruth Lyon
Ralph and Dolores Valentine
Robert and Charlene Wood

In Memory of: Meg Keibach
Howard and Karen Weiss

In Memory of: Rev. Louis Kennedy
William and Mary Kennedy

In Memory of: Tulu Shalom Kim-Leavitt
Judith K. Leavitt
Noah Samuel Leavitt and Helen Kim

In Memory of: Adele K. Heppel
Avilla Enck

In Memory of: Senna Rose Kullman
Judith K. Leavitt

In Memory of: Dorothy Laubengayer
Kathryn Laubengayer

In Memory of: The Leavitt Family
Ted and Joan Podkul, Jr.

In Memory of: Aryeh Zusku Kim Leavitt
Judith K. Leavitt

In Memory of: Dan Leavitt and Mariele Buckman
Judith K. Leavitt
Ted and Joan Podkul, Jr.

In Memory of: Judith K. Leavitt
Noah Samuel Leavitt and Helen Kim

In Memory of: Noah Leavitt
Heidi Kim
Judith K. Leavitt
Jennifer Podkul and Craig Kullman
Ted and Joan Podkul, Jr.

In Memory of: Richard Leavitt
Joseph and Cheryl Borden
Margaret Corington
Judith K. Leavitt
Ted and Joan Podkul, Jr.

In Memory of: Dr. Jeffrey S. Lewis
Neeraj Gupta
Stephen Hand and Nancy Dyman

In Memory of: Steve and Kathy Lipinski
David and Joan Hesekovts
Diane Levine

In Memory of: Peri LaPinto
Margaret Gibson
Lee and Sylvia Miller
Shelley Semmeler

In Memory of: Dr. Franziska Racker
Dora Donovan
Mary Gilligan
Judith Korin
Nancy Stipper

In Memory of: Yeori Makriss
Betty Cook

In Memory of: Dick and Sharon Matthews
Thomas Howarth
Frank and Louise Mudrak
Elizabeth Smith

In Memory of: Ali McGurk
Marcin Duzgorski

In Memory of: Laura McNulty
Chesney Marrella-Davis
Nelson and Susan Phillips

In Memory of: David L. Miner
Gerald and Janet Miner

In Memory of: Pat Moran
Richey Moran

In Memory of: Dr. Thomas Masse
Florence Masse

In Memory of: Jim Mullins, Ithaca College
Kenneth and Vivian Weston

In Memory of: John C. Murphy
Richard and Irene Hubbell

In Memory of: Edith Nicholas
Peter and Donna Rogers

In Memory of: Betty O’Connell
River and Leah Howell

In Memory of: Dustin Pataki
Miles and Rose Seely

In Memory of: Sammy Putton
Beverley Backus

In Memory of: Howard I. Fraser
Peter and Donna Rogers

In Memory of: Katherine Gamber
Jeanne White
Carolyn Sampson

In Memory of: Judy Hallam Williams
Linda Long

In Memory of: Frances V. Wilson
Roger Batchelder
Tyler’s Cleaners

In Memory of: Kenneth J. Woodman
Ken and Marie Woodman

In Memory of: Robert and Sally Silva
Kelly Farook

In Memory of: Chris and Diana Sinton
Anonymous

In Memory of: Robert Avery
Margaret Gibson

In Memory of: Virginia Steinger
Margaret Gibson

In Memory of: David Stinson
Jean Stinson

In Memory of: Susan Sutro
William and Kathryn Russell

In Memory of: Gerta Sugerman
Arend Sugerman

In Memory of: William Suit
William and Patricia Elison

In Memory of: John A. Taylor
Dave and Peggy Dunlop

In Memory of: Kara Taylor
Kathleen Gamber

In Memory of: Judy Sobor
Donald Nagle

In Memory of: Fred Schuler
Marianne Levine

In Memory of: Dr. Reuben I. Weiner
Peter and Donna Rogers

In Memory of: Jeannie White
Carolyn Sampson

In Memory of: Judy Hallam Williams
Linda Long

In Memory of: Francis V. Wilson
Roger Batchelder
Tyler’s Cleaners

In Memory of: Kenneth J. Woodman
Ken and Marie Woodman

In Memory of: Robert and Sally Silva
Kelly Farook

1918
MISSION
We are dedicated to helping people with special needs and their families have good lives, with opportunities to learn, to be responsible, to feel cared for, to share, to be connected to others. We are committed to creating a culture of inclusion in our community, celebrating the richness that diversity and interdependence bring.

VISION
We are inspired by the vision of our founding families, that all people with disabilities will be valued members of a welcoming and supportive community.