

June Outreach

Elder Abuse Awareness Month (EAAM)



This year we upheld and lifted elders who experienced interpersonal violence during Elder Abuse Awareness Month in June. FSC sent a press release to local news-related agencies, set up displays in the community, and discussed numerous topics relating to elder abuse on social media. In addition, we collaborated with Chippewa County Adult Protective Services (APS) to provide information to Meals on Wheels recipients, every Family Fare purchaser, and anyone who came to the Stanley Pop Up Food Pantry.

From left: Joyel and Tara from APS, Cara from FSC

Pride Month

Pride:

“a feeling of deep pleasure or satisfaction derived from one’s own achievements, the achievements of those with whom one is closely associated, or from qualities or possessions that are widely admired.”



From left: Amanda S., Xander, Finn

Family Support Center acknowledges, supports, accepts, cherishes, upholds, believes in, fights for, and takes great pride in our LGBTQ+ community.

Missed us at Pride?
Stop by our booth at
Sounds Like Summer
on July 25!

Farewell Finn!

Hello! My name is Finn and I have been a Sexual Assault Advocate at Family Support Center for just over a year. In the last year I have learned so much that it is hard to put it into words. Part of my learning was not being in school anymore and the adjustment to having my first full-time professional job. The other part was everything related to anti-violence work and the hand that the patriarchy, racism, and white supremacy plays in nearly every social issue, especially interpersonal violence.



I am most proud of the work that Erica, Jeni, Amanda, and I did to create the Domestic Violence Rapid Re-Housing Program. My favorite things about working at FSC were having the opportunity to help people feel seen and less alone and collaborating with an amazing staff. I feel so blessed to have had the opportunity to work alongside such wonderful, funny, intelligent, and caring people. The staff, as well as being a part of anti-violence work, are what I will miss the most when I leave. I look forward to integrating what I’ve learned here into whatever is next for me. I want to thank the participants I worked with for sharing their stories with me and inspiring me with their strength and resilience and my co-workers for the support and kindness they poured into my life.

Anti-Oppression Statement

“In the summer of 2020, Family Support Center was saddened and outraged by the murder of George Floyd. Fueled by a desire to do better, we created an anti-racist statement and embarked on a journey to develop multi-faceted strategies to weave anti-racism into our practices. That work continues and evolves and after much introspection, we have created a new anti-oppression statement.

This statement reflects our quest to uplift all individuals who seek our services, especially those who are the most marginalized, and to do our part to dismantle oppression within our own agency and oppressive systems within our communities.”

*Geri Segal
Executive Director*

For more than 40 years, Family Support Center has operated with the intent of serving Chippewa Valley survivors of violence from a diversity of backgrounds, experiences, and cultures. However, the wave of reckoning in 2020, surrounding the murder of George Floyd, was a catalyst for deeper thought, including assessing the racism, anti-Blackness, and white supremacy within our own movement. We realized that unexamined intent was no substitute for action.

We acknowledge that the anti-violence movement has been complicit in white supremacy and other forms of oppression, both through direct discrimination and by ignoring wrongs perpetrated against individuals, families, and communities due to race, ethnicity, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, disability, and other intersecting identities.

We grieve the lives lost, and the ways in which opportunities for growth have been diminished.

As an anti-violence organization, we understand that interpersonal violence and institutional violence are interconnected. We cannot only focus on individual harm without looking at broader structures of oppression and discrimination.

We are committed to uplifting individuals who seek our services, colleagues and staff, and the community at large by taking action against racism, anti-Blackness, white supremacy, homophobia, transphobia, ableism, and other social systems built around power and control. And we are committed to applying these principles in the day-to-day work we do: not just in response to crisis.

Anti-oppression work is ongoing. We will continue to scrutinize our internal practices, and those of the movement, with the courage to repair and grow from, not conceal, our mistakes and missteps.

We invite other organizations and systems to join us on this journey of reimagining a world in which everyone can grow to reach their full potential with the support of a strong and purposeful community.

Chippewa Falls Main Office
715.723.1138 or 1.800.400.7020
familysupport@fscf.org

Administrative

Executive Director – Geri
Accounting Manager – Amy
Office Manager – Glori
Resource Development Coordinator – Xander
Domestic Violence Program
Domestic Violence Program Director – Jeni
Domestic Violence Advocates – Cara and Erica
Domestic Violence Youth Advocate – Victoria
River Source Family Center
Parent Services Program Director – Becce
Parent Educator – Robin and Cody
Rural Family Connections Facilitator – Amanda R.
CF Family Connections Facilitator – Brenda

Chippewa Falls Satellite Office

Sexual Assault Program
CF Sexual Assault Advocates – Morgan and Finn
Human Trafficking Case Manager – Krista
Therapist – Tom

Eau Claire Offices

715.830.0188 or 1.888.407.7811

Sexual Assault Program
Sexual Assault Program Director – Amanda S.
Sexual Assault Advocate – Annette
UWEC CASA Victim Service Coordinator – Hannah L.

Offices Within the CF School District

Family Support & Resource Coordinator – Ellen
Family Crisis Support Specialist – Kristin

Volunteer Spotlight

We could not serve the people we do without our dedicated volunteers. This summer's 'thank you' goes to **Abby**, who has been an On-Call Advocate for eight months.

“Abby has great instincts and applies the information she learned in her volunteer training in a way that is tailored to the needs of the individual. She always makes sure the dignity of and respect for callers are at the forefront.”

~Amanda

“She has a calm presence and is thoughtful and intentional in her communication about callers. Abby is detailed, responsible, and an important part of our team!”

~Jeni

Volunteers are essential to Family Support Center and the people we serve. On-Call Advocates provide a vital link to services for individuals who have experienced interpersonal violence. Advocates provide crisis intervention, advocacy, supportive listening, medical advocacy, law enforcement advocacy, shelter facilitation, transportation, information, and referrals when Family Support Center is closed.

If you are interested in volunteering with Family Support Center, email familysupport@fscf.org or visit www.familysupportcentercf.org.

The Women's House of Detention by Hugh Ryan

The Women's House of Detention (House of D) in Greenwich Village, New York City, stood from 1929 to 1974. Tens of thousands of individuals - mostly women and transmasculine people - were incarcerated throughout its nearly half a century existence. Their charges ranged from petty to discriminatory and included smoking, wearing pants, disobedience, and lesbianism. The detention center's goals were simple: reinforce feminine gender roles in those deviating from them and have them re-emerge a "proper" woman after their arrest.

An interview with Hugh Ryan reveals the understated role the House of D had in becoming New York City's queer capital:

“Greenwich Village became a center for queer women and trans men because the government kept bringing them there, particularly during . . . the 1950s, when the government is raiding bars and shutting down private drag shows and arresting people for dressing in the wrong gender on the streets. When everything else is being cracked down on, the House of D cannot be cracked down on, because it is the government themselves who is [bringing] queer people there.”



Family Support Center staff with their copies of The Women's House of Detention

“I have been eager not only to read The Women's House of Detention, but to discuss it with others, since I heard historian Hugh Ryan was going to be undertaking this project. I love Ryan's approach to writing about history—especially queer history—and how it has shaped a lot of today's systems, attitudes, and beliefs that we don't often interrogate. I cannot think of a better group of people with whom to do a 'deep dive' into this book than my colleagues at Family Support Center!

The Greenwich Village of the 20th century, and the House of D within it, closed 50 years ago and may seem like a long way from Chippewa and Eau Claire counties in 2024. However, as an agency that serves many currently and formerly incarcerated survivors of violence, we have a lot to learn from this history of this institution and the experiences of compounded trauma, resilience, and community-building that went on at the House of D.”

~Amanda

Board of Directors

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Thank you for your time and
commitment to Family Support Center!

What's Going On at River Source Family Center?

Summer Programming

Are you looking for activities to keep you and your family busy this summer? River Source has you covered!

Mondays 9:30 - 10:15 AM	Movin' & Groovin' moves to Irvine Park (near the splashpad)
4th Monday of the month 10:00 - 11:15 AM	Stanley Play & Learn at Chapman Park
4th Tuesday of the month 9:00 - 10:15 AM	Cornell Play & Learn at Cornell Park (N. 5th and 6th St.)
4th Wednesday of the month 10:00 - 11:15 AM	Bloomer Play & Learn at North City Park

Join River Source for **Friday Family Fun** days around our community!

Scan here or visit our website to **register** and ensure we have supplies for everyone!



Have you checked out our new **Itty Bitty Play Time**? Connect with other caregivers, celebrate your child's growth & development, and learn about resources for your family.

This playgroup is for parents/caregivers and their little ones (0 - 23 months)

First and Third Wednesday of the month - 10:30 am - 11:30 am.

For more activities, check out our website: www.riversourcefamilycenter.com



Helping Kids Understand Feelings

River Source Family Center's program is centered around proven approaches to help parents and caregivers. These approaches build on five strengths all families share and are incorporated into every program at River Source including group connections, home visiting, and parenting classes and groups.

Five for Families are protective factors for every family and include Building Inner Strength, Connecting with Others, Parenting as Children Grow, Knowing How to Find Help, and Helping Kids Understand Feelings.

Today, let's focus on **Helping Kids Understand Feelings** - showing your kids how to name, understand, and manage emotions.

When you help your children understand feelings, they feel safe and valued and develop the confidence to solve their own problems. You may even spend less time managing misbehavior.

Children who learn how to express and manage their emotions often do better in school and have stronger friendships. These "social and emotional competence skills" also shape how they treat others and deal with challenges as adults.

Helping Kids Understand Feelings can look like teaching kids to share, encouraging kids to solve problems, and listening when kids express their emotions.

Play breathing games to calm your child

Play games together (learn turn taking, rules, patience)

Tips to Try:

Explore feelings with books

Attend a Calm Down Toolbox workshop at River Source!



Information from Five for Families:

www.fiveforfamilies.org

Check out their website for resources to build your Family Strengths.



The People Who Make it All Possible

From left: **John**, Parent Leader. **Becce**, Parent Services Program Director. **Gina**, Parent Leader, **Amanda**, Rural Family Connections Facilitator. **Brenda**, Chippewa Falls Family Connections Facilitator. **Cody**, Parent Educator. **Robin**, Parent Educator.





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 715.723.1138 or 1.800.400.7020

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Family Support Center is an equal opportunity agency. Family Support Center celebrates the diversity of all people and does not discriminate in any manner on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, ability, gender identity or expression, or sexual orientation. Family Support Center's programs are funded in part by United Way of the Greater Chippewa Valley.



Wish List

Family Support Center is asking for these items for participants. These items help provide assistance, safety, and peace of mind to those who need it. Donations can be brought to the purple building during open hours, Monday - Thursday 8:30 am - 4:30 pm.

- Can openers
- Cleaning supplies (disinfecting wipes, air freshener, dish soap)
- Diapers (Size 4)
- Gift cards (gas and groceries)
- Laundry detergent (liquid and pods, small and regular sizes)
- Pull-ups
- Shampoo and conditioner
- Shaving cream
- Tampons
- Toothpaste

Donate to Family Support Center

There are numerous ways to give to Family Support Center:

Online



In Person

403 N. High St
 Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

By Mail

P.O. Box 143
 Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

In-Kind

Donate an item from our wish list, organize a donation drive, or ask us how you can support Family Support Center.

Thank you to everyone who gave to
 our spring fundraising campaign!



FamilySupportChippewaValley

@familysupportcenter.wi



www.familysupportcentercf.org