

Special Needs Support Center Annual Report 2015-2016



Our Mission

*To help children and adults with any type of special need, and their families,
meet their unique challenges through advocacy and program support.*



<http://www.facebook.com/SNSCUV> Website: <http://www.sns-cuv.org>
Call us at 603-448-6311, or email Info@sns-cuv.org

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Debra Campbell
ASPIRE Consulting Coordinator

Theresa Hunnewell
Christian Ledesma
Social Cognition Facilitators

A Message From the President

It is that time of year again – the Annual Report. This has been a year of many changes! Having Philip retire and going through the search and hiring process for a new Executive Director, has been the major emphasis of the Board this year. We are pleased to report that the transition is going smoothly with Philip and Havah working out most of the details and timing. We also enjoyed a wonderful Annual Meeting where we could express our appreciation for all of the time and work that Philip has poured into this organization.

As usual, Pam and Nicki have been key in helping with this transition in so many ways!

Other transitions this year included some Board members stepping off of active service - Ann Bracken, Codie Rockwood, Peter Garland and Anthea Lavallee. Again, there is so much appreciation for all of the time and effort that they have given to SNSC, and they will each be sorely missed! At the same time, we welcome three new Board members – Lori Meyers, Marcie Sanborn and Jan Winslow. We thank you in advance for the work that will be done!

Looking ahead, please keep a watch out for this year's fundraisers: the SNA Move-A-Thon, the Blue Lip Golf Tournament, the Delicious Art event at AVA, the Simon Pearce Dinner and the Mother's Day Raffle. As these, and possibly more, come up, we will let you know! Thank you for your support of these events, and also for your financial giving through our Annual Giving Campaign (these letters will go out in November!).

We are looking forward to another year of serving in the Special Needs Support Center, and we thank you for your help in this endeavor!

Sincerely,



Barbara van Hoff
President, SNSC Board of Directors

A Message From the Executive Director



Philip Eller, Executive Director

Fiscal Year 2016 (from July 2015 through June 2016) has continued the 36 year tradition of SNSC by providing 18 services and programs for children and adults with *any* kind of special need, and their parents and families. Several of these deserve special highlighting this year. The new ***Social Cognition Group*** for junior high aged students on the autism spectrum was started and was in full swing this year. The group was led by Theresa Hunnewell, a special educator with many years experience working with this area of special need. She was assisted most admirably

by Christian Ledesma, a student from Dartmouth College who started in the fall as a psychology intern with SNSC (under my supervision) and continued as a volunteer until his graduation in June. Together they facilitated a group of five students using the Social Thinking curriculum created by Michelle Garcia Winner, an approach that is considered the ‘best practice’ in this field. The group filled a need, long identified by parents and professionals, for this population. The junior high school years (as you may remember) are a time of kids splitting into various cliques, a dynamic that leaves “our” kids with only limited social supports, hence, the great need for this group. Funding will come next year from a grant from the new Green Mountain Foundation.

Another program to highlight is the reorganization and new leadership of the three playgroups in the ***ASPIRE*** program for children on the autism spectrum. This program was started six years ago in collaboration with an inspired Dartmouth College student. The ***ASPIRE*** program includes a playgroup (for kids ages 4 through 7 years), the ***STEPS*** Group (for higher functioning kids on the spectrum ages 8 through 12 years), and a swim group held at the Upper Valley Aquatic Center for students from the other two groups. These weekly groups take place during the academic terms when the Dartmouth College student volunteers are available. Since beginning, this program has operated semi-autonomously by College student volunteers with some assistance from the College’s Center for Community Service and some from our Consulting Coordinator of ***ASPIRE***. Transition and turn over of student leadership has been a challenging issue for all involved, but this year we have, through Pam’s determined work and communication with all involved, and with the hiring of Debra Campbell as the Consulting Coordinator, we have stabilized this program with SNSC taking a major and central role in the leadership and direction of it. Debra has developed a wonderful and effective relationship with the Dartmouth volunteers, and with Pam is working on building effective systems of communication, etc. with the volunteers and the families.

Finally, a support group was formed this year at Pam’s initiation for parents who have a child in one of the two Saturday groups, ***ASPIRE*** and ***STEPS***. After they drop off their child at the afternoon group they go to the Friends Meeting House in Hanover and share their stories of challenges with their child with other understanding parents, all under the facilitation by Pam. This group provides invaluable support for these parents – a service long in the tradition started by SNSC with those first parents sitting around a kitchen table supporting each other on their journeys of caring for children with any kind of special need. This group provides invaluable support for these parents, and is a type of service long in the tradition started by SNSC, from when the “first parents” sat around a kitchen table sharing the stories of their personal journeys caring for children with any kind of special need.

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

Our small full time staff of two combined with several consultants to provide 17 services and programs to more than 624 in the wider Upper Valley in the past year. Some of our unique and valuable contacts were short term like a Information & Referral call to a year- long use of our Educational Advocacy or the ART LAB. Some of our programs reached only a small targeted audience but the newsletter reached about 1000 people and our website and Facebook page to many others. Our Family Support Services include 11 different ones and our Community Partners program total six unique ones.

Family Support Services (FSS) **Services primarily to and for parents and families**

Educational Advocacy – one of our unique and signature services helping parents who have children needing special educational assistance navigate the complex world of the special education rules and regulations by planning with them for interactions with the school system and often attending school meetings for their support.

162 School meetings attended
544 Contacts with parents
93 New parent referrals
94 Collateral contacts with school or agency professionals

Information & Referral – SNSC has always served as one of most comprehensive and connected Information & Referral providers here in the wider Upper Valley and for both states of NH and VT.

At least 80 contacts by phone or email

Parent Support Group – as mentioned above, Pam facilitated a group for parents who had children attending an ASPIRE or STEPS group

10 group meetings

Quarterly Newsletter – this informative communication went out four times this year. One article (about the dangers of parents becoming a ‘homework Nazi’) was even reproduced by a principal in a school newsletter he sent to parents.

Usually about 273 newsletters sent by email
Usually about 651 sent by snail mail

Nathan Hall Library – Barbara Hall, our volunteer manager of our library processed five boxes of books this year and Nicki entered their data in our Library World system on our website. We now over 750 books available for loan and reading.

750 books in our Library

Respite Child Care Program – financial support to parents who need occasional respite from the responsibilities of caring 24/7 for a child with intense special need.

5 families served
7 children
7 adults
225 hours of care provided

Parent to Parent Matching – matches experienced parents with new parents of a child recently diagnosed with a similar special need.

5 parents matched

Enhanced Family Support - provides a Board Certified Behavior Analyst to work 10-12 hours with family/parent of child newly diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder.

7 families served
33 total number of hours of service

Community Partners (CP) - Programs primarily for children, Teens, younger and older adults with special needs



Pam Blair, Programs Coordinator

Happenings – a monthly social-recreational activity for older teens and adults.

11 events (3 dances, Pizza & Bingo, Ladies Luncheon, etc.)
118 unduplicated participants including family members, friends, and caregivers)
104 different families
750 total attendance – all events

ART LAB – 42 weeks of weekly creative art experience held at AVA Gallery for adults, led by Murray Ngoima and assisted by Sylvia Dow.

54 artists attended one or more of the four different terms each year

STAR – a monthly event for teens with chronic health conditions who meet with Dartmouth College students who also have chronic health conditions. A group mentoring experience that includes an educational curriculum, a group meal that includes teens' parents who meet separately for in a support group.

8 teens
15 Dartmouth mentors
12 parents

Connections – a big sibling experience for kids with a variety of special needs that matches them for a weekly contact with a Dartmouth College student.

8 matches of a child with a Dartmouth student

ASPIRE & STEPS – weekly playgroups for children with autism that are led by trained Dartmouth College students. **ASPIRE** is for children 4-7 years of age, and **STEPS** for children 8-12 years. SNSC provides a Consulting Coordinator for training, modeling, and ongoing consultation. Also a weekly swim group for these children held at the Upper Valley Aquatic Center.

ASPIRE playgroup - 5 children
STEPS playgroup - 8 children
Swim group - 7 children
DC Volunteers - 20 students

Social Cognition Group – weekly group for junior high students on the autism spectrum. Led this year by Theresa Hunnewell and assisted Dartmouth student Christian Ledesma.

5 students



This Year's Annual Meeting



Happenings July Cookout





2015-2016 Grants and Contracts

The Jack and Dorothy Byrne Foundation
 Kettering Family Foundation
 The Lane and Elizabeth C. Dwinell Charitable Trust
 Cogswell Foundation
 Ledyard Bank
 HOPE Foundation
 Golub Foundation
 Couch Family Foundation
 Claremont Savings Bank
 Hanover Rotary Club
 Granite United Way
 PathWAYS of the River Valley
 John M. Shapiro Charitable Trust



A Very Special Thank You To Our Leadership Circle of Donors!

These donors have either donated \$500 or more or have increased their donation by \$200 or more

Jim and Brooke Adler	Kevin and Punam Keller	Vince and Lucia Mennona
Anonymous (1)	Tom and Diane McFarland	James and Tanya Callan
Pete and Ruth Bleyler	Bill and Geraldine North	Meg and Bruce Seely
Ann Bracken	Miriam and Aaron Osofsky	Father Francis Belanger, OP
Adam Cole	Marilyn Paganucci	Win Piper
Hans Copeland	Roger Phillips and Robin Cushman Phillips	Adrienne and Stan Stark
Tricia Lanter-Dufty and Kirk Dufty	Rick and Linda Roesch	Rick Elsner
Philip and Janet Eller	Barrie and Pat Sellers	Tita and Oliver Manice
Wayne Griffin	Lori and Mike Shipulski	Jeffrey and Denise Breedlove
Michael Guay	Walter Simons	Nancy Barrington
Barbara Hall	Peter and Jill White	Candy and Anthony Wynands
David Harris and Joanne Blais	Douglas and Leslie Williamson	

Thanks to the 269 People Who Contributed To The 2015-2016 AGC

If we missed your name, please let us know. We want to honor all donors unless you've requested to remain anonymous.

Jim and Brooke Adler	Ann Christiano	Barbara Hall	Peter and Lu Martin	Ellen Sauer
Susan Almy	David and Ann Cioffi	Allen and Sally Hall	Jim and Pat Martin	John and Jill Schiffman
Marianne and James Ammann	Ray and Tina Clark	Laurie Harding and Peter	Lee and Linda Masten	Ben Schore
Anonymous (32)	Marion and Delbert Cloud	Mason	Elizabeth Masure	Meg and Bruce Seely
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Green	Courtney Dobyns	Peter Isquith	Fred Moseley	Erika Smith
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Amy Chan	James and Debbie Griffiths	Susan Lloyd	Andy and Cynthia Roth	Jim and Susan Wright
Lisa and Quinn Chartier and	Clark and Happy Griffiths	Edith Loeb	Paul and Sue Rump	Candy and Anthony Wynands
Angela Krapovicky	Bobbi Gross	Steve and Margot Maddock	Sally and Jeremy Rutter	Larry Young and Toni
Terry and Deb Chase	David and Agnes Guay	David and Ann Malenka	Fred and Mary Ann	Salvatoriello
Joseph and Amy Cheevers	Michael Guay	Tita and Oliver Manice	Carl Sandin	LaMonica
	Pete and Diane Guay	Kathy Marshall		Mary Ella and Paul Zietz

Financial Information

Financial Summary July 1, 2015-June 30, 2016

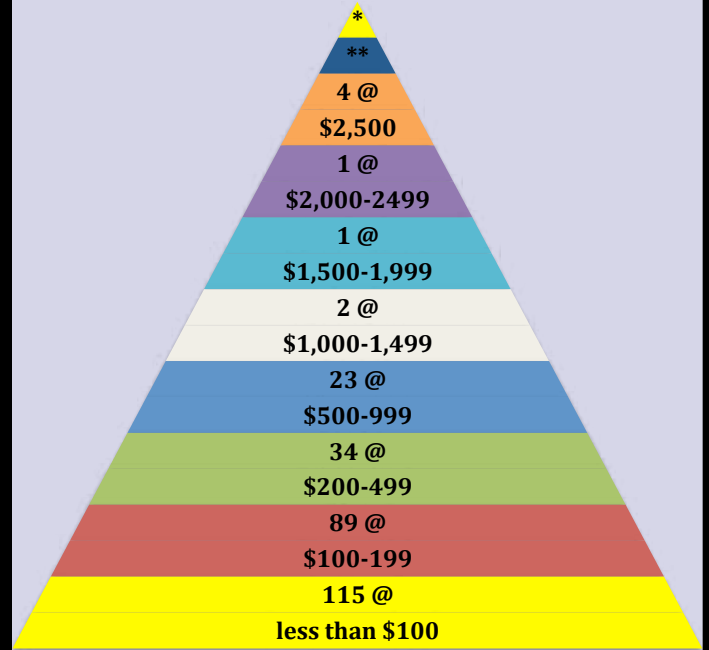
REVENUE

<u>Local/State Contracts</u>	\$15,000
<u>AGC</u>	\$56,970
<u>Special Events</u>	\$15,123
<u>Corporate</u>	\$1,090
<u>Foundations</u>	\$58,898
<u>Granite United Way</u>	\$3,000
<u>Program Income, etc.</u>	\$11,636
<u>Other</u>	\$130
TOTAL REVENUE	\$161,847

EXPENSES

<u>Staff Expenses</u>	\$94,847
<u>Professional Services/Contractors</u>	\$28,079
<u>Occupancy</u>	\$15,519
<u>Office Expenses/ Staff Support</u>	\$22,496
<u>Program Expenses</u>	\$23,440
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$184,381
Cash on hand 7/1/16	\$38,303

SNSC Pyramid of Giving 2016 Annual Giving Campaign



Thank you to all 269 donors!!

FY '16 Corporate Donors

Alpha Xi Delta	Engelberth Construction, Inc.	MG Electric LLC
Aqua Clear Pools	Evergreen Capital Partners, LLC	Shaker Hill Bed & Breakfast
Black Diamond General Contracting	Griffin Electric, Inc.	The Carriage House
Cole Electric, Inc.	HDR Architecture, Inc.	The Help for People Foundation
Deer Creek Psychological Associates	L&M Services Contractors, LLC	The Helping Hands/St. Denis Rectory
	Mascoma Dental Associates LLC	Upper Valley Endodontics
	Masoma Special Education Department	

FY '16 Corporate Co-Sponsors

Country Real Estate	Goodwin Groundskeeping	Rockwood Land Services
Gernard Associates	Mascoma Saving Bank	The Frazer Agency
	RedRock Farm	Tyler, Simms, & St. Sauvier

Special Event Supporters

(In-Kind and Product Donations)	Dutille's Jewelry Design Studio	Rum Brook Market
Blue Sky Restaurant Group/Jesse's	Eastman Community Center	Safflowers
Co-op Food Stores	Lebanon Opera House	Von Bargaen's
Crown Point Country Club	My Brigadeiro, LLC	VT Farmstead Cheese Company
	Opera North	Castleton Crackers
	River Valley Club	

A Look Ahead to 2017 Fiscal Year

From Philip:

This coming year will involve exciting changes as we transition to the fifth Executive Director in the 37 year history of SNSC. Havah Walther began her duties on July 18 and we have planned for fifteen days of overlap to provide ongoing consultation by myself as the outgoing Executive Director. I will also continue to support Upper Valley families and volunteer as an educational advocate.

Pam and Nicki will continue their strong work to support families and provide meaningful programming as Havah leads this team as the new Executive Director. Please welcome her to SNSC! Havah will bring her unique ideas and skills to the position; SNSC will benefit from her new energy and perspective.

From Havah:

One could not ask for a better transition as I join Special Needs Support Center and long-time SNSC leader, Phil Eller, transitions into retirement. I have had many hearty welcomes from our community partners across the Upper Valley and I hope to reach out and connect with many more as the year continues.

Our model at SNSC has been one of helping people find the resources they need and helping to build those resources when none exist. To that end, we will be continuing parent, student, and adult programming like: *Educational Advocacy*, *STAR*, *ASPIRE*, and *STEPS*; we will be helping to manage a fundraiser for Cystic Fibrosis awareness; we will continue working with other local support agencies through the Special Needs Alliance (SNA); and we be hosting engaging social events for teens and adults with disabilities.



To catch a look at what we are doing next, visit our calendar at: www.sns-c-uv.org.

We look forward to carrying on the SNSC legacy in the 2017 fiscal year!

2017 Board Of Directors

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