



Good Beginnings of Sullivan County

2014 Annual Report

*Our mission: To promote the optimal health and development of children and families in our region.
We serve families in Sullivan and Lower Grafton Counties.*

From the Board President

It has been my privilege to serve as President of the Board for the past 3 years. As we work together to provide healthy foundations for the children and families of our communities, we help build a lasting and strong fabric for our society. I am pleased to be part of an organization committed to raising healthy children.

Our program is very comprehensive, providing a range of services including home visits, working to reunite children with their families, nutrition, parent education and teenage pregnancy prevention programs. All these programs have continued thanks to financial support from you and from government contracts and private grants.

As we looked to the future in FY2014 our biggest focus was on replacing our founding director, Ellie Tssetsi, who retired after 22 years with Good Beginnings. I worked with the board to find a replacement who had the interests and skills to take the organization to its next steps. We spent hours reaching out to applicants and interviewing qualified ones. We were pleased to be able to report by the end of December that we had found our new Executive Director.

With some decisions for the future determined, we are now able to return our full attention to the continuing development of our organization so that we can serve more families in need of our services.

Thank you for your support in the past and we hope that you will continue to make our mission your personal mission through your continuing support.

Debra Mochi

Looking to the future

FY2015 has brought us under the leadership of newly elected Board President Beth Hoyt-Flewelling and newly appointed Executive Director Maggie Monroe-Cassel.

Beth served on the first board of directors when Good Beginnings was started. Now she has returned to the board and has taken on the position of President. She teaches early childhood development at Granite State College. Beth reflected at her first board meeting: "I believe in the mission of Good Beginnings 100%!"



Maggie and Beth at their first board meeting together.

Maggie was drawn to the position after a career in parish ministry in New York and a subsequent career with Habitat for Humanity in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and North Central Massachusetts. "While very much a different discipline, Good Beginnings follows the focus of my career: the well-being of families and communities and the concept of helping people learn to help themselves. I am honored to have been selected for this position and hope that together we can serve more families."

Spotlight on SHINE:

Sisters' Health Information Network Exchange teen pregnancy prevention program participants wrote these comments after taking a 10 hour sexual health education class:

"I didn't feel like I was being judged. I felt like all options were presented and I wasn't pressured into any choices I didn't like."

"I felt like the most important part was learning that I had options. I didn't know about all the them before. Learning about the services available in this area was also helpful."

"I was reassured about healthy relationships and I evaluated mine."



Retiring Executive Director Ellie Tssetsi (right) stands with Audrey Knight, Child Health Nurse Consultant with NH Maternal and Child Health

Financial Summary FY2014 (July1, 2013-June 30, 2014)

Support and Revenue

Governmental Financial Assistance	\$331,513
Program Fees	\$75,730
Foundations and Trusts	\$91,000
Donated Inventory	\$20,775
Contributions	\$38,814
Fundraising	\$10,651

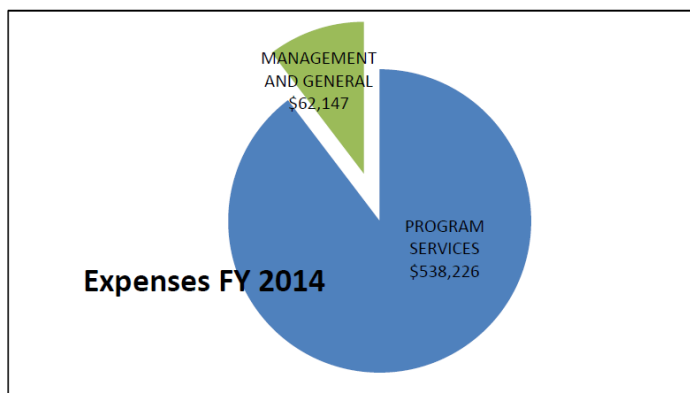
Total Support and Revenue	\$568,483
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Expenses

Program Services	\$538,226
Supporting Services: Management and general	\$62,147

Total Expenses	\$600,373
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Net Assets at Beginning of Year	\$66,021
Net Assets at End of Year	\$34,131



Spotlight on Home Visiting

Of 22 Parent Satisfaction Surveys received, 100% of the responders felt they had improved their parenting skills and were satisfied with the program.

“Thanks for encouraging me to keep doing what I was doing and letting me know that I was handling situations in the correct manner and for giving me great advice when I was having trouble with one or another child.”

“What helped me most were the tips for doing things in new ways and having different perspectives on parenting.”

Current Board Member Laurel Hall is a former client. Her home visits were very important to her. She writes this about her experience: *“It was always a relief knowing Sandy would be there in an hour...it was always educational, social and self-confidence improving. It could change my outlook on the rest of my day.”*



Our nurse Karen on a home visit with new mom

Many thanks to the following donors (July1, 2013-June 30, 2014)

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In FY2014, Good Beginnings of Sullivan County provided direct services to 45 pregnant women, 185 families and 355 children through 2,092 home visits. In addition, Good Beginnings has provided indirect services to over 150 additional families.

Our Services Include:

Healthy Families America is our home visiting program model working with young families who are at risk for adverse childhood experiences. The program is designed to work with pregnant women and their families until the child is three.

Comprehensive Family Support focuses on strengthening families with children who are experiencing stress and crises due to many factors including poverty, substance abuse, social isolation and developmental delays.

Child Health Support Services works in conjunction with the Division of Children, Youth and Families ensuring child and family safety and preventing placement of a child in out-of-home care.

PREP/SHINE is a health enrichment program working with young women providing education in an effort to reduce high STI and teen birth rates in Sullivan County.

We Can! is a public education outreach program focusing on health and well-being through education about healthy food choices, increasing physical activity and reducing screen time. We Can! works closely with high risk families with children under 8 years of age.

Second Beginnings is our used children's clothing and accessories boutique in Claremont offering discounted items and supporting our mission.

Good Beginnings of Sullivan County

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