



[www.statelinefamilyservices.org](http://www.statelinefamilyservices.org)

# CONNECTIONS

The mission of Family Services of Southern Wisconsin and Northern Illinois is to restore and enhance lives in our community through advocacy, education, counseling and case management.

## OUR PROGRAMS»

### BELOIT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SURVIVOR CENTER

(608) 364-1083  
(608) 365-1119 24-hour help  
[khoo@familyservices1.org](mailto:khoo@familyservices1.org)

### CASA OF ROCK COUNTY

(608) 305-0187  
[casarc@familyservices1.org](mailto:casarc@familyservices1.org)  
[www.casarockcounty.org](http://www.casarockcounty.org)

### FAMILY AND INDIVIDUAL COUNSELING

(608) 365-1244  
[jfru@familyservices1.org](mailto:jfru@familyservices1.org)

### HOME COMPANION REGISTRY

(608) 856-0153  
[sguetschow@familyservices1.org](mailto:sguetschow@familyservices1.org)

### LIFE FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS

(608) 365-1244  
[cccs@familyservices1.org](mailto:cccs@familyservices1.org)

### SEXUAL ASSAULT RECOVERY PROGRAM (SARP)

(866) 666-4576  
[asunza@sarpwi.com](mailto:asunza@sarpwi.com)  
[www.sarpwi.com](http://www.sarpwi.com)

### YOUTH2YOUTH 4 CHANGE

(608) 313-9220  
[debtfk@aol.com](mailto:debtfk@aol.com)  
[www.rcy2y.com](http://www.rcy2y.com)

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## SERENITY GARDEN HONORING VICTIMS NEARS COMPLETION; DEDICATION PLANNED»

With the installation of pavers and concrete retaining walls, the garden in Horace White Park which honors innocent victims who have been subjected to abuse, sexual assault, violence or domestic violence, is one step closer to completion.

Hardscape materials for the garden were provided by County Materials Corporation and installed by Terra Yard Creations. The final phase of the project will be the installation of plantings and a bench.

Family Services is deeply indebted to the amazing volunteers who spent two days completing this phase of the project:

Jennifer and Ryan Hanson and the crew from Terra Yard Creations, Adrian’s Landscaping, and Jeff Johnson. Also helping were members of the Family Services Board: Tom Finley, Bill Flanagan, Laurel Burke and husband Alan, Nathan Bolin, and Family Services Executive Director John Pfeleiderer.

Family Services is planning to hold a dedication ceremony for the garden on October 17th, 2017. Watch our web page for more information on this event.



## BUILDING A BETTER BELOIT THROUGH POSITIVE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES »

Family Services is hosting its **Annual Fall Luncheon** on **September 26th**. The event will feature **Dr. Robert Sege**, Boston pediatrician and lead author of the newly released report **“Balancing ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences) with HOPE (Healthy Outcomes of Positive Experiences)**.

Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) are stressful or traumatic events, including abuse and neglect. They may also include household dysfunction such as witnessing domestic violence or growing up with family members who have substance use disorders.

Adverse childhood experiences and the wide-ranging health and social problems they generate are our nation’s leading *public health* problem. They are the most basic and long-lasting cause of health risk behaviors, mental illness, social malfunction, disease, disability, death, and healthcare costs.

This message is relevant to all those interested in strengthening our community. Childhood experiences have a tremendous, lifelong impact on health and quality of life. Local educators, school board members, medical practitioners, social services providers, and interested and concerned community members are invited to attend the event to hear Dr. Sege’s message and consider how we as a community might come together to improve outcomes for Beloit’s children.

To RSVP for the event go to [www.statelinefamilyservices.org](http://www.statelinefamilyservices.org) or call 365-1244



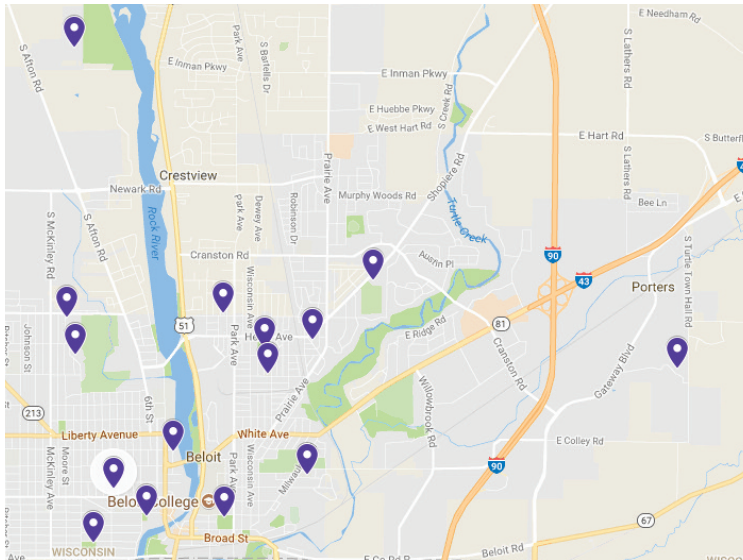
# NEW LITTLE, LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES INSTALLED IN БЕЛОIT » LOOK FOR A NEW “LITTLE” LITTLE FREE LIBRARY NEAR YOU »



Merrill Elementary



OLA Daycare



Horace White Park



Boys & Girls Club



Summit Park



Tremont Park



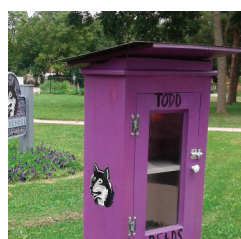
Vernon Park



Aqua World/Field Park



Welty Environmental Center



Todd Elementary



Krueger Pool



New Zion Baptist Church

**Whether you or someone you love need services, or you are looking for ways to serve others, the Home Companion Registry can help.**

We offer in-home support such as:

- Companionship and Conversation
- Meal preparation
- Light Housekeeping
- Errands and Transportation
- Light Personal Care and more



**HOME COMPANION REGISTRY**

Life is a shared journey, let us be a part of yours

Services can be arranged from a few hours a week up to 24 hours a day.

For more information on our services or how to become a Companion, please call us at (608) 856-0153 or

send an email to [sguetschow@familyservices1.org](mailto:sguetschow@familyservices1.org)

[www.statelinefamilyservices.org/home-companion-registry](http://www.statelinefamilyservices.org/home-companion-registry)

## MEET OUR NEW STAFF MEMBERS »

### Individual and Family Counseling »

#### Jayne St. John

Jayne is the newest counselor and team member of the Individual and Family Counseling Program at Family Services. She is a Beloit native and has lived here most of her life. After receiving a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from the University of Wisconsin – Whitewater she went on to get a Master's degree in Community Counseling from Lakeland University.



Jayne has worked with a variety of clients seeking help for everything from stress and mood disorders to substance abuse. She prefers to work with teenagers and adults of all ages. She looks forward to working with individuals and families and making a positive difference in their lives and in the community.



### CASA »

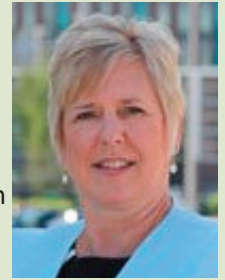


**Allie Miller**, the newest member of the CASA of Rock County team, is originally from River Falls, Wisconsin and recently graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater with a Bachelor of Science in Criminology. She began volunteering with the program in April of 2016 before joining the staff in May of

2017 as a Child Advocacy Support Specialist. "Having been a Court Appointed Special Advocate first, I can attest to the great work that our volunteers do and the impact that they can have on a child's life. I am very excited for the opportunity to help the program grow and strengthen because I believe every child in protective care deserves a CASA."

## BOARD PROFILE »

### MARGERY WAKEFIELD »



Margery Wakefield has been a member of the board since 2013. She grew up in Madison, attended Indiana University and moved to Janesville in 1989.

Margery is the sole owner of Wakefield Law, LLC, which she started in May 2015, after practicing with two large law firms in Janesville. Her practice is focused on family law, including divorce, custody/placement, grandparent visitation rights and guardianship cases.

Margery became involved with Family Services because she was impressed by the wide breadth of the programs provided, as well as the devotion and enthusiasm of the staff and board members. "The most rewarding, is the real, positive impact the programs administered by Family Services have on the community as well as serving on a board that is committed to sustaining and improving the organization by rolling up their sleeves and working hard," states Margery.

"The only negative is there isn't enough time to do what I want to do as a board member." Margery also coaches with the Oregon LaCrosse Club, and is a Big Sister with Big Brothers and Big Sisters.

When not at work or volunteering, Margery can be found gardening, hiking, snow shoeing or creating craft projects. Some of those craft projects have been donated to the Family Services' Starry Night Annual Fundraising Event and Auction. She says, "I always have to have a creative project or outlet to de-stress."

Margery is married to Cliff Wakefield and has two sons.

## THANK YOU TO OUR ANNUAL FALL LUNCHEON SPONSORS »



**Becky and John Wong**

John and Joanne Acomb  
Alan and Laurel Burke  
Heidi Eldred Yoga - Beloit Pop Up Yoga  
John and Peggy Emery  
Family Services Staff  
Ken and Sandy Gold  
Dennis Murphy and Barb Seguin  
Tricor Insurance  
Tom and Mim Warren

If you are interested in becoming a Sponsor, it's not too late!! Go to [www.statelinefamilyservices.org/events](http://www.statelinefamilyservices.org/events)

## NEWS IN BRIEF »

### CASA Benefits from Bike Night Event »

CASA of Rock County was the beneficiary of the Board-tracker Harley Davidson Bike Night! Many thanks to Boardtracker and special thanks to our sponsors PCCU & Finley Buick, GMC. Together we brought in just under \$8000 to help provide an advocate for children in the child welfare system’.



Rachel Bergman, Allie Miller, Beth Bray, Kim Churchill, Sandy Johnson, Brittney Blackwood.



Bike Night Raffle



CASA Program Director Sandy Johnson with Family Court Judge Alan Bates

### Rock County Youth2Youth 4 Change »

#### Youth Advocates Chosen to Attend National Conference

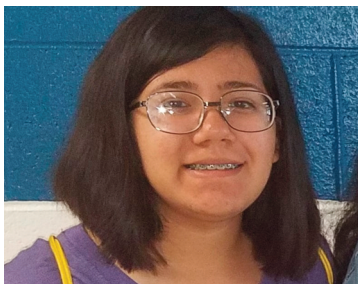
Four Youth2Youth 4 Change youth advocates, who are also members of the WI Statewide youth tobacco prevention FACT movement, were chosen to represent the state of WI at the Truth Initiative’s National Summit on Youth Activism. The summit was held in Washington DC July 19 – 22nd.

The advocates were trained on youth prevention advocacy skills and will be working on a project that will be implemented in Beloit. For more information about Youth2Youth 4 Change go to [www.rcycy.com](http://www.rcycy.com) or the FACT movement visit [www.FACTmovement.org](http://www.FACTmovement.org)



Left to Right – Nathalia Zamora, Karen Soto, Stephanie Severnio, Rocio Castaneda

## YOUTH2YOUTH MEMBER SELECTED FOR PRESTIGIOUS STATEWIDE LEADERSHIP BOARD »



**Nathalia Zamaro**, a member of Youth2Youth 4 Change and a student at Beloit Memorial High School, was selected to serve as a member of the State Youth Board of Directors for the FACT Movement, Wisconsin’s youth tobacco prevention program. Zamaro was selected because of her remarkable leadership skills and commitment to spreading the truth about tobacco.

Founded in 2001, FACT is a youth-driven movement where teens in grades 7 – 12 work together to conduct school and community based advocacy initiatives that educate teens about the dangers of tobacco. Since its inception, FACT members have helped lower youth smoking rates by supporting proven policies like higher tobacco taxes and smoke-free air laws. FACT is part of the Wisconsin Department of Health Services’ Tobacco Prevention and Control Program and is managed by the American Lung Association.

Zamaro is one of 23 teens from throughout Wisconsin who will serve a one-year term where they will provide overall leadership, guidance and feedback to FACT.



## BELOIT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SURVIVOR CENTER HOLDS EVENT »

The BDVSC held its first “Women’s Empowerment Art Exhibit” at the Beloit Fine Arts Incubator on August 25th and 26th. Over 50 pieces of art by local female artists were donated and sold to benefit the Center.



*Kelsey Hood-Christenson, Sara Lynn Nelson, Eboni Morrow, and Christy Popoola*



## LIFE FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS »

### EDUCATION & COMMUNITY OUTREACH » TOGETHER WE LEARN AND PREPARE »



The Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault (WCASA) and sexual assault Basic financial skills and knowledge significantly impact a person's success and well-being.

Whether the economy is bad or good, you are employed, unemployed or retired, are just starting out or have been around the block, financial skills are life skills. Unfortunately, when it comes to personal finance, many residents are graduates of the "School of Hard Knocks."

For over 15 years Community Outreach and Education has been the cornerstone of the Life Financial Solution's (LFS) mission statement. The agency ensures financial education and information are available to our entire community by partnering with and teaching classes through employers, schools, and community agencies. LFS offers a wide range of curriculum:

- Understanding Your Credit: Past, Present and Future
- Money Power: Managing Your Personal Finances
- Raising Money-Smart Kids
- Couples and Money
- Ten Worst Money Mistakes

While information is available on the internet, it is most beneficial to receive unbiased, real-time professional instruction and combine that knowledge with action and encouragement. When the need presents itself call LFS, we can help.

#### Life Financial Solutions Highlights:

**\*For 2016/2017 Year to Date LFS has provided 76 classes reaching over 1000 area residents \***



## STAFF PROFILE »

### Amanda Isunza



Amanda has been the Director of SARP (Sexual Assault Recovery Program) since January 2016. She began her career with Family Services as a bi-lingual advocate with SARP 6 years ago, while also working with the Individual and Family Counseling Program and the Beloit Domestic Violence Survivor Center as a Spanish-speaking counselor.

Amanda was born in Elgin, Illinois but grew up in Cuernavaca, Morelos, Mexico. Her family moved to Beloit when she was 16 years old during her senior year. She graduated from Beloit Memorial and received a degree in Social Work from UW – Whitewater. She went on to earn her MSW degree from George Williams College while working with SARP. Amanda came to Family Services and SARP because she has "always been passionate about helping others." However, she states, "I have also witnessed the barriers and the needs of the Latino community and that has inspired me to do this work because I am able to help my community and be a voice for them."

"The most rewarding thing about this job is when you are able to make a difference in a person's life. The most challenging, is witnessing how other systems failed and negatively impacted our clients and not having the power to do anything about that."

Amanda believes her colleagues are the best part of Family Services, "they are all great people and make it feel like a second home." In addition to her full-time position with SARP, she is also active in the S.O.S. Latino Committee.

When not working or volunteering, Amanda can be found at home spending time with her family, especially her handsome 7-year-old son, Emiliano, who is her main motivation for all she does.

## STRATEGIC PLAN COMPLETED»

### THANKS TO PARTICIPATION FROM THE COMMUNITY, BOARD AND STAFF »

In February 2017, the Family Services Board and Staff, with the help of focus groups made up of members of the community, began the task of developing a new three-year strategic plan. The process was facilitated by Pam Clark Reidenbach, MSSW, Director, Northern Illinois Center for Nonprofit Excellence (NICNE) at Rockford University.

As a group, they looked at the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats that relate to the agency and its eight programs, being mindful of disruptive factors and positive and negative trends such as the shifting expectations of the social services sector, changes in consumer demand, federal grant uncertainty, healthcare reform and neuroscience impact, all of which could affect client needs as well as financial and program sustainability.



Using input from the participating parties and best practices, five goals were developed with accompanying strategies for their implementation, accountability, timeframe and indicators of quality. This strategic plan will help guide the agency as we continue to restore and enhance lives in our community through advocacy, education, counseling and case management.

**GOAL 1: TELL OUR STORIES THAT REFLECT DATA-DRIVEN OUTCOMES AND IMPACT, ENCOURAGES GREATER FUNDING, AND INCREASES OUR SERVICE/CLIENT BASE**

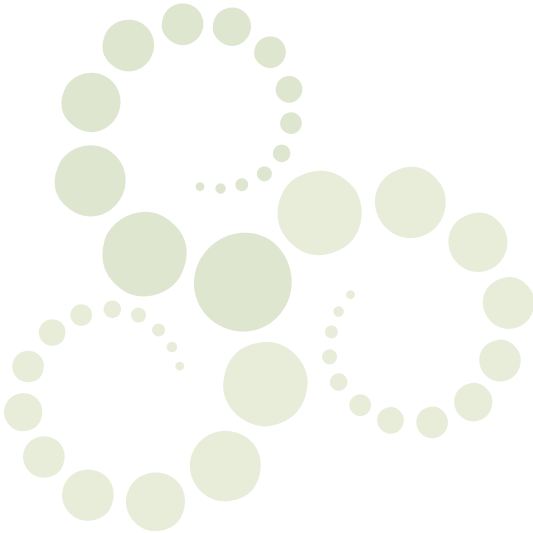
**GOAL 2: STRENGTHEN OUR ADAPTIVE CAPACITY BY ENHANCING OUR ABILITY TO MONITOR, ASSESS, AND RESPOND TO RELEVANT AND CHANGING NEEDS OF INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES**

**GOAL 3: DIVERSIFY AND STRENGTHEN OUR REVENUE AND FUNDING SOURCES, AND IMPLEMENT STRATEGIES TO ENSURE LONG-TERM SUSTAINABILITY**

**GOAL 4 – BE ON THE FRONT EDGE OF EXPLORING, DEVELOPING, ENHANCING, AND IMPLEMENTING RESEARCH-BASED BEST PRACTICES AND EXPANDING THE CONTINUUM OF CARE**

**GOAL 5 – BUILD A STRONG, CULTURALLY KNOWLEDGEABLE LEADERSHIP TEAM OF STAFF, BOARD MEMBERS, AND VOLUNTEERS THAT IS INCLUSIVE AND REPRESENTATIVE OF OUR COMMUNITY**

**To find out more about Family Services,** Donate, see our volunteer opportunities, read our 2016 Annual Report, receive our newsletter via email or contact us... please go to [www.statelinefamilyservices.org](http://www.statelinefamilyservices.org). **“Like” us on Facebook**



## UPCOMING EVENTS»

### CASA

**SEPTEMBER 19**    **NEW CASA VOLUNTEER TRAINING**  
5:30 pm Rock County Court House

### FAMILY SERVICES

**SEPTEMBER 26**    **FAMILY SERVICES' ANNUAL LUNCHEON**  
11am-1pm Eclipse Event Center

### YOUTH2YOUTH

**SEPTEMBER 20**    **COALITION MEETING**  
12 pm - 1:30 pm Y2Y office 1000 Bluff St.

**SEPTEMBER 27**    **PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRESENTATION**  
1 pm - 2 pm Grinnel Hall

**SEPTEMBER 27**    **TOBACCO CESSATION PROGRAM**  
5:30 pm - 6:30 pm Echo Food Pantry

**OCTOBER 4**    **HOPE OVER HEROIN**  
6:30 pm - 8 pm Rock County Fairgrounds

**OCTOBER 17**    **HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT PRESENTATION**  
Fruzen Intermediate Conferences

**OCTOBER 18**    **COALITION MEETING**  
12 pm - 1:30 pm Y2Y Office 1000 Bluff St.

**OCTOBER 19**    **HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT PRESENTATION**  
Fruzen Intermediate Conferences

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS»

Tom Finley – *President*  
Bill Flanagan – *Vice President*  
Laurel Burke – *Secretary*  
Nathan Bolin – *Treasurer*  
Candace Smith Hirsh  
Lonnie Klecker  
Betsy Schmiechen  
Margery Wakefield  
Carol Wickersham  
David Zibolski