

# SCHWARTZ CENTER FOR CHILDREN

*"Helping children achieve their greatest potential"*



ANNUAL REPORT 2006

*Celebrating our 59<sup>th</sup> year of service to the community*

www.schwartzcenter.org

## A Dream Becomes a Reality

*by Joani Desnoyers, President, Schwartz Center for Children*

At the 1999 Annual Meeting of the Corporation a ten-year strategic plan for the Center was presented. Seven years later we are proud to report that the list of accomplishments is lengthy and nearly complete. On October 30, 2006 the new Strategic Planning Committee, under the direction of Board member Ms. Jeanne Eagle, will reconvene to evaluate our current programs and design a new plan to guide us through the next ten years.

During this time it was determined by two feasibility studies (one for the building and one to assess our capacity to raise sufficient funds) that along with various program alterations and additions, what was of immense importance was the need for a new physical facility. With a green light from the Board of Directors the "*Achieving our Potential Capital Campaign*" was begun in 2001, securing our first capital gift of \$500,000 from our longtime supporters Leonard and Hilda Kaplan.

### **Schwartz Center Board of Directors**

Joani Desnoyers, President  
Jonathan Schwartz, M.D., Vice-President  
Lynn Ciminello, Vice-President  
Victoria Greco, Secretary  
Joseph Cavanna, Treasurer

Evelyn Bettencourt  
Joel Burns  
Jeanne Warren Eagle  
Paul Hamel, Esq.  
Mary Harrington  
Irvin Krause  
Hon. Elizabeth LaStaiti  
Claire Levovsky  
Susan Mandra Thompson, Esq.  
Del Rocha  
Anthony Savastano, Esq.  
David Wright

### **Honorary Directors**

Helen Eisenberg  
Marjorie Jenney  
Joseph Winterhalter, Sr.

Plans were initiated in 2002 to design and build a new building on the property adjacent to our Rockdale Avenue home.

In August 2003, with architects, builders and enough capital money in place to begin construction, suddenly everything changed. An Honorary Director, who was also a champion of our new building project and long time personal friend of our founder, Agnes "Posa" Raposa, Mr. Ray Eisenberg



became terminally ill. As his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday approached, knowing his life was soon to end, Ray and his family planned a special birthday party. At the event he extended a warm welcome and received hundreds of guests. He shared with his guests that one of his dying wishes was that everyone who attended the party contribute to the Schwartz Center for Children's Capital Campaign and they did. The campaign received more than \$600K in donations in response to his wish. *con't. on next page*



*Mr. Stanley (Si) Goldstein*

After reading a story in the local newspaper about Ray, his party and his involvement with the Center, Mr. (Si) Stanley Goldstein, who was previously unknown to us, was moved to come forward and extend a gift of four acres of pristine wooded land in North Dartmouth for us to build our new Center. His offer rocked our world. In late September of the same year, after meeting Mr. Goldstein and walking the proposed land with him, we knew this would become our new home. It was perfect, yet it meant starting all over again. Which we did.

On Friday, May 6, 2005, after a year and a half of new architectural design work and with \$2.7M in capital fund pledges in hand, the Schwartz Center for Children held a celebratory Groundbreaking Ceremony at the site of its future \$4.2M home, at One Posa Place in North Dartmouth.

The event was not only fun but helped bolster the spirits of the staff and families who were desperate for our new facility. After so many years of planning and unexpected detours it was clear that our dream was finally close to becoming a reality.

That summer, in grand style, we celebrated our annual “Posa Day” with the Center’s children and their families. The festive, fun-filled day was sponsored by our new friends, the employees of Clarke Distribution Corporation, in honor of their President, Mr. Tom Clarke. Much to our surprise Mr. Clarke arrived to not only greet the children and share in the fun but to extend a major donation of \$350,000 to the “Achieving Our Potential” campaign. Included in his gift was the supply of all of the appliances (refrigerators, freezers, ovens, microwaves, dishwashers and more) for the new building, which left us in awe.

Over the course of the next fifteen months as the tremendous pace of the capital campaign continued we watched with mounting excitement as each day the landscape of our new home was revealed.

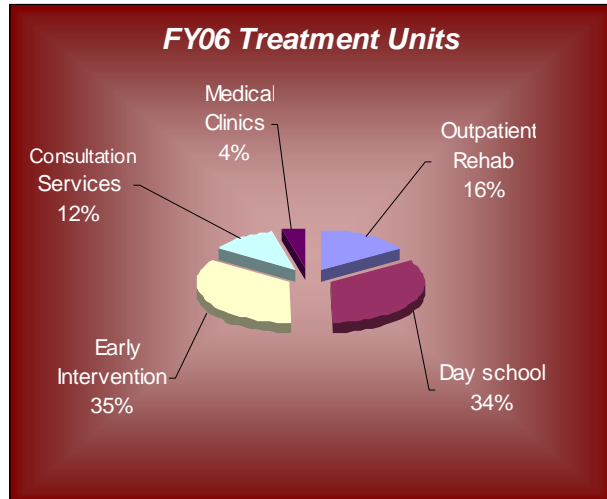
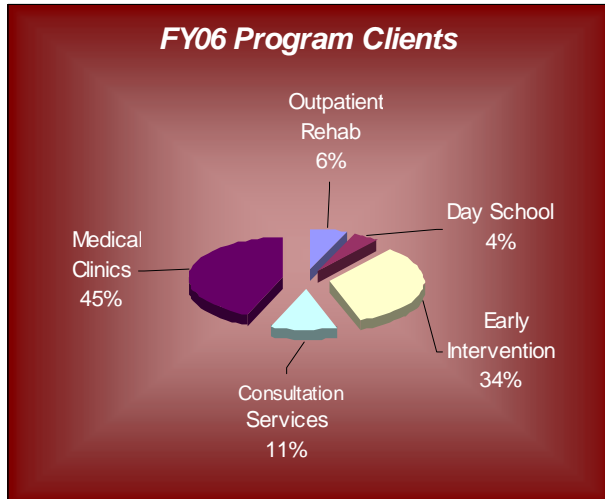
On Friday, September 15, 2006, after eight years of planning, five years of pounding the pavement to raise the needed funds and nearly two years of construction the Schwartz Center for Children celebrated its new Goldstein Campus facility with a glorious Ribbon Cutting Ceremony honoring the children and their families.



With a nod from the town that we could move in over the weekend our Executive Director, Barry De St. Croix and Chief Operating Officer, Carol Almeida, along with Center staff and friends, miraculously transformed the empty building into a warm and inviting special place for special children.

# Financial Snapshot of Agency

for the year July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2006



<b>Programs</b>	<b>children / clients</b>	<b>treatment / units</b>
<b>Outpatient Rehab</b>	74	5,643
<b>Day School</b>	52	11,752
<b>Early Intervention</b>	410	12,122
<b>Consultation Services</b>	133	3,999
<b>Medical Clinics</b>	513	1,440
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,170</b>	<b>34,956</b>
<b>RCP Professional Trainings</b>	901	

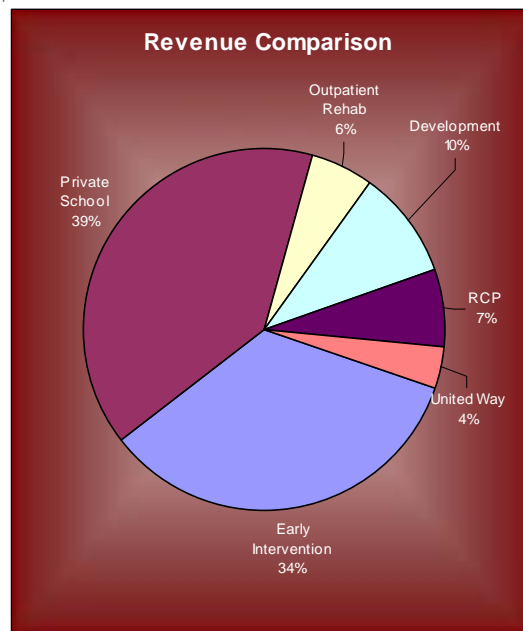
<b>Revenue and Support</b>	<b>FY06</b>
Early Intervention	791,073
Private School	1,255,149
Outpatient Rehab	81,913
Development	135,011
RCP	174,178
United Way	76,300
Other	30,535

**Total Revenue and Support** \$2,544,159

<b>Expenses</b>	<b>FY06</b>
Employee Compensation Expense	1,971,905
Other Program Expense	335,239
Direct Administrative Expense	121,764
Occupancy Expense	33,454
Non-Reimbursable Expense	19,580
Depreciation of Building & Equip.	30,941

**Total Expense** \$2,512,883

**Surplus Support Over Expenses** \$ 31,276



The financial success and viability of the agency is dependent upon strong development and leadership as well as commitment and support from the community. Thirteen percent of the revenues this year are from fundraising, donations, and United Way support.

## “A Dream Becomes a Reality,” con’t.

### Executive Staff

Barry R. De St. Croix,  
*Executive Director*

Carol J. Almeida, *Director of Operations*

Dr. Edward Lund, Jr., *Medical Director*

Kimberli Bettencourt,  
*Director of Day School*

Robin L. Cabral,  
*Director of Marketing and Development*

Sharon Costa-Smith,  
*Director of Early Intervention*

Pam Gagne, *Director of Finance*

Joanne Vital-Bernier,  
*Director of Regional Consultation Program and  
Outpatient Services*

The reality of the miracle of this project occurred on the morning of September 18, 2006; the official first day the *NEW* Schwartz Center for Children was open for service. The day dawned bright and sunny and started early with WBSM’s “*Pete Braley in the Morning*” radio show airing a live broadcast from the Center’s lobby. Imagine the thrill of the staff and children being greeted and welcomed to the new Center amidst such fanfare.

Since then only a few short weeks have flown by and the new Center already feels and looks like home. There is a peaceful hush about the place and yet it is teeming with happy hard working children and staff.

Every time I drive down One Posa Place and the beautiful *New* Center comes into view, my heart skips a beat and my eyes well with tears. *I think of all the people and donors who made this dream a reality.* I remember too, many friends who helped along the way and were unable to complete the journey with us. In memory I speak of Leonard Kaplan, Ray Eisenberg and Agnes Raposa. With the completion of the *NEW* Schwartz Center for Children we are poised to provide another

fifty years of service to our children in need. I know that Posa and Dr. Isaac Schwartz would be proud.

## SCHWARTZ CENTER FOR CHILDREN

CEREBRAL PALSY COUNCIL OF GREATER NEW BEDFORD, INC

ONE POSA PLACE

DARTMOUTH, MA 02747-2511

*“helping children achieve their greatest potential”*

Phone: 508.996.3391 • Fax: 508.996.3397

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

NON PROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE PAID  
NEW BEDFORD, MA  
PERMIT #232