

The Family Support Center is administered and operated by the Greater Lawrence Community Action Council, Inc.

In partnership



The Family Support Center serves the following communities:

- Greater Lawrence
- Greater Haverhill
- Greater Newburyport
- Greater Methuen
- Greater Lowell
- Salem, NH
- Plaistow NH

Greater Lawrence Community Action Council, Inc.

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- THOMAS S. PERRAULT, Sr.**
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Executive Authority

FUNDING SOURCES

PARENT AIDE
Exchange Clubs of the Merrimack Valley & GLCAC, Inc.

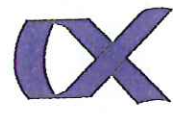
FAMILY PRESERVATION CASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
Department of Children and Families (Formerly Department of Social Services)

SUPERVISED VISITATION CENTER
Exchange Clubs of the Merrimack Valley & GLCAC, Inc. Parent Contribution

PARENT CHILD HOME PROGRAM
Department of Early Education & Care: Coordinated Family and Community Engagement (CFCE)

SOUTH LAWRENCE MIDDLE SCHOOL FOCUS PROGRAM
Department of Education: Full Service Community School Grant

PARENT EDUCATION PROGRAM
Department of Children and Families (Formerly Department of Social Services)



Information

For additional information on any of the listed programs, please call:

PHONE: (978) 681-4985
URL: www.glcac.org
Email: smitchell@glcac.org

Greater Lawrence Community Action Council, Inc.
in partnership with
Exchange Clubs of the Merrimack Valley

Proudly sponsor the
Michael B. Christensen

FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER

(Dedicated to the Prevention of Child Abuse)



The mission of the **Family Support Center** is to increase the ability of families to nurture their children, prevent child abuse and neglect, and foster a sense of family self-sufficiency and empowerment.

The **Family Support Center** is here to help families through parent focused, non-judgmental, caring and nurturing support and advocacy. Our mandate is to help families.

Susan Mitchell, M.Ed., MSW LCSW
Family Support Center Director

CALL: 978-681-4985
FAX: 978-620-4698



Michael B. Christensen
Family Support Center

The Greater Lawrence Community Action Council, Inc. (GLCAC, Inc.) in partnership with the Exchange Clubs of the Merrimack Valley established the Family Support Center in 1996 as part of the National Exchange Club campaign to prevent child abuse and neglect. The Family Support Center increases the ability of families to nurture their children, to foster a sense of family, self-sufficiency, and empowerment. Included in the Family Support Center's array of services are the following programs:

Parent Education Program

This 12 week course centers on the exploration of where and why we learn to parent the way we do. We examine various aspects of parenting such as:

Discipline, cultural traditions and ideologies. We explore what is considered abusive physically, emotionally and sexually, understanding needs of children, perceptions of others especially children, effective communication skill.

Through weekly discussions, activities (individual and group), weekly homework assignments, and real-life examples, members begin to understand the broad issues of the dynamics of family.



GI Parent Child Home Program (PCHP)
Soaring to Success
Through Books and Play

The PCHP has been helping parents understand the importance of reading, talking and playing with their young children in order to encourage healthy development and to ensure children enter school ready to learn. Also through reading and play, parents and children will bond in a healthy stress free environment. Through 2 weekly home visits for two years the children receive free toys and books to enhance language skills and prepare for preschool.

The Parent-Child Home Program Mission

The Parent-Child Home Program, a research-based intensive home visiting program, promotes language, literacy and school success through reading, playing and verbal interaction between parents and children.

Supervised Visitation Center

Most often, children benefit from having regular contact with both parents in a safe, neutral, and secure child-friendly environment. Many safety measures are in place to ensure that families maintain a positive relationship and at the same time ensuring the child's social and emotional well-being.

The Supervised Visitation Center offers visit between non-custodial-relatives/parents and children. Visits take place at the center, in the community, in non-custodial homes, or at the Department of Children and Families office.

Visitation fees are determined using a sliding fee scale. Both Parents/guardians are required to complete an on-site intake prior to the initial scheduled visit.

Referrals come from DCF, Juvenile and Probate Court, and the Families' attorneys.



Family Preservation
Parent-Aide / Case Management Program

The GLCAC, Inc. Social Services Family Preservation and Support Program provides comprehensive services and fosters inter-agency coordination in order to support families with children up to age 18. The staff conducts extensive client assessments to investigate family strengths and areas for necessity, environmental factors, and the family life cycle. Based on findings, working service plans are developed which identify both short-range and long-range family goals. Services offered directly by the Social Services / Family Preservation and Support Program included, Parent Education Programs, family and individual counseling, home management skills counseling, financial management training, and comprehensive case management. Program staff also provide advocacy for families by working with existing community agencies and promoting the development of needed services. Networking systems, linkages, and affiliation agreements are extensive.

The Parent Aide / Case Manager Relationship is:

Parent Focused	Informal
Non-Judgmental	One-on-One
Non-Authoritarian	Caring & Nurturing
Consistent & Supportive	In-Home