



2008 Annual Appeal

December, 2008

We are writing to you on behalf of the Occupations, Inc. System of Services, which is comprised of Occupations, Inc., Family Empowerment Council, Inc., and New Dynamics Corporation. Together, this system provides services and employment to over 14,000 children, adults and families in the Hudson Valley region and beyond with special mental and physical challenges. We share one mission-- to create hope and choice assisting people with special challenges to lead healthy, satisfying, productive and interdependent lives.

The purpose of this letter is to ask you to contribute to essential programs that we provide to children and families in our communities. The current economic situation has affected all of us and many of us are tightening our budgets, but there are thousands of people in need in our community who are depending on us to continue to provide them with the opportunities and services they need to attain their goals. Lives are positively changed because of what an individual, or a family, can accomplish with the assistance of our programs and services. *Please take a moment to read the enclosed newsletter which illustrates some of these accomplishments.*

We know it may be difficult for you to think about helping others when you are facing your own financial uncertainties and we understand that things are going to be rough in the upcoming months. With Federal, State and County budget shortfalls, those who are reliant on subsidies have been hurt the most – those with special needs who are dependent upon others. We'll make budget cuts, reduce spending and try to find ways to become more efficient, but we will not sacrifice the quality of the services we provide to the people in our communities.

Through this year's annual appeal we are asking for your help to create hope for children and families in need of the essential programs and services provided through **Occupations' Family Counseling Services** and **Family Empowerment Council's Youth Educational School Services (YESS)**. Family Counseling Services provides essential mental health treatment services to children and families. Our YESS program works with youth, ages three to 21 with developmental or learning disabilities, educational problems, and emotional problems who are legally entitled to a public education and need assistance identifying the opportunities and choices available to them.

Any amount that you give will put us one step closer to being able to maintain the quality programs and services we have. Your tax deductible gift can be designated as you choose on the enclosed appeal card. We cannot overstate how important your contribution is in these serious economic times. Thank you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James B. DeStefano'.

James B. DeStefano
President & Chief Executive Officer
Occupations System of Services

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amy Anderson-Winchell'.

Amy Anderson-Winchell, LCSW
Executive Vice President of Occupations, Inc.,
Executive Director, Family Empowerment Council, Inc.



OCCUPATIONS, INC.



Family Empowerment Council, Inc.
Services for People with Disabilities



YES, I want to support

Occupations, Inc. Family Counseling Services

Family Empowerment Council's YESS PROGRAM

Occupations, Inc., Programs and Services

with my gift of \$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 Other _____

Enclosed is my **check** payable to: *Occupations, Inc.*

My corporate matching gift form is enclosed. Company _____

Please charge the full amount to my **credit card**: VISA MASTERCARD AMERICAN EXPRESS

Card # _____ Exp Date _____ Signature _____

Name _____

Company/Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____

Donor Listing as: _____ No thanks, I'd like to be anonymous