



Prevention Education Inc.

Dedicated to the safety and well-being of children

Annual Report to the Board of Trustees

January 1, 1995

to

March 31, 1996

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Director's Report.....1

Program Reports

Child Assault Prevention.....4

Crisis Intervention.....5

Juvenile Auto Theft Prevention.....6

Supervised Visitation.....8

Transportation Plus.....9

1995 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The economic and social climate of our nation greatly impacts social service agencies. The 1990's may well be remembered as the decade of welfare reform, restructured state spending, privatization of state programs, increased public awareness of child abuse and legislative changes as well as economic growth. Each of these issues has affected Prevention Education Inc. in 1995.

The incidence of child sexual abuse has not abated in the past year. Although it is difficult to document the true impact, it appears that the increased awareness of child abuse through media reports as well as through legislative action, such as the Megan's Law, has generated an ever increasing number of clients seeking counseling services. The waiting list of children referred to PEI continues to be a concern, especially since the mission of the Crisis Intervention Program is to provide immediate short term counseling. The existing Crisis Intervention staff has expanded its services to offer a more comprehensive program. (see Crisis Intervention Program Report)

Public and private schools as well as community organizations continue to request the Child Assault Prevention Program as a preventative measure for child abuse. The program is well received.

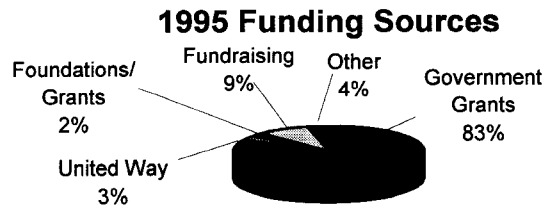
Staffing

Adequate staffing continues to be a "Catch 22" type of problem for social service agencies.. An increase in need creates growth in services. The increased growth in services can not be adequately funded due to the restructuring of government spending. The result is a shortage in administrative and support staff.

In response to the increased need and the expansion of services, the Crisis Intervention staff increased from 1 full time and one 4/5-time employee to 2 full-time employees and an graduate student intern. Limited funding sources prevent PEI from hiring the necessary counseling and administrative staff to meet the need.

Agency Funding

The main funding sources continue to be the county and state government. The Supervised Visitation contract expansion is reflected in the increased percentage of government grants contributing to the total funding.. The successful fund raising efforts increased the fund raising contribution by 2% over last year.



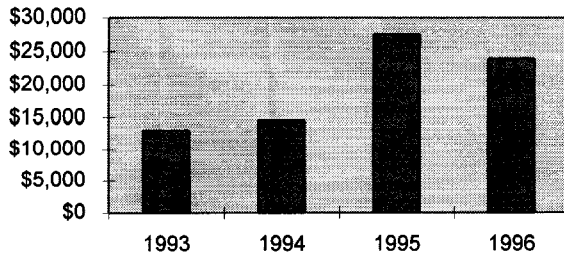
Fundraising

As the financial needs of the agency continue to increase, the Board of Trustees, the Resource development Committee and the staff have initiated creative fundraising.. Through a special event in the fall of 1995, the Bank of Mid-Jersey offered their customers the opportunity to make donations to PEI.

The 10th Anniversary Celebration Fundraising Event, held April 1, 1995, was very successful in generating substantial revenue. At this event, which was held at the Princeton Hyatt, Bob Prunetti, County Executive, was honored for his continuing support of child abuse prevention and PEI. It should be noted that the 1995 Anniversary fundraising event generated some substantial one-time contributions. In addition, it gave the fundraising efforts a jump-start on the 1996 event.

The 1996 fundraising dinner/silent auction, held at the Baldassari Regency on March 24, was also very successful. Several of Chambersburg's finest chef's presented their culinary creations. A capacity crowd rendered rave reviews of the event.

Fundraising Net Profit Comparison



As the national economy experiences growth, PEI is receiving an increase in corporate contributions as well as individual donations. The efforts of the RDC and the Board of Trustees in sponsoring profitable fundraising events are reflected in the continual increase in profits.

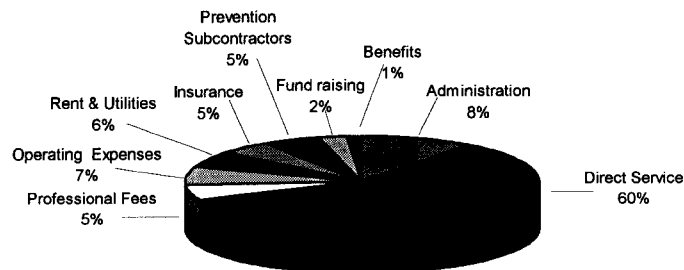
Marketing and Public Relations

In 1995 a commitment was made to increase our community visibility. This decision has had significant results both in media coverage and in increased public awareness of the services which PEI provides.

Expenses

PEI continues to deliver maximum service for every dollar spent. Fundraising expenses as well as administrative expenses remain at a minimum. The operating expenses portion of the pie chart includes programmatic pieces as well.

1995 Expenses



Office Space

The expansion of the Supervised Visitation contract in 1996 is enabling the agency to create a room for supervising visitations. In addition, additional office space will be available. Over the last two years, as the programs have expanded, PEI has not been able to increase the office space there-by creating cramped conditions and diminished privacy in dealing with the clients. The renovation, which is slated for completion in June of 1996, will alleviate this problem and will provide a meeting area for groups.

Work Study

PEI is fortunate to continue to be a work-study site for Rider University students. This year three students provided invaluable assistance to the staff.

Additional Thoughts

Throughout 1995 I have felt fortunate that Prevention Education Inc. has employed an excellent staff and has continued to have the support of a dedicated Board of Trustees and Resource Development Committee. Prevention Education Inc. continues to respond to the community's needs with enthusiasm, commitment and concern.

PROGRAM REPORTS

CHILD ASSAULT PREVENTION PROGRAM

Mission

Since its inception, the mission of Prevention Education Inc. has been to serve children and adults through educational, intervention and training programs relating to sexual abuse and personal safety. Child Assault Prevention (CAP) is a program presented in schools internationally. It is a prevention program designed to teach children how to exercise their rights to be Safe, Strong and Free. Classroom workshops, presented in the form of role play, and guided group discussion, help children learn the skills necessary to recognize and avoid potentially dangerous situations. Children are also taught how to develop and to implement effective safety strategies.

1995/1996

The recognition and respect by school officials and the community of the importance of this program is evident by the fact that in the past six years, PEI has more than doubled the number of children serviced in Mercer through the CAP workshops.

The 95/96 school year marks the eleventh year in which the CAP program was presented in Mercer County and the seventh year in Burlington County. The program offers pre-school, K-6, Special Needs, and TeenCAP curricula. In addition, CAP presents adult workshops to parents and school staff.

The CAP program emphasizes practical prevention techniques through:

- ◆ The development of assertiveness skills
- ◆ The use of peer cooperation
- ◆ The importance of communicating needs effectively
- ◆ The importance of reporting to a trusted adult

The following statistics represent services from January 1, 1995 through March 30, 1996:

Mercer County		
	1995	1st Quarter 1996
# of children in workshops	7571	2505
# of adults in workshops	1055	161
# of workshops	642	239
Burlington County		
	1995	1st Quarter 1996
# of children in workshops	4770	560
# of adults in workshops	443	125
# of workshops	252	37

370

Expansion

In addition to the school program, PEI has expanded the CAP workshop presentation to include various community organizations meeting on both weekdays and weekends.

Funding

CAP workshops are funded through the Governor's Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect, the Mercer County Department of Human Services and through the purchase of service by the individuals schools.

CRISIS INTERVENTION PROGRAM

Mission

The Crisis Intervention for Child Sexual Abuse Victims program provides short-term counseling, support and information to children and their families through the crisis period following disclosure of sexual abuse. Substantiated cases are most often referred through DYFS or law enforcement personnel. Individual sessions provide preparation for on-going treatment, support and information so that the victim and family may receive immediate continuous counseling from the time of disclosure to referral to long term treatment, if necessary.

1995-1996

Due to a continued increase in the number of referrals, the program is now staffed by two full time counselors. Clients come from many towns throughout Mercer County, but the vast majority continue to come from Trenton. The client population is ethnically diverse including Black, White, Latino, and Asian families with a predominance of Blacks and Whites. More female victims are treated. Over 70% of the clients were 12 years old and under.

The program offers the following services facilitated by a Crisis Intervention Counselor:

- ◆ Individual counseling services for clients on a weekly basis
- ◆ Opportunity for parents/guardians to meet counselor on a weekly basis
- ◆ Group services for the caregivers and siblings of child sexual abuse victims bi-weekly
- ◆ An adolescent support group
- ◆ Emergency walk-in services for parents/guardians who feel an urgent need to discuss his/her child's abuse
- ◆ Referrals to other agencies
- ◆ Availability of resource materials

These support groups meet a real and much sought after need as evidenced by the caregiver's participation in the Parent Group, the Adolescent Group and especially the Children's Group.

The following statistics represent services from January 1, 1995 - March 31, 1996, except for the new children's group which covers only the first quarter of 1996.

	1995	1st Quarter 1996
Number of children served	256	39
Number of adults served	325	51
Number of siblings		10

Crisis Intervention continues to receive a large number of referrals. In addition to the identified and substantiated abuse cases, there was a sizable number of other referrals for children who exhibited sexualized behavior under the age of eleven. This group of children was seen for six to eight sessions for educational purposes.

The Program Director of Crisis Intervention is also a team member of the Mercer County Multidisciplinary meetings. The Multidisciplinary team is comprised of various professionals who review all cases involving child abuse and provide case management supervision until the case is closed.

The PEI staff continues to be aware of the importance of educating caregivers and children about the judicial process at a time when they are confused and upset by the system. This is especially important now that the MDT has instituted the reviewing of juvenile offender cases.

Expansion

PEI had its first intern this year. Christine Cotton is a graduate student at the Temple University School of Social Services and Administration. The internship gave Christine valuable practical experience while giving PEI an additional resource which resulted in the initiation of the children's group sessions.

Funding

The Crisis Intervention Program is funded through the Mercer County Department of Human Services, the United Way of Greater Mercer County, by special fundraising events and through contributions made by families of children served.

Additionally, the IOLTA Bar grant continues to allow staff to offer services which are educational as well as supportive to clients and their families. As a participating member of the multidisciplinary team, PEI is aware of the increasing number of cases going to court and the importance of educating parents and children about the judicial process at a time when they are confused and upset by the system.

JUVENILE AUTO THEFT PREVENTION PROGRAM

Mission

In an effort to stem the problem of auto theft in Mercer County, Prevention Education Inc. developed the Juvenile Auto Theft Prevention Program. The intensive twelve week program is designed to teach first time offenders how to examine and eliminate the behavior that got them into trouble in the first place. Under the direction of a part-time Program Coordinator and a consultant, the classes are designed to work with both participant and family to develop a positive value system and by improving decision making and conflict resolution skills.

1995-1996

The Juvenile Auto Theft Prevention Program has been a part of PEI's programs since March 1995. The curriculum, which was prepared by PEI staff, focuses on the following:

- ◆ Participant recognition of self destructive behavior
- ◆ Development of positive value system
- ◆ Better decision making skills
- ◆ Improvement of conflict resolution skills
- ◆ Family communication skills
- ◆ Educational encouragement including guidance with school and GED process
- ◆ Goal setting and career development planning

The following statistics represent program participation from January 1, 1995 through March 31, 1996.

	1995	1st Quarter 1996
# Classes	4	1
Total Enrollment	36	10
Total Completed	21	class ends 6/15/96
Graduates with subsequent auto theft involvement	0	N/A
Graduates with subsequent police involvement	1	N/A

Participants are required to sign a contract agreeing to the program's firm set of criteria. Once accepted into the program the youths must follow the criteria set forth by the Coordinator which includes:

- ◆ No further involvement with law enforcement
- ◆ Mandatory attendance at all sessions
- ◆ Mandatory participation in all program exercises
- ◆ Participants must be prompt at all sessions
- ◆ Participants behavior must be acceptable
- ◆ Parents are required to attend three workshop sessions which address the same skills which their children are learning to develop

If participants fail to follow the criteria, they are released from the program. The Coordinator notifies the offender's probation officer and the prosecutor's office.

Participants may be referred to the program by the police department, the court system, relatives, or friends. The small group sessions meet on twelve Saturdays for two and a half hours.

Funding

Funding for the program comes from the Mercer County Department of Human Services. Additional funding sources include the Allstate Foundation, Insurance Women of Mercer County and New Jersey Manufacturers Insurance. The program also receives private donations and money through PEI fundraising.

SUPERVISED VISITATION PROGRAM

Mission

The purpose of the Supervised Visitation Program is to facilitate visitation for families whose children are in foster care with the ultimate goal of reunification, permanent placement or adoption. This program was started at PEI in April of 1992. All referrals are made by DYFS caseworkers through a liaison for the Mercer District Office.

1995/1996

Visitations are scheduled six days a week in an effort to accommodate children in school and families who are working. Most families visit twice a month and the average length of each visit is an hour. The majority of the visits are held in the DYFS visitation room or at PEI. On occasion a visit is held in the home of the parent, at a park, or at a fast food restaurant.

The visitation staff provides:

- ◆ Coordination of the visit schedule
- ◆ Communication with families of the children and the foster parents
- ◆ Transportation to the visit and coordinates the visitation site
- ◆ Monitoring of the visit
- ◆ Documentation of observation in reports which are sent to the DYFS caseworker

The following statistics represent services from September 1995 through March 31, 1996:

	1995	1st Quarter 1996
# Cases	75	42
# Cases Closed	53	12
# Visits Scheduled	629	168
# Visits Held/Maintained	556	142

PEI has four vehicles, three sedans and a mini-van. Use of the vehicles is coordinated to optimize service between Supervised Visitation and Transportation Plus.

Program Expansion

An extensive waiting list evidenced the increased demand for Supervised Visitation in 1995. In addition, the available space for visitations at the DYFS office became more limited. In 1996 the contract has been expanded from 500 to 700 visitations per year, and the new contract has facilitated expansion of the PEI facilities to include a visitation room. This room will be furnished to accommodate children of all ages and their families. It will also provide the ability to monitor visits through a one way mirror. As a result of the contract increase, the program now has one full time supervisor and two part time employees.

Funding

This is a program contracted with the Mercer County Office of the State Division of Youth and Family Services.

Transportation Plus

Mission

The purpose of Transportation Plus is to provide transportation to children under the care of DYFS and their families to residential facilities, physicians, therapists, or other social agencies for appointments. The goal of the program, which started in 1993, is that through dependable transportation children will reap the maximum benefit of services available to them. All referrals are made by DYFS caseworkers through a liaison for the Mercer DO.

Five part-time drivers work a flexible schedule five days a week in an effort to accommodate early and late day appointments. Transports are made throughout the state of New Jersey and to eastern Pennsylvania. Cellular phones are used to facilitate communication of transport problems and to provide increased safety for the drivers in the more dangerous neighborhoods.

	1995	1st Quarter 1996
# Transportation Hours	3531	1103
# Individuals Transports	196	106

Although the main role of the drivers is to transport the individuals, the dependability, care and concern shown by them has resulted in an increase in client participation in services provided by physicians and counselors.

The increase in gasoline prices and continual maintenance of the vehicles continues to be one of the greater uncontrollable costs of the program.

Funding

This program is contracted with the Mercer County Office of the State Division of Youth and Family Services.