

**For Immediate Release  
September 20, 2007**

**Community Partners Honored for Role to End Homelessness for Families**

SEATTLE – On Thursday, September 20 at the Family Services' 115<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Breakfast, the agency recognized six community partners for their outstanding contributions to ending family homelessness and building an emotionally healthy community.

**Distinguished Service Award – Seattle Rotary Centennial Project Leadership: Karl Ege, Don Kraft, Nancy Sclater.**

The Seattle Rotary Centennial Project Leadership was the driving force behind the single largest gift made by any Rotary Club in the world. 96% of the more than 600 members of the Rotary of Seattle contributed more than \$4 million to build a Rotary Support Center for Families, a new home for Family Services. Opening in June 2009, this new facility will allow Family Services to prevent and end homelessness for 5,000 families over the next 10 years.

**Founders Award – Will Blethen**

Will Blethen will always be remembered at Family Services as the creator of the Fund for the Needy at the Seattle Times. This fund has made a significant difference in the lives of families and children we serve in the area of domestic violence intervention, homeless family services and mental health counseling. Family Services, alone, has received more than \$300,000 from the Fund for the Needy since the early 90's.

**Corporate Award – Hydrogen Advertising**

Hydrogen Advertising is responsible for creating the concept of the *Don't Just Look Away!* awareness campaign. This concept gave Family Services hundreds of life-size cardboard cutout children to help the community visualize the reality of the 800 children who are homeless in King County every night. This innovative campaign raised the plight of homeless children and families in our community. As a result, Family Services has experienced a swell of support, action and understanding for the issues related to family homelessness.

**Volunteers of the Year Award – Teens in Public Service (TIPS)**

Since 1997 TIPS has provided Families Services with full-time, summer high school interns. TIPS interns play games with preschoolers and assist teachers in the classrooms at Morningsong, the only child care center in Seattle dedicated to homeless children; sort clothes and serve homeless families at the Baby Boutique, and assist in fund-raising efforts. We are grateful for the generosity of the TIPS program for providing paid internships to the future leaders of our community.

**Community Partner Award – Delridge Neighborhoods Development Association (DNDA)**

DNDA is an essential partner in providing housing and support for homeless families in Seattle. Through this community partnership DNDA provides housing units for homeless families, while Family Services case managers work with the families to help them regain financial and emotional stability. DNDA is a leader in providing affordable housing for families in our community. We salute DNDA for their vision, their ability to turn vision into reality, and their commitment in helping formerly homeless families come home to stability, dignity and new hope.

**Funding Partner Award – AIDS Housing of Washington**

AIDS Housing of Washington administers state and private funding that has helped Family Services housing programs for homeless families to take root and grow into the enriched housing services they are today. AIDS Housing of Washington excels at finding creative solutions to such complex issues as homelessness.

**About Family Services**

At Family Services our mission is to build emotionally healthy, self-sufficient families and a non-violent community where they can thrive.

Since 1892, Family Services has been working to strengthen at-risk families in King County. We address the root causes of homelessness, domestic violence and emotional challenges for families in crisis.

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