

Update for Friends of CFC

January 27, 2011

Welcome to our news update. As a friend of CFC, we want to keep you informed about this important project for our community.

Remembering Marilyn

Community Family Center founding board member Marilyn Straus was a community leader through out her life. Many of her accomplishments and services to the community were recognized at the memorial service held on Monday, January 17th.

In her honor we, all of the citizens of Highland Park and Highwood, should come together to make her most recent endeavor, rehabbing the Karger Center to create a facility that will house several of the programs she helped start, and supported throughout her life.



Agency Spotlight

Family Service was recently in the news!

[Click Here](#)



Follow us on Facebook!

The experts agree: Invest in the Early Years

Learning begins at birth, and research shows the achievement gap is evident as early as 9 months of age. The best way to create and maintain a level education playing field is to reach at-risk children with high-quality early-learning programs, starting at birth.

The first five years of a child's life are crucial in developing the cognitive, social and emotional skills necessary to succeed in school. Vulnerable children who attend early-childhood programs are less likely to be enrolled in special education and more likely to graduate from high school.



Early Education is very important to the entire community.

Deep budget shortages are forcing many of the state's public-school districts to do more with less. Public early-childhood programs are among those programs most at risk for elimination. But if we don't acknowledge the critical role early education plays in shaping a child's success in school and properly fund quality birth-to-5 programs, unacceptable racial and economic disparities in student achievement will persist.

— Diana Mendley Rauner, President, Ounce of Prevention Fund, Chicago
chicagotribune.com **Voice of the People, Jan. 18, 2011**