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## Sanctuary Certification Achieved

Allegheny County Department of Human Services advocated that all social service agencies dealing with children, youth and adults who have experienced trauma become certified in The Sanctuary Model® of care. Sanctuary is a non-hierarchical, highly participatory, “trauma-informed and evidence-supported” means for how employees in an organization relate to one another and their clients. The purpose is to help employees function in a humane, democratic and socially responsible manner and thereby provide effective treatment for clients in a clinical setting. The model is entirely congruent with restorative practices, in that it is about working *with* people instead of doing things *to* them or *for* them.

Holy Family Institute decided to pursue certification for the Sanctuary model, as its practice was aligned with Holy Family’s mission and was a

healing method that would benefit all clients and staff.

In 2008, a team of employees formed a “Core Committee,” responsible for training all employees and to creating an implementation plan. Training and revised practices were pursued throughout all of Holy Family, including administration, social services, the residential program, schools, the substance abuse program and outpatient counseling services.

In April of 2011, a team of two inspectors—commissioned by the Sanctuary Institute—visited Holy Family over a period of 4 days. During that time, they interviewed and observed both children and staff to see if the Sanctuary practices were being used. Following their review, Holy Family Institute received official certification from the Sanctuary Institute.

## Walk for Healthy Community A Success!

On Saturday, May 21st, Holy Family Institute supporters joined other Pittsburghers in the Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community, in which HFI has participated for 8 years.

This year, the campaign was led by Christa Cardone, Holy Family Event Coordinator. Christa generated enthusiasm for the event by asking “teams” of Holy Family employees to compete for a bonus prize if they generated the most donations for their program. Also for the first time, both email and HFI’s Facebook page were

used to generate interest in the event. The results were outstanding and raised more than \$9,000.



Walkers cross the 9th Street Bridge during the Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community event on May 21, 2011.

**"Children are the hands by which we take hold of heaven."**

**-- Henry Beecher**



## **New In-Community Stabilization Program First in County**

On July 1, Holy Family Institute will be opening two new group homes for children and youth in the Northside community of Pittsburgh to begin a new program called "In-Community Stabilization." One home is located in the Observatory Hill community, and the other is in Brighton Heights.

These group homes will provide a safe and healing environment for the youth in our care. In addition, a process called "high-fidelity wrap around" is being used as a model to provide each child as well as their family with the therapy and support needed to achieve reunification, while utilizing all appropriate community supports. This process involves working with other agencies and programs within the community that can help the child and his/her family meet various needs, and garner their support as part of the team that delivers the customized services to the child and family. The group homes are lo-

cated in the community, rather than on a campus, so that the youth who reside there can more easily be involved in community activities as well as have easier access to their families and other support systems in the community.

While the youth receive counseling and other therapeutic treatments in the group setting, Holy Family counselors work directly with the family in their home to identify and solve problems and to teach parenting skills. In other words, HFI works with the family ensure they receive whatever help necessary to provide a safe, secure and nourishing environment for their children, and for the family to remain intact.

Holy Family Institute is embarking on this new service with the support of the United Way and Allegheny County's Department of Youth, Children and Family Services.

## **Outpatient Mental Health Services Change Lives**

Holy Family Institute now offers Outpatient Mental Health Counseling for adults as well as children at two locations— there are offices on the Emsworth campus as well as an office in Swissvale.

Originally, the services were targeted at children and youth, primarily because this is the population that Holy Family served. However, HFI has recently opened these services to adults and families, and at this time the number of adults in treatment already exceeds the number of children.

Andrea Galioto, Outpatient Program Supervisor, says that many adult clients

benefit from working with a counselor to handle stress or to get through particularly difficult challenges. Payment from all major health insurers is accepted, including Medicaid/Medicare. The uninsured can obtain treatment on a sliding scale fee schedule.

The program counselors are all master level licensed therapists. The program's emphasis is on helping people deal with crisis, pressures of life, depression and anxiety. Medication management is available in conjunction with counseling therapy if needed.

To make an appointment, call 412.766.9020 x222.

## HFI Cathy Pelusi Art Studio Goes to the Three Rivers Art Festival Exhibit

On March 29, 2011 the HFI Cathy Pelusi Art Studio hosted the "Women In Art" exhibit to celebrate Women's History Month. The display included more than 100 pieces of artwork created by female artists at Holy Family, including residential female students, the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth, Holy Family employees and volunteers.

This showcase was held to honor women throughout history, and to reflect on the contributions they have made through their talents, compassion, love and spirit.

Under artist's Amy DiMichele's direction and instruction, our residents are able to create beautiful artwork, in a variety of media, which is a safe and productive way to express themselves and their feelings.

The "Women In Art" collection was invited to participate in this year's Three Rivers Arts Festival. The exhibit was housed in the Trust Arts Education Center. What an accomplishment for the HFI Cathy Pelusi Art Studio and its participants!



**"Frustration" by Holy Family Institute artist Rose Red**

## Drive for HFI Golf Tournament Not to be Missed !

On Monday, August 1, 2011, Holy Family Institute will host its 25th Anniversary Drive for HFI Golf Tournament at the Montour Heights Country Club.

Forty foursomes are scheduled to tee off in a shotgun start at 9 AM. In addition to golf, individuals are welcome to attend the dinner reception, which will include special festivities and presentations to celebrate the 25th Anniversary.

John Banaszak, former Pittsburgh Steeler and Marlyn Carle, long time HFI supporter, are co-chairing the event.

Join us for a fun day of golf and activities. To get additional information, or to register your foursome, contact Christa Cardone, Events Coordinator, at 412.766-9020, Ext. 439 or email [cardone.christa@hfi-pgh.org](mailto:cardone.christa@hfi-pgh.org).



**25TH ANNIVERSARY  
DRIVE FOR HFI  
GOLF CLASSIC**

## Help us to Strengthen Our Community

Recent budget cuts on both the federal and state levels have affected funding for the neediest in our community. More than ever, Holy Family needs your support to help children deal with the aftermath of abuse and neglect, and to help families get back on their feet and provide a safe, nurturing environment for their family and children.

Holy Family makes it easy to give. Simply go to our website at [www.hfi-pgh.org](http://www.hfi-pgh.org) and click on the word "DONATE" at the top of the page. You will be guided to a secure website, where you can make an on-line contribution.

All contributions to HFI are tax-deductible, and go towards providing services to children and families.

**"Every child  
you encounter  
is a divine  
appointment."**

**-- Wess Stafford**



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**We strengthen family  
life in our community**

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**We're on the web!**  
[www.hfi-pgh.org](http://www.hfi-pgh.org)

## Help Us Stay in Touch!

Help us to keep you informed on happenings at Holy Family Institute. As we are always looking for ways to save money so more funds can directly benefit the children and families we serve, we'd appreciate your filling out the form below and returning to HFI. We are particularly interested in obtaining your email address, as email is FREE and saves us postage and printing costs for each publication we create.

We promise not to bother you with too many emails, and we never share our donor lists with other organizations.

Look for event updates and other news on our new Facebook page - [www.facebook.com/HolyFamilyInstitute](http://www.facebook.com/HolyFamilyInstitute) as well as our website at [www.hfi-pgh.org](http://www.hfi-pgh.org).

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