# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT











PERNET FAMILY HEALTH SERVICE

### MISSION, VISION & VALUES / PROGRAMS

# Mission

"In the tradition of The Little Sisters of the Assumption, Pernet Family Health Service supports the physical, social, psychological and spiritual development of individuals and families by providing home-based health and social services that lead to long-term strengthening and enhancement of family and community life."

# Vision

"Pernet Family Health Service is a vibrant, family-centered and resourcerich partner in the development of strong, healthy and self-sufficient families and individuals who participate actively in community life."

# Values

- Belief in the dignity and worth of each individual
- Empowerment so that families have the tools to reach their full potential
- Dedication and commitment to supporting families in attaining their goals
- Recognition of every family's strengths and positive attributes
- Empathy for families facing challenges
- Teamwork to reach our Mission and Vision
- Mutuality in relationships, we both give and receive
- Respect for diversity and the richness of our differences

# Programs

#### **EARLY INTERVENTION**

• Developmental service available to families of children between birth and three years of age

#### FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

- Fathers and Family Program
- Homemakers Program
- Parent Aide Program
- Parenting Classes

#### MATERNAL AND CHILD NURSING

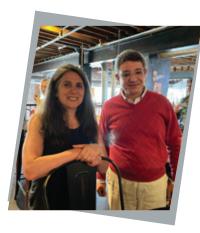
- Providing home care and support to pregnant and parenting women and their babies.
- Universal Newborn Visits

#### FAMILY AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

- Emergency Assistance (Food Pantry and Infant Supplies)
- Youth Summer Jobs
- Holiday Program
- Homework Club/Youth Group
- Information and Referral
- Summer Outings



# Board of Directors/Leadership





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Sheilah Dooley, RN, BSN, MS Joel Wallen, MNM Chris Nelson, LMHC Melissa Wenderoth, MEd Wanja Kiraguri Executive Director Associate Executive Director Director of Family Support Services Director of Early Intervention Director of Fund Development

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# Staff

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Sheilah Dooley, RN, BSN, MS Joel Wallen, MNM Wanja Kiraguri Madelyn Cecelya Michael Finnegan

#### FAMILY & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Yildiz Laza Tony Medina Reanna Filmore Yeidie Rivera Yanelis Crespo Danny Diaz Valeria Raffucci Holly Eplite

#### **EARLY INTERVENTION**

Melissa Wenderoth, MEd Lori Moran Ellen Cherry Colleen Fisher Mary Jane Foley, MSW, LICSW Brittany Gleim Becky Morganelli Renee Plaisance Tricia Lizotte

#### PARENT AIDE

Chris Nelson, LMHC Denise Rowan Karen Morin Carlos Ojeda Blanca Laza Imalay Holguin-Guzman Kat Foley-Foster Thalia Lopez Meaghan Walsh

#### NURSING

Joan Perna, RN Amie Richard, RN, BSN Lori Carr, RN, BSN

#### HOMEMAKERS PROGRAM

LaDon Simeoni Susan Spence







### A MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADERS



Patricia Vanasse, Board President

Dear Friends of Pernet,

What a difference this year has brought all of us! We are finally able to see each other in person and without masks. Pernet Family Health Service has been busy as we all re-adjust to the postpandemic world. We have all adapted to Zoom meetings and have been able to offer hybrid meetings. Pernet staff, volunteers, and board members are back in the building. The food pantry continues to be very busy.

The Pernet Board had a successful in person Pernet Cup Curling Challenge fundraising event as well as a volunteer appreciation event. The next year looks promising as Pernet continues to enhance our buildings, staff our ongoing programs, improve services and collaborate with the many agencies we work with.

We could not accomplish what we do without the leadership of Sheilah Dooley and, under her guidance, the leadership team, and staff of Pernet and their ongoing dedication to the Mission of Pernet and the Little Sisters of Assumption. The kindness, respect and support they provide to the families of Pernet is inspirational. The board of directors of Pernet has been fortunate to welcome several new members. They come from different areas of service and bring a wealth of knowledge and experience. Our board continues to work diligently to fundraise, increase our donor base, volunteer, and keep our agency financially stable.

This year has had its challenges and I am always in awe of the responses of the network and community that Pernet is proud to be part of. The infant formula crisis affected not only Pernet families but families across this country. Pernet and the Worcester community agencies joined together to find ways to bring baby formula to all of the infants in our community.

That was yet another crisis that made me think of how fortunate I am to be part of Pernet and the Worcester community where I live and work. It brings to mind the lyrics to the song, "Rise Up", by Andra Day.

"All we need... is hope. And for that we have each other... We will rise, We will rise, We'll rise, oh,oh. We'll rise."

We invite you all to Rise with us!!!

Thank you, Pat



**Sheilah Dooley**, Executive Director

Sports teams would call this a "rebuilding year". Coming out of the pandemic slowly has been another unprecedented experience. Going from strict separations such as masking, hand hygiene, social distancing to cautious exposure to others with vaccinations, boosters and occasional masking when in close quarters has been a relief in some ways. While we must stay vigilant regarding the transmission of COVID-19 and its variants, we are now able to open up the community in many ways.

Families are now willing to have in-home visits, but we have the capability to continue telehealth when necessary. Early Intervention is mostly in-person, with screening and testing when necessary. The Youth Program opened up to a beautifully renovated space. Parent Aides can work much closer with families that need support and stabilization. In Pernet's newest program, Universal Newborn Home Visiting for Worcester, we have expanded the Nursing Program with a voluntary service where all families bringing a newborn home can have a home visit. This program assesses new parents and newborns and can refer to other services if need be.

As always, the Emergency Assistance Program has supported families through the pandemic and the infant formula shortage. We have let the community know that Pernet Family Health Service is here and ready to support families.

I want to thank you for your generous support of Pernet so that we can continue to help families to be as strong as they can be. Your contributions, as well as your being ambassadors of Pernet in spreading the word of our important work, will help us continue to carry out these important programs. Please call me at any time to learn more about Pernet's programs.

Thank you, Sheilah

### **YOUTH PROGRAM**

# Youth Program

With the upgrades done last year during the pandemic, the youth came to a brand new space in September 2021 when we were able to host in-person activities. Danny the Youth Coordinator recruited his wife who is an artist to decorate the walls with images that were warm and inviting for the youth. The rooms got a fresh new coat of paint. One of our donors bought sofas and bean bag chairs for the youth.

By the time Homework Club was starting, the youth space looked new, and Danny was ready with his camera to record their reaction.

"Coming back in person is the best thing that has happened to me in a while. I don't even get to go to the park because we live with my grandparents and my mom is afraid of getting them sick," said Sasha, one of the youth.

Lots of precautions have been taken to keep the program running but we are grateful for all the donations that have kept us open.

Student interns from **College of the Holy Cross**, **Assumption University**, **Clark University**, and **Worcester State University** helped the youth with their homework, reading, and math practice. Employees from **Cornerstone Bank** taught them lessons on the value of money and budgeting.

School vacation week found the youth visiting the Ecotarium, Worcester Art Museum, local farms, and even the aquarium in Boston. The balance between homework, healthy activities, play and fun learning activities is a core part of our youth program.

There were lessons on healthy relationships, healthy eating, internet safety, social media safety, and life skills. Danny and his team made sure the youth felt seen and heard. It was a great year with in-person activities for the youth.

Please know that your donations made this possible for each of our youth program participants. Thank you.









# MATERNAL & NURSING PROGRAM



# Universal Newborn Visit





By Benedicta Agyeman - Parent

After delivering my baby, we went home, and the baby was struggling to latch. I got a call from Amie, the nurse at Pernet Family Health Service who offered to come to my house. She came that first week and I was already feeling overwhelmed trying to feed the baby and make sure he was comfortable.

When she came in, she came with a gift bag that had diapers, formula and baby supplies. I did not expect this, so I was pleasantly surprised, and these proved to be very helpful. I then explained to her how the baby was struggling to latch during breastfeeding. She gave me pointers on what to do and even helped me with different latching techniques. I continued to try breastfeeding but eventually resorted to pumping as my baby did not latch.

Amie answered all my questions and helped me calm down- this is major for a mom of a newborn who wasn't latching. I felt heard, and she reassured me that it wasn't my fault, I wasn't doing anything wrong. She said so long as my baby got food, that was the most important thing. That made me feel less guilty about my inability to directly breastfeed.

Amie gave me helpful resources but what I appreciated most was the support and encouragement. I recommend the Universal Newborn Visits to any parent.

# Pernet Cup Curling Challenge 2022

April 2019 was our first annual Pernet Cup Curling Challenge. Planning for the second one started in November of 2019 and when the plans were almost finalized in March of 2020, the pandemic hit, and everything closed down!

Sad but hopeful, we waited for the world to open but April 2021 came and went. Then, a glimmer of hope in the fall. The committee met and decided to go ahead with the faith that the world would fully open and the beginners curling tournament would take place.

Derek Alfama from the Fidelity Bank Worcester Ice Center gave us the good news that they would donate the use of their 2 skating rinks. Robert Ross Duncan from the Colonial Curling club agreed to help with the on-ice logistics and recruit curling coaches. We forged ahead with the planning.

Registrations were slow at the beginning with the Omicron variant infecting many people in January. All planning meetings were taking place virtually. Finally, in March the registrations picked up, and by mid-April, all slots were taken.

April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 started with all teams arriving on time and **Congressman Jim McGovern** addressing food insecurity at the opening ceremony. The coaching began at 10 AM followed by matches taking place in the Blue and Gray Rinks. Noontime we got a visit from **City Manager Ed Augustus** and at 4 PM **Worcester City Mayor Joe Petty** encouraged the teams to move to the championship round.

Congratulations to the top 3 teams.

- 1. Barry Waters
- 2. Scotch and the Rocks
- 3. The Greyhounds

Thank you to each team, curling coach, volunteer, sponsor, and donor who made this event possible.







### PERNET CUP CURLING CHALLENGE

#### Thank you to our Sponsors

- Fidelity Bank Worcester Ice Center
- TJ Woods Insurance Agency, Inc.
- Cornerstone Bank
- Carr Financial Group
- S G & D Insurance Agencies
- Bay State Savings Bank
- Rockland Trust Bank
- Chandler Pediatrics of Worcester
- Canal District
- UniBank
- · Reliant Medical Group
- LPA Architects

# Thank you to the following curling clubs for their support

- Colonial Curling Association
- Broomstones Curling Club
- Petersham Curling Club
- Blackstone Valley Curling Club
- Andover Curling Club



# Programs by the Numbers

July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022

#### EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Families served:

**8,553** Individuals served:

**29,935** Pounds of food distributed: **223,656** 

#### PARENT AIDE PROGRAM

Number of families served/helped:

**146** Number of families enrolled:

107

#### PARENTING CLASS

Number of parents served:

89

Number of parents enrolled:

### 72

Number of parents that earned their class certificate for completing the class:

**63** (with 12 scheduled to graduate after June 30, 2022)

#### NURTURING FATHERS GROUP

Number of fathers served:

**73** Number of fathers enrolled:

## 62

Number of fathers that earned a certificate for completing the group:

**41** (10 scheduled to graduate after June 30 , 2022)

#### JAIL GROUP (Cycles of Group began in March of 2022 due to Covid restrictions)

Number of inmates served:

**20** Number of inmates enrolled:

### 20

Number of inmates that earned a certificate for completing the group:

**7** (5 scheduled to graduate after June 30, 2022: 5 inmates released 3 weeks or more prior to group completion date)

Number of inmates that participated in new family visitation program that included contact visits with their children coordinated with Pernet and jail staff:

**3** (1 new family to start contact visits after June 30, 2022)

#### MATERNAL AND CHILD NURSING PROGRAM

The Nursing Program served

**154** families with newborns

with a total of **938** home visits.

#### EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM

Children served:

**242** Families served:

213

### THE YEAR IN NUMBERS

# Thank You to Our Donors!

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#### \$10,000 to \$24,999

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Fallon Health

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#### \$500 to \$999

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- Our Lady of the Lake
- Reliant Medical Group
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- UBS Community Affairs and Corporate Responsibility
- United Way of Greater Plymouth County, Inc.





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365Z Foundation Amazon Smile Anna Maria College, Campus Ministry Office Anonymous - Hanover Insurance Assumption University Student Athletes Atlas Distributing, Inc. Augustinians of The Assumption, Inc. Bertucci's Corporation Blessed Sacrament Church Blessed Sacrament Church St. Vincent de Paul Society Centro Children's Trust Congregation Beth Israel Congregation of Sisters of Saint Joseph of Boston Congregational Church Of Grafton, UCC Cradles to Crayons Cryogenic Institute of New England, Inc. Cvan Lens Media Daughters Of The Holy Spirit Days for Girls Shrewsbury Dr. Beverly Nazarian Dr. Nancy R. Spitulnik and Jay J. Spitulnik Eaton Corporation Executive Park Suites II, Inc. Fletcher Tilton PC

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Saint Peter's Church Food Bank Saint Rose of Lima Parish Saint Rose Of Lima Women's Club Saint Vincent Hospital Salem Community Corp Salvation Army Sandra Piscitelli (Millbury Federal Credit Union) Santon Plumbing and Heating Schoolhouse Quilters Sisters of St. Anne, Saint Anne Convent Southborough Food Pantry St. Bernadette School St. Brigid and Assumption Parishes St. Columba Church St. John's Clothing Store St. Mary of The Hills Church St. Mary's Parish St. Peter Marian High School St. Roch Parish Society of St. Vincent de Paul St. Vincent School Of Alumni Association STB Yoga Club Stop & Shop Table Talk Pies The Josh Thibodeau Helping Hearts Foundation

Tufts Health Public Plans

#### UBC & JA LOCAL 336

UMass Extension Nutritional Educational Program United States Post Office W David Kelly Wachusett Regional High School Wegmans WingTime LLC Worcester Public Schools Worcester Railers HC Worcester WIC Program

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the donation list. If we have made an error, please accept our apologies and notify us. Thank you.



### **VOLUNTEERS** AND COALITIONS

#### FY2022 Volunteer List

Assumption University Softball Team Amazon Tufts Health Public Plans WooServes - United Way of Central MA Notre Dame Academy Point32Health Cornerstone Bank Working for Worcester Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts Dvnamv Ms. Haley McHatton Ballou Ms. Ashley Barratt Ms. Melissa Blanchette Mr. Maurice Boisvert Mr. Trevor Boylston Mr. Joe Bradlee Mr. Indrek Buttner Atty. Filomena P. Cesareo Mr. Chris Clancy Mr. Ross Comcowich Ms. Cassidy Cosgrove Mr. CJ Cosgrove Ms. Catherine Dalv Mr. Raymond Delisle Mr Andrew Devine Ms. Brenna Donahue Mr. Thomas Doodian Mr. Robert Ross Duncan Mr. & Mrs. Larry C. and Sandra J. Fleming Ms. Christina Foley Ms. Karin Gaffney Ms. Suzanne Gendel Ms. Irma Gotay Mr. and Mrs. Donald W. and Elaine A. Grady Mr. Donald J. Hamman Mr. Quinn Havlicek Mr. Jonathan Hofmann Ms. Alison Howard

Ms. Anna Hundt Atty. Margaret E. Ives Mr. Colin Jessup Ms. Alexandra Krawczyk Ms Jennifer Kremer Mr. Jake Kurtz Ms Elizabeth Leo Sr. Margaret Leonard Ms. Jackie Li Dr. Jane A. Lochrie Mr. Madison Maley Mr. Mike Martinelli Mr. and Mrs. John P and Deborah J. McCabe Ms. Emily McCann Mr. Tyler McCauley Sr. Jean McCormack Mr and Mrs Robert F and Janice P Mecca Mr. Juan Medina Ms. Donna Mosher Mr. Robert Murray Mr. John Olivier Mr. and Mrs. Richard H. and Carolyn M. Parker Ms. Yen Pham Mr. Stacey Potts Ms. Valeria Raffucci Mr. Michael S. Rezkalla Dr Catherine Riordan Dr. Laurie Ross Mr. George Rowe Mr. Brent Rutter Mr. Sebastian Sanchez Ms. Hannah Sansone Dr. Sara Shield Ms. Tamara Sioui Ms. Amy Smith Mr. Dan Smith Mr. John E. Smithhisler Mr. William Solomon

Dr. Rosalie Torres Stone Ms. Julia Swanson Mr. Pierre Telemague Mrs. Patricia A. Vanasse Mr. Samuel Watson Mr. John Woods Mr. Dillion Wright Ms. Walt Zurawsky

#### **Coalitions, Networks,** Collaborations 2022

#### AmeriCorps

Assumption College-Reach Out Center -Assumption University Student Ministry Autism Alliance Autism Spectrum Services Beacon ABA Services Beverly School for the Deaf Central Mass. Housing Alliance Central Region Consultation Program Clarke Schools for Hearing and Speech Clark University Service Organizations College of the Holy Cross Service Organization Cradles to Crayons Early Intervention Regional Directors EcoTarium Family resource center Girl Scouts Greater Worcester Community Foundation Green Island Neighborhood Center Horace Mann Educators Corp Horace Mann School for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Hunger Clinic Key Autism Services The Learning Center for the Deaf Lovin' Spoonfuls Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences Service-Learning Program Massachusetts Department of Children and Families Massachusetts Department of Public Health Massachusetts Department of Revenue Mayor's Food Insecurity Task Force Mentor South Bay Minuteman EIP Program for Children with Hearing Loss Pedi Pals Program of Worcester Perkins School for the Blind READS Collaborative, Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program Reliant Foundation Resilience Through Relationships Center Statewide Fatherhood Engagement Leadership Team (FELT) Stop n Shop Thayer-Lindsley Family Centered Program, Émerson Cóllege The Health Foundation of Central MA Together for Kids Coalition United Way of Central Massachusetts UMass Extension Service Wegman's Willie Ross School for the Deaf

Worcester Community Action Council Worcester Community Connections Coalition Worcester County Food Bank Worcester County House of Correction Worcester Division of Public Health Worcester Healthy Baby Coalition Worcester Family Partnership (formerly Family Ties) Worcester Interfaith Worcester State University Worcester Together WPI - Service Organizations YouthConnect

37%

19%

19%

20%

100%

6%

**Expenses** 

777,986

397,645

397,440

122,245

420,998

120,367

50,566

170,933

2,116,313

# Financial Report - Operations

AS OF JUNE 30, 2022 (Preliminary and Unaudited Results)

Reven	ue & Su	pport	Exp
<ul> <li>Gov't Contract</li> <li>Fees for Service</li> <li>Private Donations</li> <li>Foundation/Corp. Donations</li> <li>United Way</li> <li>Private Religious Sources</li> <li>Other Grants</li> <li>In-Kind Contributions</li> <li>Investment Income</li> </ul>	743,553 764,694 171,648 256,657 57,925 39,502 44,532 146,170 10,221	33.2% 34.2% 7.7% 11.5% 2.6% 1.8% 2.0% 6.5% 0.5%	<ul> <li>Early Intervention Program</li> <li>Family Support</li> <li>Family &amp; Community Dev.</li> <li>Nursing Services</li> <li>Admin. &amp; Fundraising</li> <li>Operational Surplus</li> </ul>
Miscellaneous	1,779 <b>2,236,680</b>	0.1% <b>100%</b>	Decrease in Restricted Funds FY 21 Change in Net Assets





237 Millbury Street, Worcester MA 01610 Phone: 508 755-1228 Fax: 508-797-3477 TTY: 508-799-5795 Website: Pernetfamilyhealth.org Email: info@pernetfamilyhealth.org





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# YOUR SUPPORT **IS NEEDED**

Pernet Family Health Service provides home health care, food, emergency services, and community support to the most vulnerable of Massachusetts families, regardless of their ability to pay.

Your generous donation joins the support of the Little Sisters of the Assumption, the Partners in Charity Appeal, the United Way of Central Massachusetts and the Greater Worcester Community Foundation, whose donations provide a critical supplement to fees received from government agencies.

Please remember Pernet Family Health Service with a gift to fill the funding gap this holiday season. Your check can be sent to our mailing address or can be made at pernetfamilyhealth.org.

Should you wish to remember Pernet in your will, or through an estate planning instrument such as a Charitable Lead Trust or a Charitable Remainder Trust, please call our Executive Director, Sheilah Dooley, at 508-775-1228 x250.



Little Sisters of the

Assumption



of Central MA



The Department of Children and Families

The Department of Greater Worcester Public Health **Community Foundation** 



Worcester