

**Slater Family
Network
Foundation Inc.**

“Rock Solid Support”

***Annual
Report***

JULY 1, 2022-JUNE 30, 2023

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Annual Report

July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023

Our Mission is to provide resources, referrals, and programs to empower families in need in the Bangor Area School District.

Our vision is that Slater Family Network will become the center that bridges the gap between residents' needs and community services.

Families Served:

124 new families served.

2,424 client case management contacts (with some multiple visits added)

Funding:

Bangor Community

Bangor Area School District

Northampton County Division of children, youth & families

United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley

Two Rivers Health and Wellness Foundation

Catholic Diocese of Allentown-Poverty Relief Fund

The Slate Belt Ministerium

The Sexauer Foundation

Donations, Fund drives and Memorials



Staff:

Executive Director: Patti Damour

Caseworker: Gail Rubel

In-House Therapist: Elizabeth Kostura, LPC, CAADC

Food Access Manager: Jill Lounsbury

Board of Directors:**Executive Board**

Pastor Michael Scholtes, President

Alicia Zito, Vice President & District Judge

Cheryl Melnick, Treasurer

Rosemary Kocher, Financial Secretary

Erin Hetu, Secretary

Other Members

Matthew Goodrich, Esquire

Daniele Davanzo

Michael Hunsicker, Bangor Police Dept.

Jacki Hudak, St. Luke's University Health Network

Laurie Eddy

Auxiliary

Karen Barr

Phyllis Sutton

Peggy Reimer

Programs:

11th Annual “912” Scholarship in loving memory of Denny Strouse.

- A \$1,000.00 Scholarship was awarded to Brynn Holland, who is attending Northampton Community College in the Fall.

17th Annual Slater Family Network Scholarship

- \$2,000 was awarded to Timothy Frable, who is attending Thaddeus Stevens College in the Fall.

Backpacks & School Supplies -Donated by local churches/clubs, community members, Keller Williams Realty and SFN.

- 200 students received backpacks filled with grade appropriate supplies, distributed in August 2022 and several more were distributed throughout the school year. This year we distributed it as an event with food and fun and it was a great success. Will use the same model this year.

Clothes Closet-SFN on-site closet providing Newborn-Young adult clothing, shoes, small household items.

- 193 (6/7/23) Families were served and an average of 30% made multiple visits on average 2 times annually.
- New socks and underwear were also offered if the size was available. All new socks and underwear were donated by local sports clubs, churches, and local drives.
- SFN secured funds to purchase new socks and underwear with a grant from the Catholic Women’s Society of Giving as well as new bedding sets, blankets, and throws.
- SFN also refers to the Bangor Boutique located inside the BAHS offering appropriate school attire, casual clothes, shoes, handbags, and prom attire.

Backpack Buddies-In collaboration with The United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, The Sexauer Foundation, and the community.

Qualifying food insecure students go home every Friday with a backpack filled with food and beverages for their consumption over the weekend. The program serves students Pre-K to 12 grade and continues through the summer.

- 2,136 (as of 6/7/23) student backpacks distributed for the 2022-2023 academic year.
- There was a lack of interest for the summer program, so we will reorganize and start in the Fall 2023. Families are encouraged to use our pantry or mini pantry if they need it.
- Participants are surveyed periodically to gauge any improvements.

Emergency Food Pantry- SFN is a site for residents of the Slate Belt to receive emergency food. This program is a collaboration between Second Harvest Food Bank of the Lehigh Valley and the United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley. Non-perishables and meat are provided through SHFB. Toiletries are offered through drives done by local churches, groups, and community support. Slater Family Network has continued a relationship with Rodale/St. Luke's Health Network's Community Garden initiative, providing CSA shares of seasonal fresh fruit and vegetables to our clients through October 2022. Client surveys are done periodically to measure better ways to meet the community's needs.

- 86 Families used the pantry.
- 32 Children (ages 0-5) served
- 125 Students (Pre-K-12th grade) served
- 163 Adults served
- 10 Senior/Older Adults served

Holiday Giving- Holiday gifts for children 2-12, with a holiday meal basket also provided. Many collaborators make this possible including The Bangor Elks, Bangor Elementary PTO, BASD teachers and staff, local churches, Bangor Women's Club, Amazon donations, book clubs and generous community members. Families complete an application with financial need and include children's "Wish List". Benefactors provide gifts and food for families in need.

- 67 Families/172 children received gifts and dinners for Christmas 2022.
- Holiday Giving was 100% covered in cost from donations.
- SFN received 30 new coats and 80 hats and mitten sets which were distributed.
- We received 100 turkeys from Keller Williams Real Estate for all families in need.
- The Bangor Elks Club delivered 40 food baskets to shut-ins and families without transportation.

Thanksgiving Meal Baskets- Baskets were provided for local, low-income families complete with turkeys and all the trimmings. A local reality company, Keller Williams provided baskets and families picked them up at our pantry.

- 41 families picked up baskets donated by the Bangor Women's Club, Bangor HS clubs, The Slate Belt Chamber of Commerce, local churches, and individual community members.
- Pen Argyl's Grace United Methodist Church Youth group prepared and delivered fully prepared meals to clients from SFN and the community who did not have the ability to cook a meal.

Two Rivers Mental Health Grant- In collaboration with Two Rivers Health and Wellness Foundation and Elizabeth Kostura, LPC, CAADC, mental health counseling was provided with minimal or no co-pay for individuals who do not have mental health coverage, or no insurance, have a high deductible/co-pay or are unable to pay for their care.

- SFN currently has 9 clients being seen in-house or with telehealth weekly.
- 7 of the 10 clients are children aged 7-18 with parents also receiving services.
- We exceeded our \$12,000 grant last year, so in 2023 we received \$20,000 to better cover the need.
- The Therapist completes a periodic Client to Success survey to measure growth.
- Clients do satisfaction surveys to gauge quality and satisfaction with the care received. There were 0 negative comments over the last year.

Marketing/social media- Starting in 2019 Slater Family Network started marketing on Facebook, creating a page and adding a button to directly contact SFN with a need or donation. This has been a great tool in reaching donors, clients, and advertising community events to benefit families. There is no cost associated with this platform and is updated daily. It continues to be our best free marketing tool today. We have recently started to use Instagram, as that reaches a younger audience traditionally.

- SFN currently has 1,049 followers, 89% Women, 11% Male (Identify as)
- Has reached 7,800+ people through posts, ads, shares, and page interactions May-June 2023.
- Post daily inspiration, programs, and helpful information.

Website-www.slaterfamilynetwork.org

- Has brought SFN to the next level of professionalism and ease of contact by pressing a link.
- Allows us to post forms and flyers directly on the site for clients to upload and fill out.
- Allows donors to explore what we offer the community in a professional manner.
- Has a QR code created for easy access.

In 2022 SFN was present at Elementary back to school nights, Kindergarten orientation, Slaterfest, St. Luke's Community Forum, and Bangor's National night out and Fall Fest. Presented to Pre K counts and Head start families, Local churches, and The Bangor Women's club. Also participated in the Bangor Halloween Parade.

Goals for 2023-2024 in marketing- Increase visibility in the community by attending and providing resources to local businesses, churches, and assistance offices. Increase our visibility and access to school district staff and families by attending district meetings and updating all in-school resources.

Fundraising-Held our Annual Silent Auction fundraiser in person this year at Five Points Elementary School. Was well attended. Had excellent volunteer and staff participation.

- \$18,132.30 was the total income, with \$1,719.76 in expenses and petty cash.
- Total revenue was \$16,412.54 (\$7,607.32 in 2022)

The Family of Frank Kinney held their 6th Annual Memorial Golf Outing in August 2022. The proceeds were donated to SFN for a total of \$3,700.00.

Micro-grants-

- Received \$7,500.00 from the Sexauer Foundation to benefit our Backpack Buddies program in 2022-2023.
- Received \$1,000.00 from the Catholic Women's Society of Giving to be used for new blankets and new socks and underwear (Seats & Feet Drive) for local families in need for 2022-2023.
- Received \$1,500 grant from Aramark for Gift Gingerbread houses and special activity bags for our Backpack Buddy students and Emergency Holiday giving 2022.
- Received \$1,000 from the Bangor Elementary PTO to purchase gift cards for families in need in 2022.
- Received \$1,000 from Fulton bank designated for family/educational programs 6/2023 and will use for our Back to School Event 8/17/2023.
- Plus, continuous donations from area churches, groups, businesses, and individuals