

GOALS UPDATE

Our Gingerbread House Event in December was a terrific success. Eighteen families and more than 50 children came out to create and decorate delicious houses, yards and playgrounds. The family members were supported in building their sweet 'mansions' by a great group of volunteers. Thank you to Lauren Failla, Steve and Gloria Culmone, Leslie Grant, Christine Henderson, Jay Karlinski, Diane

Travers, Madeline Paske-Baulig, Megan McDowell, Mike Kerwin, Carolyn and Jennifer Hession, Scott Bernstein, Allison Cooper and Patrick Clinton for all of your help.

Thanks also to St. Patrick Parish in Chatham who generously provided us with the space to hold this great event. We hope that everyone involved had a wonderful time.

Looking ahead...We are happy to announce that The

Amazing Race III will be held one weekend in late August or September. Look for more information before the summer and plan to join in on the fun.

We will also be offering another series of our six week family groups starting in the fall. If you would like to find out more about this program, please contact **Kevin Duffy at (973) 800-9661** or via email at kevin@goalscenter.org.

"Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall."

-- Confucius



FUTURE GOALS

We are in the process of creating an independent, 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, *The GOALS Center for Families*, that specializes in delivering services to families with children experiencing grief due to the death of a parent. This organization reaches beyond the local level by disseminating the GOALS model nationally via trainings and resource publications.

As you may know, GOALS began after September 11, 2001 when psychotherapists from Morristown created a family support program, The Families'

GOALS (Going on After Loss) Project. This program was unique because it was run by therapists who specialize in trauma and grief, worked with families as a unit, and focused on resiliency.

In the ensuing five years, this program has developed into a comprehensive series of services tailored to meet the continually evolving needs of families navigating their journey through grief.

As we continue to grow and provide services to families throughout our community, we ask you to think about how you may help us achieve our vision:

- Refer families in your community that have experienced a recent death to GOALS. Our services are available to all families with kids who have lost a parent.
- Consider volunteering with GOALS or maybe referring others interested in volunteering their time.
- Consider making a tax-exempt donation.

If you would like to refer someone to our programs or if you have any questions about the appropriateness of it, contact Kevin Duffy at (973) 800-9661.

If you are interested in making a tax-exempt donation or volunteering with The GOALS Center for Families, please contact Kevin Duffy at (973) 800-9661 for more information.

THE
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GOALS ACHIEVEMENTS

Maureen Underwood, founder of The GOALS Center for Families, was recently named **2007 Social Worker of the Year** by the New Jersey Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW).

Maureen is a psychotherapist based in Morristown with more than thirty five years of experience. Her work on the GOALS program and her clinical expertise in working on suicide prevention programs garnered her this award.



Maureen Underwood and the GOALS staff presented the GOALS model at the American Group Psychotherapy Association's (AGPA) National Conference in Austin, Texas on March 8. Over the course of three hours Maureen presented the GOALS model, our September 11 response and the theoretical basis for our work. The second portion of the session was devoted to "experience" and the attendees were faced with a challenge - an **Amazing Race!** Much like the family event we have held for the previous two years in Morris County, these conference goers were divided into teams and were soon racing around the Hilton in Austin looking for their next clue and task. [see photos on the right]



Maureen has been a presenter at the American Group Psychotherapy Association National Conference for the previous five years and GOALS has already been invited to the conference in Washington, DC next year!