



## **Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc.**

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[www.chautauquaopportunities.com](http://www.chautauquaopportunities.com)

### **PRESS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

**Date: June 6, 2006**

### **Chautauqua Opportunities Awarded \$10,000 from United Way of Southern Chautauqua County to fund Street Outreach Program.**

The United Way has awarded Chautauqua Opportunities a \$10,000 grant for its Street Outreach Program. The program is designed to provide youth education and referral service along with access to local emergency shelter space. A Van outfitted with all the necessary tools to educate youth and distribute survival kits containing toiletries, a meal ticket for fast food, and water bottles with the Safe House contact information will circulate throughout Chautauqua County in areas where youth are known to frequent. Trained staff will not only reach out through the local teen hang-outs, but will host educational presentations for the youth, at their local school districts, on the dangers of running away. Project Safe Place is a national youth outreach program that educates thousands of young people every year not only about the dangers of running away, but trying to resolve difficult, threatening situations on their own. Safe Place creates a network of "Safe Place locations" – youth friendly businesses, schools, fire stations, libraries, Boys' & Girls' Clubs, YMCAs and other appropriate public buildings that display the distinctive yellow and black Safe Place sign.

The Street Outreach Program is an asset to the Safe House's mission of reuniting youth with their families and encouraging the resolution by assisting youth in learning to make better decisions and strengthen relationships. The program's goal is to encourage stable living

conditions for youth. Bill Vogt said, “this award will ensure we reach youth and educate them on the available youth services that are offered within the county and it will better help us assist those that are vulnerable to homelessness and get them off of the streets.”

If you know a youth who needs a safe place to stay, or you would like to learn more about the Safe House and how you can help, call 661-9446.



Chautauqua Opportunities, Inc. a Community Action Agency dedicated to promoting empowerment, economic independence, and opportunities for low-income people for over 40 years.

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