

# ENRICHING THE COMMUNITY

A monthly publication for friends of Family Enrichment Network

## Special Education Services in Norwich

Family Enrichment Network's Special Education Services in Norwich continues to grow and serve preschool aged children in Chenango and the surrounding counties. We continue striving to meet the individual needs of the children we serve.

In September 2012, Family Enrichment Network assumed responsibility for the preschool special education services previously provided by DCMO BOCES at their Career and Technical Education Center in Norwich. Since that time the program has transitioned to 21 South Broad Street. The building supports two SES integrated classrooms and provides an evaluation site for area preschool children with special needs to receive the necessary evaluations to determine eligibility for preschool special education services. Currently FEN is the only evaluation site in Chenango County.

In the two classrooms, the special needs students are integrated with Norwich area children whose families are seeking childcare and/or a preschool experience for their child. The classrooms follow all OCFS and NYS Education regulations with an emphasis on social-emotional skills using the Creative Curriculum, Conscious Discipline, and the Pyramid Model as program resources. In addition to the two classrooms, our Norwich Center includes the following spaces:

- a licensed kitchen to provide a meal (either breakfast or lunch) and snack each day
- a general-purpose room used for large motor activities (where children can run, jump, and dance) and evaluation purposes,
- therapy rooms for the speech and occupational therapy providers,
- a children's bathroom,
- an adult rest room,
- a playground, and
- office space.

Students that have therapy can be given their full range of therapies (speech, occupational, and physical) right at the center. Our Norwich Program utilizes the services of both FEN Therapists and agency contracts for various therapeutic services. Our newest contract is with Therapy Works for speech teletherapy. This contract provided us with three speech therapists providing teletherapy throughout the week.

We are currently creating an additional therapy room within the office area for a therapy swing and other equipment to support the therapists serving our children. The program has served 22 children during the 2022-2023 academic year during two half-day sessions. The children served live in Chenango, Otsego, and Delaware Counties.

For more information about Family Enrichment Network Programs, please visit us at [www.familyenrichment.org](http://www.familyenrichment.org) or call (607) 723-8313.



*The mission of Family Enrichment Network is to provide supportive services for the optimal development of children and families. We believe in coordinating children and family services using a comprehensive and collaborative approach to improve their quality of life while ensuring the greatest value for our investment in child, adult, and parent development.*