

Proposals generate \$328,564 for family center

By Lee Strong
Staff writer

Money may not grow on trees, but the Catholic Family Center still seems to have found a way to harvest it.

In the four-month period between late January and late May of this year, the center received \$328,564 in grants and awards above and beyond the regular funding for center programs. The money was generated through proposals submitted to various funding sources.

William Privett, the director of resource development for the Catholic Family Center, attributed the number and amount of the awards to "a lot of hard work by our department directors, the quality of the proposals we've generated, the importance of the work we're doing and the credibility of the agency."

Privett noted grants and awards represent

a substantial portion of the center's budget. In fiscal year 1988/89, for example, only \$208,931 of the center's more than \$6.6 million budget came from the Thanks Giving Appeal, the Diocese of Rochester's main source of operational funding. The bulk of the agency's money is supplied through client fees, government contracts, contributions and foundation grants.

"The Thanks Giving Appeal has not been intended to supplant the United Way or government funding of social-service programs," Privett explained. "TGA money subsidizes our leadership and church-related activities such as pre-Cana and social justice."

The awards the center received this spring ranged from a \$1,000 check from the Rochester Real Estate Board to aid the Francis Hospitality Center to a \$63,000

grant from United Way of Greater Rochester for Restart Substance Abuse Services. Among other programs receiving grants were the Action Center for the Disabled, refugee resettlement services, the Safe House program in Wayne County for runaway teenagers, and services to the aging.

In all, the Catholic Family Center received 21 separate awards during the period.

The United Way of Greater Rochester provided two of the grants: the \$63,000 for Restart and \$28,078 for the Life Step teen-pregnancy prevention and services program for Northwest Rochester. Rufus Agnew, vice president for planning and fund distribution at the United Way, noted that the Catholic Family Center earned the awards in open competition with other agencies requesting funds.

"From the standpoint of reading what

the funders are looking for and being able to put that into some kind of funding proposal, (the Catholic Family Center does) a good job," Agnew observed. "They do have a history of working with inner-city people ... of serving the people we are interested in."

Privett pointed out that the Catholic Family Center has had a long-standing relationship with United Way, but that while the amount received from United Way has increased in recent years, the percentage of United Way funding relative to the center's overall budget has decreased from approximately 60 percent to 18-19 percent. "The awards have grown, but we've experienced much faster growth," Privett noted.

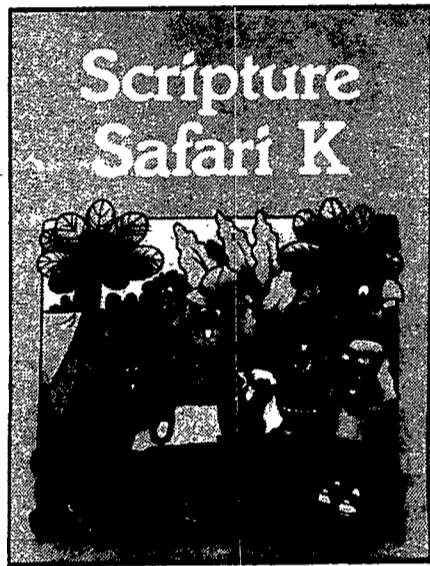
That growth — and the need for additional funding to support it — led to the creation of Privett's new position in April,

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Creatures of creation

Children from the Rochester area learned about the beauty of God's creation by making some animal friends at the Scripture Safari Workshop presented by Rochester's St. Boniface Parish June 26-30. Highlights of the summer Bible school were a children's liturgy, visit from the Humane Society and trip to the headquarters of the Rochester Police Mounted Patrol Unit. At right, Lee Walsh tries to get a kitten's attention on Thursday during the workshop. Below, children get a chance to pet a one of the horses used by the mounted police.

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