



## PRESS RELEASE

### Eagle Scout Helps Beautify Visitation Center

Over 30 volunteers came out on Saturday, August 14<sup>th</sup> to the Northern Rhode Island Visitation Center in Woonsocket to help Jacob Metivier, 16, turn his Eagle Scout Project vision into a reality. Jacob, who is a member of Eagle Scout Troop 1139 in Slatersville, wanted to enhance the new Visitation Center by adding a stone meditation path along the perimeter, benches, a picnic table and a glider for the families served by the program. The Visitation Center, a program of Family Resources Community Action (FRCA), provides support for visitation and recovery services to families whose children are in the care of the Department of Children, Youth & Families due to substance abuse concerns.

As stated in his project description, Jacob noted that “families will gain a new and safe place to meet with each other in a home like environment.” Stones with words of inspiration and support such as hope, courage, success and family, were painted on stones decorating the garden beds. Jacob has raised over \$1600 to date from fundraisers including a bake sale at St. John the Evangelist Church (the sponsor of the troop), a breakfast and contributions from individuals and businesses.

Jacob along with his Eagle Scout group and other volunteers worked many days leading up to Saturday to lay out the cut stone path and throughout Saturday to dig out and place each piece of bluestone. “This is a real labor of love,” noted Shannyn Vicente, FRCA Foster Family Support/Visitation Center Program Manager. Shannyn noted that having alternative ways for family members to connect, such as the meditation path and benches/swings, is particularly important for those who are working toward recovery.

“These additions will offer families a place to reconnect,” Jacob noted. “The house will be a place to rebuild healthy family relationships.”

#### **About Family Resources Community Action**

*FRCA is one of the oldest not-for-profit family centered social service organizations in Rhode Island. FRCA’s mission is to strengthen families and individuals through social services, education and economic opportunity while respecting the dignity of the people they serve.*