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June 23, 2009

Ms. Patricia Nowak
Project Officer
Baby Buggy, Inc.
306 W. 37th Street, 8th Floor
New York, NY 10018

Dear Ms. Nowak:

We are writing to give you a brief update on the numerous ways that Baby Buggy has benefited our CFR families. We have been able to provide diapers, clothing, equipment and other needed products to 42 families and a combined total of 82 children. 40 mothers and 2 fathers have been able, many for the first time, to give their children the essentials so many parents of means can take for granted. Along with poverty, so many of our parents are also trying to overcome domestic violence, substance abuse or mental health conditions—having clean, essential and beautiful Baby Buggy items to bring home helps them stay inspired to do what they need to do to parent safely and give their children the same opportunities we hope for our own.

We enclosed a picture of a very happy client, named Cathy, with her beautiful children and her beautiful new stroller! Here is her story, which we hope you will share with your donors:

When CFR first met Cathy, she was 19 and had an adorable little boy named Frank, just two years old. A victim of domestic violence, Cathy was struggling to set up a home of her own and to leave an abusive relationship. In fact, she was pregnant again after having been sexually assaulted by Frank's father.

Like many young women without means, Cathy had to enter the shelter system as a first step toward finding more permanent housing—her mother had an apartment but also smoked marijuana and Cathy knew she could not stay there. Despite three weeks of daily calls to the City's domestic violence hotline, Cathy could not find accommodations for her and Frank in a special victims' shelter; so Cathy entered the city's vast and complicated public shelter system.

Cathy's pregnancy was high risk, but the city shelter system has rigid rules that made no exceptions for this. Once, Cathy was placed in and then lost her shelter housing because she

had to go to the Emergency Room and did not make it back to the shelter with little Frank by curfew. Two other times when she was discharged late from the Emergency room, the shelter threatened to throw her out again. Three times, Cathy was relocated: from Manhattan, to Queens, to Brooklyn. Each time, she had to choose between finding new counseling and prenatal services in the new location and commuting between boroughs to stay with her current providers. Cathy still had to bring Frank to see his father twice a week in addition to keeping her numerous appointments for public assistance, WIC and Medicaid.

For three weeks, whenever CFR's social worker accompanied Cathy to an appointment, she noticed that Cathy carried Frank, a diaper bag, and a knapsack filled with her papers and other belongings. Frank could walk but of course tired easily. After realizing that Cathy had no stroller, the social worker requested one for Cathy from Baby Buggy.

A few weeks later, after she had given birth to a healthy baby girl named Zoe, Cathy and the CFR social worker got more than they had hoped for: a beautiful Graco double stroller, provided by a generous donor to Baby Buggy and then to CFR. For the first time, Cathy feels less overwhelmed about keeping all her appointments. She can tote more bottles, food and toys for Frank and both children have a comfortable place to nap if they are out in the afternoon.

Cathy still resides in the shelter system but we are working hard to help her get an apartment of her own soon. Cathy's life is still not easy, but her days are infinitely smoother. And that makes it possible for her to focus on keeping her family healthy and safe and for CFR to help her do both.

Baby Buggy has greatly enhanced the menu of concrete supports we can give to our families and we look forward to sharing more with you about the impact of your generosity here at CFR. Thank you on behalf of our entire staff and our clients.

Sincerely,

Susan Jacobs

Wanjiro Gethaiga

Payal Dalal

Executive Director

Social Work Supervisor

Senior Social Worker