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*Chazen Engineering, Land Surveying & Landscape Architecture Co., P.C.*

*Chazen Environmental Services, Inc.*

*21 Fox Street, Poughkeepsie, New York 12601*

*Phone: (845) 454-3980 Fax: (845) 454-4026*

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

*Capital District Office: (518) 273-0055*

*Orange County Office: (845) 567-1133*

*North Country Office: (518) 812-0513*

*Connecticut Office: (860) 440-2690*

## NEWS RELEASE

### For Immediate Release

**Contact:** Lisa Morris, The Chazen Companies  
Sr. Director of Marketing & Business Development

845-486-1481

[lmorris@chazencompanies.com](mailto:lmorris@chazencompanies.com)

### Families First Benefits from Technology Donation

**POUGHKEEPSIE, NY (August 13, 2008)** – The Chazen Companies (TCC), a leading multi-disciplinary professional services firm, recently gifted Families First New York with twenty (20) personal computers and equipment, which will be given to families in the community. TCC also provided internal servers for Families First NY's operating use.

**Stephen Cerini**, Director of IT at Families First said, "It's the generous support of people in the community that help keep the program running with little money." Families First relies on the donations of businesses and residents in the community for items such as computers, printers, paper, ink, etc. Donated computers are refurbished in-house and then reapportioned to the community according to the donation guidelines.

Over the past five years, Chazen has donated specifically to the Families First "Families in Technology" (F.I.T.) Program. This program ensures that receiving families, with at least one child, learn the computer together through training curricula offered by Families First, and allows parents and guardians the ability to better help children with homework, become more aware of internet activity, and increase computer comfort levels. While the F.I.T. program remains extremely beneficial to bridging the technology gap between parents and children, there has been an increasing need for adults in the community to become technologically-savvy. Chazen's recent donation differs in that recipients of the computers can be anyone in the community who has a need, including single people with no children and senior citizens.

Families First New York is a not-for-profit management services organization that grew out of the capacity-building work that Family Services, Inc. began in 1992 with the Neighborhood Based Alliance. Since 1992, they have worked with human services and youth development organizations, advocacy groups, and government agencies across New York State. Families First offers efficient, cost-effective services in accounting and financial management, human resources, information technology, fundraising, and marketing. They can provide organizational management for non-profits whose strength lay in providing direct service.

**Mark Kastner**, Chazen Companies President said, "We're proud to be able to give back in a way that not only has immediate results, but long-lasting, sustainable ones, too. We commend Families First for doing just that – putting the needs of families and the community first."

For more than 60 years, TCC has provided professional services to a wide variety of municipal and private development clients throughout the Northeast. The firm's engineers, landscape architects, land surveyors, planners and environmental scientists serve clients from five offices — Poughkeepsie, Newburgh, Troy, and Glens Falls, New York, as well as Waterford, Connecticut.

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