



## Committed to the Cause: Charter Board Member Still Serving After 25 Years

November 2012

Louis A. Robinson, Jr. (Lou) has been a valuable part of Family Support Line for over 25 years. As a chartered board member, Lou has helped to develop Family Support Line into the successful organization it is today. He has played a major role with his dedication and positive attitude toward helping others in need.

Lou jumped at the opportunity when he was asked to be on the Board of Directors of a new agency, Family Support Line, which has a mission to support families of child sexual abuse and run prevention programs to educate parents, caregivers, children, and others on how to prevent and mitigate this social tragedy.

After Lou's daughter faced a horrible tragedy, he vowed to do whatever he could to help other families deal with the anxieties, fears and uncertainties that child sexual abuse can bring into their lives. He didn't have an agency like Family Support Line to turn to when his family needed support so now he wants others to have the opportunity to talk to someone and learn about what steps they can take in order to heal. It is very important to him to educate government and business leaders, civic leaders, the general public, educators and most importantly families about the issue of child abuse.

This is an issue that he feels strongly about and believes that through our efforts we can and will make a difference to save our children. He

wants parents to know that there is hope for their children and their families when they are feeling hopeless. Lou has seen that Family Support Line's Prevention Program make progress in educating others about child sexual abuse and he truly believes that the organization's efforts are making a real difference.



"Child abuse is not something that we can't hide in the closet and forget about", said Lou. "These families need to understand that there are people out there willing to help them and lead them along the right path to heal. It boils down to protecting the children and letting families know that there is hope from this terrible social evil."

So what has Lou done to help Family Support Line? Well, it is hard to sum up his 24 years of involvement with the organization, but he has done many things. He has been an advocate for the agency and its mission to protect children and support families in need and he has preached this mission to government and business leaders, other agencies and foundations including United Way, Women's Way, and civil groups and individuals.

As a participant in the organization, Lou promotes fund raising through many means such as securing corporate giving, grants and donations. He initiated the ability for Family Support Line to receive donations through United Way payroll deduction donation programs. He is a participant in corporate

## Committed to the Cause continued:

---

matching gifts programs and helps to yield donations through foundation grants and other opportunities.

Lou is a very active participant in April's "Child Abuse Prevention Month" and has attended various county council events. He has also organized a "Caring Critters" campaign collecting over 7,000 stuffed animals for three agencies in the county. He has also supported Family Support Line's group leaders and the Prevention Program in various capacities, especially by sharing his personal experience with suffering parents.

As far as his activity with Family Support Line's board, he has served as president, vice-president and held several offices multiple times. He is involved with numerous board committees in various capacities, including contributing to the strategic planning process. When asked how he feels that Family Support Line is celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Lou responded that progress and hope can succeed when you have dedicated, focused people determined to make a difference. "We have made great strides in 25 years, served many, and swept in more influential leaders to help us continue our good work for the community." Lou feels that is the good news however he feels that that organization has more hard work to do in its next 25 years. Lou's dream is that Family Support Line won't be needed in the future because all of the work will be done.

As far as Lou's career, he has worked for Sunoco Inc., CIGNA Group Insurance and Prudential Group Insurance. Throughout the years he has achieved many professional accomplishments to be proud of. He has had a satisfying professional career however his true passion, which started as early as his high school years, resides with giving back to

others.

Lou has received many awards and recognitions. Two of them that tie back to his dedication to helping Family Support Line include The Delaware County Chamber of Commerce "Volunteer of the Year Award" and the DA's "Victims Right Week Award".

Lou and his wife, Audrey, have four children and currently nine grandchildren. Even though he is retired, he stays busy with family events and other organizations. Aside from Family Support Line, he is the Scholarship Chairman of the St. James Alumni Association, which provides high school scholarships to students wanting to attend Philadelphia Archdiocese high schools. Currently the association is sponsoring 28 students at an annual obligation of \$56,000.

He is also the vice president of the St. James Choir, "the Blue and Gray Voices" and performs at many community events and several religious ceremonies throughout the year. He is an active member of three other choirs as well and some activities include singing at senior citizen homes. Lou is also involved with various Thanksgiving turkey drives and Christmas toy and clothing drives. He is a busy man with much love in his heart that he openly shares with others. Family Support Line is lucky to have such a devoted member on its board.

For more information on Family Support or to become involved, visit our website at [www.familysupportline.org](http://www.familysupportline.org).