



In Our Community

Sacramento Area Emergency Housing Center
August 2009

Budget Cuts and the Aftermath

A message from Carolyn Brodt, Executive Director

We have received many emails and calls from our loyal supporters wondering what were the outcomes of the County budget cuts for our programs. It took many grueling weeks before the final results were known at the end of June. As it stands, there are several notable cuts to programs that affect the families and children we serve.



The largest loss of County funding is in the contracts that support the Mather Community Campus Family Site:

- \$420,000 Case Management contract terminated (Due to Sacramento County Charter 71J, allows County agencies to eliminate contracts or positions with community-based organizations in order to place County staff that would otherwise be terminated or laid-off with similar job skills into the positions the eliminated positions)
- \$210,000 decrease in the Mather Children Services contract
- \$100,000 decrease in the Mather Family Site Monitor contract
- \$25,000 decrease in the Alcohol and Other Drug-SAPT funding for children

The Shelter Program's AOD funding was reduced an additional \$75,000 for outpatient services and prevention programs for youth.

Regardless of all the program cuts and changes, SAEHC staff is committed to providing exceptional services to homeless families and will continue to work with the County of Sacramento to care for the most vulnerable people: homeless families with children.

Very Special Employees of the Month: The Case Managers and Youth Development Specialists of MCC

By Marilyn Valdez-Mann, MCC Family Site Program Director

Keeping Families Together

SAEHC runs the only shelter in Sacramento that accepts two parent households, single fathers, and sons over the age of 14

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[View SAEHC's BBB Reliability Report](#)





If I had a penny for every time I have been privileged to see the SAEHC staff at Mather Community Campus (MCC) go above and beyond in the scope of service provision to families in our program, I would be a rich woman. Yet, over the last 9 years in having witnessed the courageousness, sensitivity and passion for helping people demonstrated by our staff, I find that no mountain of money could measure the depth at which I have been overpaid with the privilege of working side by side this amazing group of individual. Every once and a while one is blessed to just to be a part of something this amazing and I am grateful to have been a part of such an amazing gift.

As July rolled upon us, we said a bitter sweet farewell to cherished friends and colleagues at Mather Community Campus. It has been both an honor and privilege to work with these individuals. They have each left a unique and indelible mark on MCC students, collaborative partners and SAEHC. Moreover, each have left a part of themselves with me and shaped me into a better Program Director than I would have been without their influence. Over the years we have worked hard together, laughed and cried together and, most of all, grown and built a team together. I am ever thankful for having crossed paths in a job that was more than just a place to show up and work, but a place of miracles, a place where lives are changed and people find their wings!

To Zareena, Greg, La Donna, Debby, Spring, Yolanda, Jennifer, Ophelia:

~May your blessing be many and your burden be light! Thank you for the giving of yourselves, your time and daily dedication to the agency and the families and MCC. What a wonderful ride it has been! Much aloha to each of you!

To the amazing MCC Children's Programs and Support Staff that staff who remain on board:

~ You have ever so graciously displayed flexibility, adaptability and dedication at all cost, including loss of wages. Thank you is never enough. You are and have been the strength that keeps us determined to keep fighting to be a part of the miracles of Mather. You make the

certified partner. #3091

Check out our website for a full list of [wish list](#) items.

Donations are accepted Monday - Thursday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
2411 Alhambra Boulevard,
Suite 110
Sacramento, CA 95817

Or donate [online!](#)

If you have questions regarding donations email us at donations@saehc.org or call 916-454-2120 x302

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Support Community Partners Mentioned in this Edition:

[Active 20/30 Club of Sacramento](#)
[California Highway Patrol](#)
[Franklin Templeton Investments](#)
[Girl Scouts](#)
[Kelly Moore](#)
[Kohl's](#)
[Monsanto](#)
[Nationwide](#)
[Project Night Night](#)
[Sacramento Natural Foods Co-op](#)
[United Way](#)
[Watson Roofing, Inc.](#)

difference! Thank you for your commitment to serving families, to our MCC team and the SAEHC family. Strap in and hold on tight.... We still have a long way to go on this journey... There is not another team of people that I would rather travel through with!

Back to School Shopping Spree Thanks to Active 20/30 Club!

By Mary Anne Wheeler, MCC Children's Services Program Supervisor



On July 25th, the children at Mather Community Campus attended a shopping spree to Kohl's sponsored by the Active 20-30 Club of Sacramento. The day began at 6:30am when the bus picked up the children and the Children's Services staff. We arrived at Kohl's and the 20-30 Club had a wonderful spread of scrambled eggs, drinks, and every color, size, and flavor donuts imaginable. After breakfast, the youth were paired with a 20-30 Club member to go into the store and shop. They each had \$100.00 to spend with no sales tax and a 15% discount on their total purchase. The kids were also able to take advantage of a haircut station with local volunteer hairstylist providing back to school haircuts for the youth. Once shopping and haircuts were done, we all headed to the Folsom Zoo for lunch catered by the Beach Hut Deli and a trip inside the zoo. It was an amazing morning and the youth here at MCC can now go back to school in style! The 20-30 Club certainly does live by their motto "A Man never stands so tall as when he kneels to help a child." Many thanks again to an amazing group of individuals.



after
hours

Our 17th Annual Fairytale Town After Hours Event is quickly approaching. Have you bought your tickets yet?

Tickets can be purchased on-line or by mailing a check to SAEHC, 2411 Alhambra Blvd., Suite 110, 95817.

Fairytale Town After Hours Event

September 18th
5:30 pm to 8:30 pm

For a sneak peak at who will be serving, pouring and contributing to our silent auction, please visit:

www.saehc.org

Agency News and Updates

Beautifying Our Shelters, With Help from Our Friends

By Devon Good, Director of Community Partnerships



This summer brought MAJOR renovations to the buildings that house the Women's Refuge (WR) and Extended Stay Program (ESP), our two programs for homeless single women. The first thing to take place was extensive roof repairs at WR thanks to an award from **Watson Roofing's** Watson Legacy division. Then, the **Sacramento Cooperative Community Fund**, part of the Sacramento Natural Foods Co-op, awarded SAEHC funds to upgrade the Women's Refuge kitchen. We were able to replace the countertop, dishwasher, sink and backsplash, which made the kitchen more beautiful and more sanitary for the ladies. But the repairs didn't stop there.

On July 25th, we had **60 California Highway Patrol** cadets working on our shelters painting the exterior of ESP, and the complete interior of Women's Refuge. Not to mention moving a large fence in our community garden and painting inside and outside at our Omega program. These projects could not have been done without a generous donation of paint and painting supplies from **Kelley Moore** in Woodland and volunteer Janet Nelson's assistance procuring and delivering the donation. Thank you!

During the summer, SAEHC was busy gathering its partners to participate in a \$20,000 challenge grant awarded by **Nationwide Insurance**. In response to this challenge, SAEHC's partners provided over \$20,000 in in-kind support for the structural repairs to both locations. These partners include the **Sacramento Central Labor Council AFL-CIO Rapid Response Programs** and **LG General Contractors**.

We are now at work completing sub-floor repairs, new flooring, re-roofing, and constructing a new shed for the water heater at our ESP house. Wilma, our Volunteer of the Month from April, continues to be an amazing asset to our team. She made beautiful curtains for the ESP house windows, bought matching bedding, and single-handedly painted the entire interior of the house. The Women's Refuge projects include the renovation of an uninhabitable room that, upon completion, will be used as an office for the Case Management team.

As these projects are completed we will continue to keep you informed. If you are interested in assisting with projects like those above, please contact [Natalie Kuffel](#) with your information and ideas.



Devon Good, Community Partnerships Director
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A Family Reunited: By Pam Dow

In November 2008, I was told by a CPS worker that I could not live with my nephew and his roommate because my nephew didn't pass a criminal background check. I was 1 year clean and sober and had just

begun overnight visits with my 8-year old son Samuel, who was in foster care. My CPS worker recommended the CPS Home Finding Program at SAEHC. I stayed there for 5 months, thus enabling my son Samuel to be able to return from foster care. During our stay in the program, the staff treated my family very well. Pat Dearing, the Lead Support Staff, was my favorite. She did more for me than my own sponsor. She made time for me and my family. She listened to us and gave us positive feedback when we needed it. Pat was a counselor, a mentor, a housing specialist and a friend. I am now living in Saybrook, a one year program that leads to a Section 8 voucher and permanent housing. I can say that today I have my life back and we are blessed to have this program.

Community Involvement

Thank You!



The Girl Scouts! We now have three Scout Leaders that are coming out to our Family Shelter each Saturday to work with the girls on earning their official Girl Scout badges. We are so grateful for their help in teaching our girls to be the best that they can be!

Project Night Night! SAEHC is lucky to be a beneficiary of this wonderful charity that provides new blankets, books and stuffed animals to children in homeless shelters.

Franklin Templeton Investments! who helped us celebrated the birthdays of Shannon and Noel who were both turning 15 during the month of July.

July Donation Drive: School Supplies

It's that time of year already, our kids, just like yours, are headed back to school in the next couple of weeks. Please help us make sure that they are prepared! SAEHC is requesting donations of backpacks, notepads, pens and pencils, so our kids can start the school year off right!

Donations are accepted:
Monday - Thursday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
2411 Alhambra Boulevard, Suite 110
Sacramento, CA 95817



Volunteer of the Month: Bob Melby



Bob Melby came to Sacramento Area Emergency Housing Center after Devon, our Director of Community Partnerships, presented at his SERTOMA chapter's June meeting. As a former electrical engineer, he knew that he could use his skills to assist SAEHC with but exactly how was not known until Devon mentioned an issue at the Family Shelter. Due to new regulations, SAEHC was going to have to pay over \$3,000 to accommodate a new regulation for the kitchen's certification. However, Bob took the time to come to the Shelter and investigate other, less expensive, options; eventually recommended a plan that was implemented simply through a little elbow grease and a trip to Home Depot. After this experience, Bob has further assisted with supervising the Family Shelter site projects for the CHP cadets in July. When he is not volunteering with SAEHC, Bob enjoys spending his days as a docent at the Railroad Museum in Old Sacramento. Thank you, Bob, for your dedication to SAEHC!

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