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Keeping Families Together

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

Donations

Donations are accepted

Dear Friend,

We wanted to update you on a family that many of you have come to know and love. The Pongyan family was featured in the Sacramento Bee's Book of Dreams this winter. With seven children under the age of 12 and a strong desire to succeed, Leona and Justice stuck in the minds of many readers.

The Pongyans moved in to their own apartment on December 21st with the help of Lutheran Social Services and Homeless Prevention/Rapid Re-housing funding. They had a beautiful Christmas celebration with all seven children, one that will make everlasting memories. One thing was missing, though; living room furniture on which the whole family could sit and enjoy a Christmas movie or listen to music. Upon hearing this, a new supporter of the Agency, Mrs. Slavensky, made a donation to specifically fulfill this dream. Mom, Leona, said she was so moved by the donation that she began to cry when called with the news.



SAEHC's Devon Good had the opportunity to take Justus and Leona to purchase the items they needed to complete their apartment. CORT furniture in Sacramento graciously consulted with the family on their needs, including a sofa, loveseat, lamps, and three twin beds for the children. On January 26th, with all nine family members boiling over with excitement, their beautiful furniture was delivered.

Monday-Thursday from 8 am to 5 pm and Fridays from 8 am to 4 pm.
2411 Alhambra Blvd., Suite 110, Sacramento, CA 95817.

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2009: A Look Back

By Carolyn Brodt, Executive Director

Thinking back over the past year, I am pleased with how much we have been able to accomplish. In 2009, SAEHC added LIGHT Project, a homeless prevention program, and expanded our Omega program to bring our total to 14 programs. We also created new opportunities at existing programs, like health and hygiene classes, a children's summer program, and ongoing art classes at our Family Shelter.

We have worked hard this year to completely revamp our sites. Wilma's Place, our extended shelter for single women, in particular has had an amazing transformation. Through grants and wonderful volunteers, we have been able to paint the interior and exterior, landscape, put in central heat and air, new windows, and put all new furniture in the house.

In 2010, I am excited to report that SAEHC will again be expanding. We have just been awarded two permanent supportive housing programs.

Special Events

The Sacramento Philharmonic

By Mercy Yang, MCC Youth Development Specialist



Thank you to the Sacramento Philharmonic for bringing music into the lives of the children and families at Mather Community Campus.

Starting last month with the program Musicians on the Move, the Sacramento Philharmonic introduced two artists to our children. Julian Dixon, the Education and Community Engagement director, shared his tuba instrument and Elizabeth Coronata, a member of the Wolfgang Company, shared her flute. The children, ages ranging from 3 to 14 years old, were captivated and entranced by the music that each artist introduced.

Following these two sessions, the Wolfgang Company performed a Peter and the Wolf concert for the whole family at MCC. The children who participated in Musicians on the Move were excited to see the musicians again and their fellow members. Some of the children play instruments of their own and were very enthusiastic to share their interest with the musicians.

The big finale was the TARGET Scheherazade Family Concert at the Community Center Theater. Everyone enjoyed the pre-event activities and concert. We look forward to See the Music, Hear the Art program that will allow children to create art work

based on the music. The Sacramento Philharmonic will showcase the children's artwork at the upcoming February 20th performance.

How to Get Involved

By Devon Good, Director of Community Partnerships

Volunteers Needed for Moving Day Part 2! A

wonderful new apartment complex has been secured for our CPS Home Finding Program. We had amazing volunteers last month that helped us move the furniture into our warehouse, allowing us to cancel our lease and find a new home. Now we are asking for your help to move these families into their beautiful new apartments. Volunteers are needed from 9am to 1pm on Saturday, February 27th. Any interested volunteers can contact Natalie Kuffel at nkuffel@saehc.org.

FTT Committee You love the event, now help make it better! Committee members are needed for our 2010 Fairytale Town After Hours Event which is scheduled for September 10th. There will be a Meet and Greet on February 22 from 5:30 - 7:00 pm. To RSVP, please email me at dgood@saehc.org.

Donations This month (like most months) we are in need of diapers for our children services programs, especially sizes 4 and 5. And don't forget the wipes! We are also in need of umbrellas. Needless to say, we have gone through quite a few in the last month!

Father's Day Run Save the date- June 20th! SAEHC will be the beneficiary of a Father's Day family fun 5k run/walk at Sculpture Park Roseville. Come help us celebrate the fathers in our programs and the fathers in your life! SAEHC knows how important fathers are in a family, that is why we accept fathers in all of our family programs.

Volunteer Program- Goodbye, Natalie!



Our volunteer program will soon be losing its founding father (or should we say mother). Natalie Kuffel will be leaving the agency at the end of this month after 4 years of dedicated service. She will be staying home to take care of her two sons. We wish her the best of luck!

Stay tuned next month when we will introduce you to our new Community Partnerships Coordinator.

Employee of the Month: Brenda Geel

CPS Home Finding Program, Support Staff



Brenda brought the holiday spirit to the Group Home this December. She purchased a tree for the families and decorated it. She then helped the clients decorate every corner of the house. When they were finished, it was the merriest house on the block!

The CPS Home Finding Program serves 13 families at two sites for 3 to 6 months in a transitional housing setting while they seek permanent housing. Families in the program have open CPS cases and are working to meet their housing requirements.