



Housing News

Sacramento Area Emergency Housing Center

January 2009

It's a Wonderful Life!

A message from the Executive Director

The holidays bring out the best in people, reinvigorating their sense of charity and community. Once again, SAEHC's 12 programs were fortunate to have caring community benefactors make this holiday season wonderful for our program participants.



For the fourth year, California State Prison Sacramento (CSP-SAC) hosted giving trees decorated with ornaments that include the children's holiday wishes in all three facilities and the prison's administrative offices. The generous employees of CSP-SAC adopted all the children who were on their trees and helped make the children's wishes come true. This year, my breath was taken away when I entered Warden James Walker's

office and saw that it was filled with gifts.

For the second year, the California Out of State Correctional Facilities hosted a giving tree and joined with CSP-SAC to adopt over 100 children. I appreciate Chief Deputy Warden Melissa Lea's support of this program and for the kindness of her staff.



The giving tree located at Stein Mart in Rocklin benefited the children in our Shelter After-Care Program, which supports families in maintaining their permanent housing after they leave the Shelter Program. In addition to the customers who adopted our children, the employees of Stein Mart also contributed money that was used to purchase additional gifts for these children on the tree.



Earlier in the month, many of the younger

Keeping Families Together

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

Board of Directors

- Dave Mowery, President
- Arnita Paige, Vice President
- Scott Peifer, Secretary
- Tami Boeck
- Christy Fletcher
- Matt Keasling
- Kim Koski
- Lynn Robie
- Andrew Ruggles
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- Athena Thomas
- Jason Wagner



SAEHC is a United Way 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.

children in our program were able to attend Health Net's Celebration of Children event. This annual event is a treat for the children with food, games, crafts, and presents and new this year was Karaoke. The children had a great time.

Another fun event for the families at our Family Shelter is presented by a motorcycle group, Shut Up and Ride. This fun group had a motorcycle and a sleigh with a real Santa, bringing Christmas to all the children at the Shelter.



Thank you to the employees of Mercy San Juan and the 1st grade classes of Crocker Riverside Elementary School who provided gifts to our children, to the volunteers that wrapped our adult gifts, and to the many individuals and families in the community that donated this holiday season. With your help, our programs were able to provide our children and their families a wonderful holiday experience they will not forget.

Finally, thank you to AAA, GenCorp Foundation, Innovative Foreclosure Services, and Sam's Club Foundation for each donating \$500 this holiday season. These unrestricted funds will help us provide services throughout the year. I know that I speak not just for myself but for the Board of Directors and our staff by saying a heartfelt thank you!



Carolyn Brodt



Introducing Devon Good!

Hello! I am very excited to be the newest member of the SAEHC Administration team as the Community Partnerships Director. Prior to joining SAEHC, I worked as a policy analyst for non-profit and Federal government organizations and in public and private sector consulting for Deloitte. I began my relationship with

SAEHC in 2006, when I coordinated skills based workshops for the Shelter Program during Deloitte Consulting's IMPACT Day. I immediately felt a connection with the organization and began volunteering and donating as often as I could. I think that SAEHC is one of the best kept secrets in Sacramento and I am very excited to work with the team to strengthen our existing relationships with the community and to forge new and lasting partnerships. Please feel free to reach out at any time. I look forward to getting to know the many supporters that make SAEHC thrive!

-Devon (dgood@saehc.org or 916-454-2120 x304)

2411 Alhambra Boulevard,
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Or donate [online!](#)

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

Client Special Notes

"Thank you so much for getting my son Christmas presents. It was so nice to see the smile on his face when he opened them!"
- Christina

"Thank you so much for making our holiday and day a happy one!"
- Megan & Sebastian

Mather Community Campus Update

You may have seen in the [Sacramento Bee](#) that after a long time donor of holiday meals for our Mather Community Campus (MCC) Family Site program was unable to fill the need this year, VIVA Supermarkets came to the rescue and provided complete holiday meals to 30 families. Through the support of VIVA Supermarkets and many other community donors who responded to our call for help we were able to provide all 48 of our MCC families with holiday meals. It was heart-warming to see that in less than two weeks so many people came forward with food and financial contributions to help.

Every December, the employees of Aerojet donate toys and cash to support the families in our programs during the holiday season. This year, the donations supported the holiday wishes of the children living in our Mather Community Campus Family Site. Donations from Aerojet, UPS Mather Gateway, and the DHA employee toy drive provided much needed support for the MCC Many Hands, Many Miracles Adopt-A-Family Project. With the donations from these organizations we were able to provide gifts to every family within the MCC program.

Our thanks go out to all who made a difference this year with their time and commitment to helping others.

Kids These Days

In December, we have received an outpouring of support from teens and even pre-teens. For those worried about the moral character of the next generation, fear not, I assure you that they are doing just fine. The month was started off with a youth group from St. Michael's church, five kids from grades 6-8 planted a bright cheery flower garden in front of our Head Start classroom. Then on the 20th, a youth group from First Covenant Church painted the offices at our emergency family shelter. In the middle of the month we received a donation of seven handmade blankets from A Warm Feeling (www.awarmfeeling.org), a local group that makes and donates blankets to nonprofits. This is no normal group, it was started and is completely staffed by two local high school girls, Jennifer Judge and Camile Kaslan. Students from Franklin High School Key Club in Elk Grove sorted our Christmas gifts for us on the 23rd and students from the National Honor Society at Monterrey Trail High hosted Family Fun Friday on January 2nd. And of course, we always have our dedicated teens that volunteer with us on a regular basis in our children services department. They help children with their homework and work on crafts. See our Volunteers of the Month this month for a great example.



St. Michael's Church



First Covenant Church

Get Involved!

Dress for Success

On December 5th, young ladies from Deloitte's Women's Initiative group presented a workshop to the clients of our Women's Refuge entitled "Dress for Success." This workshop taught the women what to wear to an interview, provided makeup tips, and a "store" full of professional clothes to choose from. The women spent the rest of the afternoon showing off their new clothes, as proud as peacocks. The day was just what they needed to boost their self-esteem.



Before

After

January Donation Drive

Linens - new or used is fine! Our shelter programs are in desperate need of towels and twin size sheets. These items are given to the clients for their rooms during their stay and they are also allowed to keep the items as they move into their own housing. This is one less item that the clients need to purchase when setting up their new home. With the number of clients we serve each month in our shelters, we go through a lot of linens. So, do some early spring-cleaning, treat yourself to new linens, and give to a worthy cause.

Payless Shoes Grant

SAEHC participated in the 2008 Payless Gives Shoes 4 Kids Program, the first ever national, grass roots campaign to deliver \$1 million in free shoes to children of families in need. The agency was the recipients of 75 \$15 gift certificates, which allowed our families to provide their children with new shoes for the holidays.

Volunteer of the Month

Three girls from Inderkum High, Kylie Scott, Autumn DeBaun Owen, and Elizabeth Theocharides, have been professional and enthusiastic volunteers in our children's services department. After being assigned community service for their senior project, they planned early and have been working away at their hours over multiple months. The kids love when the girls come in and although they are almost finished with their assigned hours, we hope that they will continue to help. Their positive energy would be missed.

Employee of the Month: Tami Dow

Since becoming Lead Support Staff, Tami has become a true advocate for the Women's Refuge, reaching out to the community to provide the best experience possible for the ladies. Tami has been busy creating contacts for regular donations of food and supplies from local retailers. She even received a \$500 grant from Sam's Club. Tami truly has gone above and beyond to give the women in our shelter everything they need to succeed. Go Tami!

