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SAEHC in the News

[SAEHC Family speaks at Homeless Connect \(13 News\)](#)

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Dear Friend,

Happy Father's Day from Sacramento Area Emergency Housing Center!

We appreciate your taking the time to read about our recent program activities, recognition of our community partners, and ways for you to get involved with SAEHC. If you would like more information on the features below or would like more frequent updates, please visit our website (www.saehc.org), become our fan on Facebook or follow our activities on Twitter.

Father's Day 5k "Run for Families" on June 19th! Register Today!



Join us Sunday, June 19, 2011 at 7:30am to celebrate those special men in your life with the 2nd annual Father's Day 5K "Run for Families" hosted by Zealous Event Management. Bring your whole family and enjoy the beautiful setting of Sculpture Park at 350 North Sunrise Blvd. in Roseville, CA. All proceeds from this family-friendly event will benefit Sacramento Area Emergency Housing Center's Family Shelter. Our shelter is one of only two emergency shelters in the Sacramento region that admits the entire family, including dads and teen-age boys. Honor these men, who are working hard to provide a better life for their families, by running or walking on their behalf.

These are ways you can help:

- [Register](#) your whole family to run or walk together
- Organize a running/walking team
- Promote the event on your Facebook or Twitter
- Post your involvement on [SAEHC's Facebook page](#) for a bit of friendly

competition to see who can organize the biggest team!

- [Donate to the event](#)
- Sponsor the t-shirts

[Team Up to Bring Easter Baskets to Needy Children \(KCRA\)](#)

[Sacramento County Department of Human Assistance Funds Winter Shelter for Homeless \(Sacramento Press\)](#)

[Local Homeless Initiative Launches Fundraising Campaign for Winter Shelter \(Sacramento Press\)](#)

[DHA to provide winter housing for homeless \(Sacramento Today\)](#)

[Sac Foodies enjoy After Hours 2010](#)

[Sacramento Area Emergency Housing Center - A Place To Call Home When You Need It](#)

Keeping Families Together

SAEHC runs one of only two shelters in Sacramento that accepts two parent households, single fathers,

- [Be a virtual runner](#)
- Volunteer

For more information on this event and how you can be involved, please contact Janice Wagaman, Community Partnerships Coordinator, at 916-454-2120 x302 or jwagaman@saehc.org.



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A Letter of Congratulations Carolyn Brodt, Executive Director



I am thrilled to have an opportunity to speak today at one of my very favorite events of the year, MCC graduation. Three days after I started to work at SAEHC in 2004, I attended the MCC graduation and it was that evening that taught me a life lesson that could never be taught anywhere else. The lesson was, that the graduates here before me today are could be my mother, father, son, daughter, brother, sister, auntie, uncle or child. You may have been previously homeless but that is not how you are defined today. Today you can proudly say, that you have graduated from the Mather program and that you are ready to have meaningful work and homes of your own.

I was thinking what would I write to a close friend who was graduating this program? So, this what my congratulations letter would say:

Dear Friend,

I am so incredibly proud of you today that you gave yourself and your family the gift of completing the Mather Program. I know your journey to this point has been hard and that you struggled along the way. But, those qualities of persistence and perseverance have paid off. I wish you the very best as you create the life you have always dreamed about outside the Mather program. Remember, those qualities of persistence and perseverance will be needed in the future.

Please stay in touch and let me know how you are doing and how your career is progressing.

I love you, Carolyn.

So graduates, please remember to continue to strive to do your best for yourself and your families and to make a difference in the world. I look forward to hearing from you.

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Mather Community Campus Graduation The Miracles Continue



On Wednesday, May 25th at 7:00 p.m. the students and collaborative partners of Mather Community Campus (MCC) presented the MCC program Graduates of 2011. This year's theme was entitled, *The Miracles Continue*. This was an appropriate title that describes not only the wonderful success of

and sons over the age of 14.

individuals who made the seemingly impossible, possible; but also the continued collaboration and project operation by long standing partners *Sacramento Area Emergency Housing Center, Volunteers of*

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Dadisms:

Some Father's Day humor!

"You're going to sit there until you eat your dinner. I don't care if you sit there all night."

"Delayed obedience is disobedience. "

"When I say no, I mean no. Why? Because, that's why."

"If you don't stop crying, I'll give you something to cry about."

"Two wrongs do not make a right."

"As long as you tried your hardest, that's all that matters."

"I'm spanking you because I love you. This hurts me a lot more than it hurts you."

"If I didn't hear it, you didn't say it!"

"Shape up or ship out."

"What's so funny? Wipe that smile off your face."

"We'll do it the right way. My way."

"Don't ask me, ask your mother."

"This is your last warning."

"You'll realize the value of money once you start earning."

"Son, don't ever get married. And tell that to your kids."

"Enough is enough!"

"Do what I say, not what I do."

America, and the *Sacramento County Department Of Human Assistance*, despite budget cuts, change in program sponsorship, and upcoming changes to HUD regulations with the HEARTH Act.

The campus and guests honored 55 graduates for their monumental achievements. This year's Keynote Speaker added something extra special to the graduation program. Mr. Kevin Bracey of LifeChangers International truly set the tone for the next phase of the graduate's journey as he shared a message of hope, inspiration, self-determination, positive self-regard, and personal accountability in shaping one's own destiny. Mr. Bracey donated his time for the evening and gave a copy of his latest book, a motivational road map to personal success and happiness, for each of the graduates. His message was so well received that audience members and graduates alike were engaged and taking notes! The scribbling pens and pencils in hands moving at a lightning fast pace to write down each precious gem of wisdom lifted the energy of the room ten-fold! This evening, anyone within ear shot of Mr. Bracey's talk certainly left inspired! Our thanks and expressed appreciation to Mr. Bracey for making this year's graduation an evening to remember for all!

So, as we proceed forward in anticipation of the next group of MCC graduates grace 2012 draped in blue robes, it is clear that the campus' mantra, "*Many Hands, Many Miracles*" still rings true and the miracles will continue! Best wishes to all the graduates. Our thanks and gratitude to the collective staff of Mather Community Campus, including *Sacramento Area Emergency Housing Center*, *Volunteers of America*, *Sacramento County Department of Human Assistance*, and *Crossroads Diversified Inc.* who contribute their time, energy, and dedication to the students and the program! The fruits of their labor are plentiful!

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Richard's Story A Father's Journey

My name is Richard. I have made many mistakes in my life. I am an ex-gang member, I have served time in prison for a multitude of violations, and have not

"When I was your age.... "

Gradisms

Robert Orben

A graduation ceremony is an event where the commencement speaker tells thousands of students dressed in identical caps and gowns that 'individuality' is the key to success.

Gary Bolding

Your families are extremely proud of you. You can't imagine the sense of relief they are experiencing. This would be a most opportune time to ask for money.

Doug Larson

The trouble with learning from experience is that you never graduate.

James D'arcy

It was only when I finished the course and left my graduation diploma on the bus that I realised I'd become an actor.

Garry Trudeau

Commencement speeches were invented largely in the belief that

always been a good dad to my children. I'm writing this story in hope that I reach some one that's come up against some odds where he or she feels that they can't make it and that they're all alone.

A few months ago, I was a parolee at large with no where to turn. I was visiting with my 94 year old grandmother who gave me the kick I needed. She told me that life was important and short, and that I must promise to get my life together for the sake of my babies. I made her that promise. The next day, I turned myself in and received a violation of 3 months with half-time. I used that time to read books with great impact on how one must change. I manned up and took on some major responsibility, number one being my two baby girls, and two, the way I looked at the realities that come with being an asset to my community.

This road was very hard to follow at first, being with two baby girls. I mean, the waking up, the dressing, the feeding, and then getting them to school - all before 8 in the morning! Coming from the prison system where everything is pretty much done for you, it was a difficult adjustment. But someone had to do this for these queens of mine, and that someone had to be me. Most parents, they could go home and rest, but not me. You see, we were HOMELESS. Because of my past, we were not able to receive any aid or to enroll in the Cal Works programs, we found ourselves on the street. But that didn't stop me!

I went to the Francis House for an ID voucher, and the woman heard my story and told me that was my lucky day! She helped me fill out some papers, and get into a motel. That was the beginning. Two days afterwards, I received a call from Sacramento Area Emergency Housing Center. I did my over the phone interview and was told that I was welcome to bring myself and my kids for a 30 day stay. At that time, I was on the Light Rail with many people around me - I didn't care! I yelled out loud "Praise God!" and cried like a lady.

It hasn't been easy. I feel like my journey has been a very tall wall with only a rope to climb over it. My counselor, Corinda, prodded me every step of the way. I applied to every program in hopes of finding a solution. With the help of all of the staff at SAEHC, I found out that I was eligible for a Veteran's program in Fairfield for fathers with kids. Someone drove me there to the interview - twice! The first interview was cancelled as the contact person was called away. But we made it! We were accepted into the program and are leaving to start a new life.

I just want you readers to know that everytime I sign my last name for my girls to do anything, I almost cry with joy that we have come so far. You see, it's not about me - it's about my girls who I love with all my heart. Never stop trying to do what is right for your children, no matter what the case is. Thank you SAEHC for making me do the impossible, and believing that I could do it.

Richard and his family successfully transitioned to the Bridge to Life Veterans Program in April.

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TP Needed!

How many rolls can you spare?



June 16th is the 3rd Annual United Way Toilet Paper Drive! Be sure to bring some rolls out to Cal Expo for many local non profits.

Don't be afraid to go the extra mile! Donate some TP directly to the Family Shelter. Involve your friends

outgoing college students should never be released into the world until they have been properly sedated.

Source Unknown

One thing about the school of experience is that it will repeat the lesson if you flunk the first time.

George Foreman

I think sleeping was my problem in school. If school had started at 4:00 in the afternoon, I'd be a college graduate today.

Robert Goheen

If you feel that you have both feet planted on level ground, then the university has failed you.

Proverb

You cannot get to the top by sitting on your bottom.

Oscar Wilde

Education is an admirable thing, but it is well to remember from time to time that nothing worth knowing can be taught.

_____ and host a donation party, inviting them to donate too. Your donations will gladly be accepted Monday - Friday at 2411 Alhambra Blvd. #110, Sacramento, CA 95817. If you don't want to do the shopping, you can donate online at www.saehc.org, just include "TP" in the comment line.

Thank you for your support!

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Employee of the Month

June: Brenda Gaffney, Casa De Esperanza



An avid employee of SAEHC for less than year, Brenda Gaffney has been able to connect with the clients at Casa De Esperanza and provide them with a more therapeutic space of living. Brenda helped advocate for SAEHC to move Casa De Esperanza to a more beneficial location. Imagine telling 18 clients that they have to be packed and ready to move in a matter of weeks! Brenda was able to work with each client individually to make sure that they had the moral support needed to make the moving process a positive one. She stepped out of her Case Management role and was able to help assist coworkers to turn over the apartments in time. She showed up to work every day with a positive attitude and a great sense of humor. Brenda is a great asset to this organization and we appreciate her hard work and dedication!

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