



In Our Community

Sacramento Area Emergency Housing Center
November 2009

Special Events at SAEHC

October has been a fun and busy month at the Family Shelter. On the 16th, the Diversity Action Team from Maloof Sports and Entertainment came to provide a day of fun for the families. They brought hot dogs, cookies, chip and punch. The clients enjoyed playing games, dancing, making some Kings and Monarchs inspired art and, most of all, hanging out with the players and Slamson.



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

Jason Wagner, President
Syreeta Ross, Vice President
Dave Mowery, Secretary
Christy Fletcher
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Bill Knowlton
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Scott Peifer
Lynn Robie
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[View SAEHC's BBB Reliability Report](#)



SAEHC is a United Way



Photos provided by Dhon Santos

On the 23rd, Deloitte put on their family fun day, with cookie and pumpkin decoration to get everyone in that Halloween spirit. So by the 30th, the families at the shelter were ready to celebrate Halloween! The AT&T Pioneers helped kickoff the celebration with their Birthday Magic party. There was pizza, games and even a pinata. The cupcakes were delicious and the decorations were Spiderman (our b-day boy's favorite). After the party, Circle K Youth Group from UC Davis decorated pumpkins and cookies for Halloween with all the families. What a great group of youths the children really enjoy when they visit! We ended the excitement that night with a Haunted House. It was a lot of fun to transform our classroom into a spooky scene.

SAEHC Volunteer is Awarded Volunteer of the Year!

Wilma Champlin was chosen as the 2009 Volunteer of the Year Helping Those Less Fortunate at the Volunteer Spirit Awards. We have been blessed to have Wilma in our lives over the last year. A former costumer, Wilma teaches weekly sewing classes at our Women's Refuge. Wilma has been busy beautifying our shelters, making new curtains, painting, collecting furniture and artwork. Her dedication to one program in particular, our Extended Shelter Program for women, has led to it being renamed "Wilma's Place."

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

Network with SAEHC



Support Community Partners Mentioned in this Edition:

- [AT&T Pioneers](#)
- [Capital Christian](#)
- [Deloitte Consulting](#)
- [Ikea](#)
- [Maloof Sports & Entertainment](#)
- [Premier Access](#)
- [Wildlands](#)



How You Can Help Wilma

Wilma is looking for donated sewing machines to have available for the women in the programs. She is also looking for volunteers to help with occasional sewing projects like making hats and tote bags for the children.

The Holidays

How You Can Get Involved This Holiday Season

By Devon Good, Director of Community Partnerships

This year, given the strain on many families in the Sacramento region, SAEHC has decided to augment the holiday giving program. We feel it is important to provide the tools necessary for our program participants to enjoy the holiday season; however, we would like to make sure that those families outside of our organization who have fallen on hard times are also able to receive support.

SAEHC is hoping to provide each family living independently a \$50 gift card to Safeway or Wal-Mart for holiday dinner, and each person in our program a \$25 gift card to either Target or Wal-Mart. Budgeting and money management are a significant aspect of our programs, and gift cards provide an excellent chance for the participants to practice implementing these skills, keeping in mind the value of a dollar.

The total number of gift cards needed to provide holiday dinners to our independently living families and one gift card per participant are listed below.

- 100 - \$50 gift cards to Safeway or Wal-Mart
- 450 - \$25 gift cards to Target or Wal-Mart

If you would prefer to purchase actual items this year in lieu of the gift cards, the list below includes much needed items by our program participants,

- Umbrellas
- Alarm clocks
- Purses and wallets
- Bathrobes
- Single use cameras
- Gloves and hats
- Sweat suits/Track suits
- Scented lotions/perfumes
- Carry-on size rolling suitcases (fun colors/designs for teens)

Your contributions assist SAEHC in providing special memories for those in need, particularly for the over 200 children who will be with us this holiday season. The gratitude we have for your generous giving is immeasurable.



Devon Good, Community Partnerships Director
dgood@saehc.org
916-454-2120 x304

How One Organization Decided to Give This Year



Premier Access Insurance Company and Access Dental's Russel Sage and Richard Fulton contacted our Mather Community Campus Support Staff Supervisor with an offer we could not refuse; they wanted to provide Thanksgiving meals to all of our 50 families residing in the program. Russel and Richard came to Mather, camera in tow, to learn more about the program and its needs, and then set off to raise the \$2,500 necessary to purchase the dinners. The two are working hard to raise the money from not only their coworkers, but also their community partners and clients – getting everyone in the holiday spirit! We cannot wait to see them on the 23rd, and to see the excited looks on our families' faces when they receive the generous contribution.

Volunteers Needed for the Holidays

SAEHC is looking for volunteers to help prepare and serve our Holiday Meals this year. Volunteers will be needed on Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day and there are two shifts available- 7:30 am to 10:00am for Brunch and 3:00 to 5:30 for Dinner. SAEHC will provide the food, we just need some extra helpers in the kitchen. Please contact Natalie Kuffel at nkuffel@saehc.org to sign up. .

Program News

SAEHC, Part of the Solution

A message from Carolyn Brodt, Executive Director

The past three months have proven to be a period of great collaboration with other community non-profits in Sacramento to improve the lives of the homeless families and individuals that Sacramento Area Emergency Housing Center (SAEHC) serves. SAEHC is proud to endorse the Sacramento Steps Forward a renewed effort to end homelessness launched November 5, 2009. Additionally, SAEHC is one of eight founding agencies that participate in the Homeless Families Advocacy Coalition whose goal is to "End and Prevent Homelessness for Families in Three Years". Finally, SAEHC recently assisted a partner agency, Volunteers of America, when their Independent Living Program participants were displaced due to a loss of funding.



Additionally, SAEHC Board of Director's choose to sign a Compact for Children and Youth in Sacramento whose goal is "that all Sacramento area children and youth are ready for college, work and life by the age of 21." SAEHC operates three Children Service Programs and is committed to working collaboratively to

improving conditions for children and youth in Sacramento.

I feel compelled to end this message with a heartfelt thank you to all our staff and volunteers for everything they do to assist program participants in meeting their life goals and making Sacramento a better community in which to live.



SAEHC Staff attend the Sacramento Steps Forward Kick-Off

Program Spotlight: LIGHT (Linking Individuals, Goals, & Housing Together) Project

Throughout the nation there is an increased focus on keeping those at risk of homelessness in their current housing or at least in the community of origin, commonly referred to as homeless prevention efforts. To continue to be a leader in the homeless services community and implement new, successful concepts, Sacramento Area Emergency Housing Center has developed a program that utilizes financial assistance and referrals to community services; we call this the LIGHT (Linking Individuals, Goals, & Housing Together) Project. The LIGHT Project had already served hundreds of households in the capacity of rental assistance, utility assistance, and motel vouchers, while linking the recipients to other partners in the community that can provide food, clothing, and employment assistance. Case Manager Spring Ackerman spends time with all recipients, helping them better understand their current situation and assist in developing goals to regain their self-sufficiency. Spring's brief relationship with the program participants makes a significant impact on their lives, and we recently found out how thankful people are for Spring and the LIGHT Project.

Good Morning, I just wanted to send you an e-mail while I had access to a computer, to tell you how much you helped me and my son. I am so grateful for you and your organization for the help that I needed and received from you guys. I thank you in my prayers every night. You gave me a little confidence boost when I left your office and I haven't let it drop yet. Thanks for that. I also wanted to let you know that I called several of the resources in the papers you gave me for assistance, it was helpful. I was able to get some food from the Food Bank and some clothes for my son as well. Thanks again.

As an agency, we are thankful to provide a program that can assist those on the brink of homelessness through the financial support of SETA's Community Services Block Grant funding and the Sacramento Region Community Foundation's Greatest Need Grant. We hope to continue providing these one-time financial assistance opportunities and resource and referral services to the community for as long as the need exists in our community.

Community Involvement

Thank You!

A special thanks to the middle school students at Capital Christian for planting flowers at our shelter this month!



And for the new class of AmeriCorps NCCC Sacramento, who kicked off their year of service on Make a Difference Day by volunteering at our emergency shelters.



Thanks to Wildlands and especially Julie Mentzer for fulfilling our need for diapers at the Family Shelter!

Donation Drive: Blankets

IKEA in West Sacramento is partnering with us for this month's donation drive: blankets. They will be collecting new and used blankets on our behalf by the front doors of the store from Friday, November 20th until Sunday, December 13th. The Community Partnerships Team will be there on Saturday November 21st from 10am to 2pm, so come visit us! Donate a blanket; help keep a child warm this winter.

Also, if you have any Halloween Costumes (gently used is fine) in need of a new home, we would love them for our costume closet.



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Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
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Sacramento, CA 95817

Volunteer of the Month: AT&T Pioneers



The AT&T Pioneers assist SAEHC at two main events. They are frequent sponsors of our Birthday Wishes parties and just recently have begun hosting our Girls Night In events, committing to coming in every other month. Emily Terfertiller in particular has been an amazing resource. She has become the main coordinator of the SAEHC Birthday Wishes program, attending all of the events. Emily and the AT&T Pioneers are natural party planners. Every event that they hold is successful, creative and, most of all, fun!

Employee of the Month: Mercy Yang

Mercy Yang, is a Youth Development Specialist at Mather Community Campus. Mercy works with the infants and toddlers and also leads groups for the older girls. Mercy is also a well-spoken advocate for our programs. Something we've needed more than ever at Mather!

