



**Coastal Location:**  
 4508 Mission Bay Drive  
 San Diego, CA 92109  
 (858) 272-5777

**East County Location:**  
 7339 El Cajon Blvd., Ste. J  
 La Mesa, CA 91941  
 (619) 697-7477

**North County Location:**  
 106 Grape Street  
 Escondido, CA 92025  
 (760) 747-6282

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**CCS would like to recognize the following individuals and/or businesses who have made a contribution of \$100 or more over the past quarter.**

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 Sam Zien aka Sam the  
 Cooking Guy

CCS apologizes to the Kelly Family and Kelley Capital, one of our generous, loyal sponsors, for the misspelling of their name in our last edition.

**Make a Difference in the Lives of People Affected by Violence**

Always wanted to get involved with CCS but not sure how to go about it? Come take a tour and learn about the many wonderful programs offered at CCS. Based on your needs, schedule and availability, we are sure to find an opportunity that is just right for you. Contact Stephanie Goebel at (858) 272-5777 or [sgoebel@ccssd.org](mailto:sgoebel@ccssd.org) to learn more.

**To request this newsletter via e-mail or to make a correction or suggestion, contact Stephanie Goebel at [sgoebel@ccssd.org](mailto:sgoebel@ccssd.org) or (858) 272-5777**



**Center for  
 Community Solutions**  
*Healing and Preventing Sexual Assault  
 and Relationship Violence*  
 4508 Mission Bay Drive, San Diego, CA 92109

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# CCS Connection

Center for Community Solutions  
HEALING AND PREVENTING SEXUAL ASSAULT AND RELATIONSHIP VIOLENCE

Volume 3, Issue 5  
December, 2005

## 2005 Chef Showdown: Cooking for a Cause

### ■ Spread the word!

*2005 California Tax Forms will include a check-off box that allows you (and everyone you know) to donate a part of your tax refund to the "California Sexual Violence Victim Services Fund."*

*These funds will support vital rape crisis services throughout California.*

*Check the box—and show your support for Survivors!*

### Newsletter Highlights:

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On October 6th, Center for Community Solutions (CCS) honored National Domestic Violence Awareness Month with a very unique special event. The first annual "Chef Showdown: Taking a Stand Against Domestic Violence" featured palate-pleasing creations and raised more than \$15,000 to support much-needed domestic violence prevention and intervention services throughout San Diego.

In an impressive display of culinary talent and community commitment, top local chefs teamed for a lively "Iron Chef"-styled competition. High-profile chefs from well-known restaurants around the county participated in this premier event, including Gavin Kaysen, executive chef of **El Bizcocho** at the **Rancho Bernardo Inn**; Matthew Zappoli, executive chef of **Fresh Seafood Restaurant and Bar**; Tony DiSalvo, executive chef of **Jack's La Jolla**; Jesse A. Paul, executive chef of **Star of the Sea**; Amy Dibiase, chef de cuisine of **Laurel**; Victor Jimenez of **JRDN Restaurant** (in the newly opened **Tower 23 Hotel**); Luis Camacho, chef de cuisine of **Cantina**; and Deborah Scott, chef of **Island Prime**.



Chefs of the Showdown: Luis Camacho of Cantina, Jesse A. Paul of Star of the Sea, Amy Dibiase of Laurel, Matthew Zappoli of Fresh, Bernard Guillas of The Marine Room, Isabel Cruz of Cantina, and Tony DiSalvo of Jack's La Jolla. Photo by Sara Nee

More than 300 guests convened in the Courtyard of the Casa del Prado in Balboa Park at 6:00 p.m. for food samplings from 15 local restaurants, live music, libations, and a silent auction. Once the spirited competition commenced, guests watched as the two teams prepared appetizers, entrees and desserts using "secret ingredients" such as mushrooms, fish and chocolate. Funny, witty and insightful course-by-course banter was provided by the event's co-hosts: **Bernard Guillas**, executive chef of the **Marine Room**; and four-time Emmy award winner "**Sam the Cooking Guy**," a.k.a. **Sam Zien**. A panel of celebrity judges sampled delectable delights before declaring the team composed of chefs from Fresh, Jack's, Cantina and Laurel as the winners by a narrow margin.

The event's co-chairs, **Isabel Cruz**, CCS board

member and owner of the **Cantina** and **The Mission Coffee Cup** restaurants; and **Lori Cartmill**, CCS board member and Community Relations Manager at **Viejas**, worked tirelessly to pull all the details together while directing the efforts of a top-notch team of sponsors and volunteers. In particular, **Viejas, Dacor, and Kleege Industries** were instrumental in ensuring the success of this first-time fundraiser.

According to Verna Griffin-Tabor, executive director of Center for Community Solutions, this inaugural event was an excellent example of how the San Diego community is rallying to end the cycles of violence that affect our city. "Chef Showdown gave us an opportunity to reach out to more people while increasing awareness of critical domestic violence issues," she said. "We are grateful for the generosity and commitment of the many San Diegans who came together to make this event a tremendous success while raising much-needed funds to support our diverse programs and services. We are already formulating our plans for next year's Chef Showdown event."

## CCS STAR EMPLOYEE – SUSAN DALATI

Susan Dalati started with CCS in January 2002. Over the course of her adventure here as an attorney and integral part of the Legal Department team, she has worked in nearly every location that the Legal Department provides services: the Pacific Beach, La Mesa, and Escondido offices, the El Cajon Courthouse TRO Clinic, and the Family Violence Prevention Center in San Marcos. Wherever she goes, Susan shines as a stellar performer. She is credit to herself, the agency, and her profession.



The comments she has received from her clients, clearly show her expertise, compassion, and professionalism: *Your immediate availability and assistance provided me and my family with hope and the feeling that we may meet any challenges that are presented . . . people like you, your kindness, patience and assistance made all the difference in what could have been a disaster . . . you helped me move from victim to survivor . . . you were a very important part of a chain of support systems . . . you made a difference, thank you so much for your kind help and making an emergency appointment with a full workload. . . . It was a pleasure working with you.*

Susan is never one to complain and neither is she one to boast, though she has plenty about which she can be proud. She was a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney in Hawaii before coming

onboard with CCS. She was one of the first attorneys to be assigned the Domestic Violence Unit, Special Prosecuting Unit. Her expertise and understanding of the criminal justice side of the law has helped her counsel clients better and made her just that much more valuable to the Legal Department team.

The San Diego County Superior Court twice recognized Susan for her outstanding service. Anyone who has worked with her knows how easily she gets along with everyone. The staff love working with her and according to one, she is "a fantastic team player." Susan's profound comprehension of the legal issues and remedies presented by any given client and her substantive knowledge of the social and psychological aspects of domestic violence and sexual assault only add to her tremendous people skills. Susan has taken her considerable experience and training to provide insightful training on domestic violence and sexual assault legal rights and remedies. She is a tireless public interest lawyer who takes everyone around her to a higher ethical and professional level. Those who have had the pleasure of working with her are not surprised by the praise showered on her by clients. *What you did was above and beyond the call of duty . . . you and the work done by your agency is highly commendable . . . thanks to you and the associates you work with, my needs are being met . . . I just can't praise you all enough.*

## Charitable Remainder Trusts established by December 31, 2005 may provide a one-time increased tax savings to donors!

If you own appreciated assets such as real estate or securities, and have ever considered donating such assets to CCS, either outright or through a Charitable Remainder Trust, (CRT), acting before year end could make such a donation even more advantageous to you, even if you have already reached the normal limit on cash donations. The deduction for cash donations completed by December 31, 2005 has been doubled. By combining a CRT with cash donations you may be able to deduct up to 100% of your income.

If you are getting ready to retire, would like to maximize your income during your lifetime, your spouse or significant other's lifetime, or your children's lifetimes, a Charitable Remainder Trust may be the perfect solution for you.

During the earning years most people invest in growth oriented assets like real estate, stocks and bonds. However, upon retirement you may want to reallocate your investment portfolio to income producing assets. In order to do this you would have to sell assets and incur capital gains tax of up to 25%. In a real estate market like San Diego, this could be very significant.

By placing the property in a Charitable Trust you would be able to sell the property tax free leaving the entire proceeds available for reinvestment for retirement. You would then be able to provide an income stream to your family for life, with the remainder of the property ultimately going to the designated charity upon the death of the last income beneficiary. In addition you would receive a current tax deduction for the remainder interest that would go to the charity. You could even replace the remainder interest for your heirs by purchasing life insurance with your current tax savings.

As you can see Charitable Trusts are a WIN, WIN, WIN situation, they may benefit you, your family and your favorite charity. If you are interested in learning more about Charitable Trusts or how you can help CCS, please contact our development department at ext. 151.

## CCS UPDATES AND EVENTS

In 1998, **Bob Gore** from the **Willowbrook Men's Golf Club** in Lakeside approached Laurine Baxter, Director of Residential Services about creating a small East County fundraiser to help survivors of domestic violence. The event, a nighttime golf tournament with a Sheriff helicopter "fly-by" in place of a shotgun start, exceeded all expectations in terms of both funds and fun raised. That year a unique and substantial partnership was born and Center for Community Solutions has been lucky enough to

benefit every year since. The Glowball Tournament has grown into an annual tradition generating valuable proceeds that support our emergency shelter and residential services programs and impact the lives of hundreds of people.



Sam Tzathas, Bob Gore, Spero Tzathas and Dennis Adair (not photographed) Glowball Committee.

This year's 8th Annual *Golf Under the Stars*

*Glowball Tournament* was proudly sponsored by **Willowbrook Men's Golf Club** in conjunction with **San Diego Sheriff's Lakeside Store Front (COPPS)**. We would also like to thank **Wrangler's Family Barbeque** for kicking things off with their wonderful home-style cooking. This year's tournament raised nearly \$8,000.00 in critical proceeds that will help us bring an opportunity for peace and healing to the many San Diego families affected by domestic violence. For this, and for eight years of incredible support, we salute you!

## Agency Wish List

The following items would help our organization continue to meet the needs of our clients and their families and to best assist them in their time of need. For information on donating an item from the wish list, please contact the Development Department at (858) 272-5777 or [info@ccssd.org](mailto:info@ccssd.org). Thank You.

- **Baby Monitors**
- **Diapers**
- **Children's Socks in all sizes**
- **First Aid Kits**
- **Art Supplies**
- **Baby Books**
- **Gift Cards to Starbucks, Borders or Target**
- **Suitcases**
- **Digital Camera**
- **Flat Screen Monitors**
- **Play Pen**

## Program Spotlight: Legal Services

Ever since 1983, when we opened the first restraining order clinic for battered women in California, the CCS Legal Department has been helping victims of domestic and sexual violence escape from abusive relationships, achieve safety by breaking the cycle of violence, and access legal and social justice for themselves and their children. We also provide training and volunteer opportunities for attorneys, law students, and others, thereby improving the legal profession's ability to help victims.

The Superior Court consistently recognizes the assistance that we provide to victims, and the professionally prepared paperwork we generate makes the jobs of clerks and judges just that much easier. The State Bar of California Board of Governors (1989), the San Diego County Board of Supervisors (1998), and the San Diego County Bar Association (2000) have recognized our Legal Department for outstanding contributions to the delivery of *pro bono* legal services to low-income victims.

The *Journal of Contemporary Economic Policy* (2003) stated that "the increased provision of legal services for victims of partner abuse" was the single most important factor in the decline in national domestic violence incidents. And yet, survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault frequently face numerous obstacles in their pursuit of safety and justice, including poverty, language barriers, lack of transportation, and lack of experience and knowledge of the complex justice system. The CCS Legal Department improves access by providing free services, in English and Spanish, in five locations throughout the county. Under the direction of

Steve Allen, Esq., staff members Susan Dalati, Esq.; Kristine Rowe, Esq.; and Socorro Gonzalez-Heather, Certified Paralegal; provide confidential, *pro bono* assistance with restraining orders, other family law matters (divorce, paternity, child custody/support, etc.), court accompaniment, California Safe at Home confidential address program applications, safety planning and legal case management, Victim of Crime Fund applications, immigration law screenings and referrals for undocumented victims, and general legal consultations and referrals. All of our legal staff are certified Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Victim Counselors who are experts in working together with law enforcement, advocates, therapists, and other professionals to assist clients with other needs.

### Become a CCS Legal Partner

Last year, our Legal Department assisted over 3,000 clients. Unfortunately, the demand for services has consistently outpaced supply. Our hope is to sustain current services AND expand the Legal Department to include an attorney and a paralegal in each of the CCS offices, thus having a staff of ten legal professionals who can adequately provide the civil legal assistance our clients so desperately need. This year, CCS is extending a formal invitation to law firms to join in our pursuit of safety and justice for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. With a tax-deductible contribution of \$5,000 they will be recognized as "Partners" in this noble goal and will receive recognition in the CCS Newsletter, and free MCLE training provided on-site! To learn more about the Partners program, please contact Steve Allen at [sallen@ccssd.org](mailto:sallen@ccssd.org).