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(888) 272-1767

Legal Clinic 858-272-1574
Youth-To-Youth Helpline .866-222-1886
Project Safehouse 619-267-8023
Hidden Valley House 760-480-0055

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

Leslie Bercovitz
Blue Shield Foundation
Hagberg Construction Company
Jason Deering
Kinane Events
NAWBO, San Diego Chapter
Northwest Development Company

Pacific Beach Presbyterian Church
San Diego National Bank
Corinne St. Clair
Sun Harbor Mortgage
Ted Waitt
Bruce & Katherine Wayne

CCS would also like to thank our inaugural members of the CCS Giving Community.

Judi Adams, Silver Contributor
Ruth Marks, Silver Contributor
Marina Piccioni, Silver Contributor

How Can You Help?

- Make a Cash or In-Kind contribution
- Attend a special event
- Volunteer
- Join the Project Safehouse Auxiliary
- Become a Member of the CCS Giving Community
- Educate those around you
- Attend a CCS Orientation to customize a support plan that best suits your needs

To learn more about these options or to schedule an orientation, contact Erin Miserlis, Director of Resource Development 858-272-5777 or emiserlis@ccssd.org



**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 2, Issue 1
October, 2003

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

■ There have been 14 domestic violence related deaths in San Diego this past year.

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"After so many years of having someone else dominate my life and decide what direction it was going to take, I can now say that I am responsible for what happens and if I don't like it, I can change it."

AHIMSA PROJECT FOR SAFE FAMILIES REINSTATED!

Supervisor Slater Saves Countywide Domestic Violence Response Team

Guardian angels appear in many different forms, and often during the darkest days. CCS and other domestic violence providers in San Diego County were fortunate to have been touched by their own guardian angel, who successfully advocated for the individuals and families that we serve.

At a time when many Social Service agencies are facing extensive budget cuts **Supervisor Pam Slater** has truly proven her support for victims of domestic violence throughout our county. With her timeless leadership, along with the additional support of **Supervisor Dianne Jacob** and the **County Board of Supervisors**,



Supervisor Pam Slater

funding for San Diego County's innovative Domestic Violence Response Team was saved for the coming year (2004).

Supervisor Slater recognized the importance of domestic violence survivors receiving services

immediately following the violence. She knew that Domestic Violence Response Teams have nationally assisted in lowering recidivism for domestic violence survivors, and have assisted in breaking the cycle of domestic violence so that children are not witnessing prolonged violence in the home.

CCS salutes **Supervisor Slater** for her outstanding leadership with the San Diego Domestic Violence Response Teams, as well as her career in advocacy for the end of relationship and family violence.

– Verna Griffin Tabor
CCS Executive Director

SUCCESS STORY

How could I possibly make it within a month without the easy way of going back? Not because I wanted to go back, only because it looked like I had no choice. I would not go to friends at the risk of putting them in danger, and I could not go to my family who is overseas. Every day the same scary question was obsessing in my mind. How? How? How?

I was asking god every day to show me the way. When one day my case manager talked to me about the opportunity of going to transitional housing. My prayer was answered! As much as I was relieved I felt terribly sad because my case manager told me that I was taking the last vacant apartment. I made friends at the shelter, what about them?

The Transitional Housing Program helped me to put back together the broken pieces of my life, to organize my thoughts, go back to school to get a better education, find a job, be a better parent, go to therapy, and more importantly it gave me the choice of not going back to the abuser. Coming to CCS changed my life in a positive and healthy way for me and my daughter.

– CCS Client

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

OCTOBER IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

Center for Community Solutions joins organizations throughout the United States in recognizing October as Domestic Violence awareness month. CCS has been dedicated to treating and preventing domestic violence across San Diego County for the past 34 years. While there has been more of a general acceptance among the public that domestic violence does occur, people are still being hurt. So far this year, there have been 14 deaths in San Diego County attributed to domestic violence. CCS continues to work to provide services to families affected by domestic violence.

CCS offers a wide variety of services to individuals and families affected by domestic violence. Our counseling department offers both group and individual counseling for victims, children and families

at our three (3) business centers, Pacific Beach, La Mesa and Escondido. CCS; Legal Clinic provides legal support for victims by assisting them with Temporary Restraining Orders and other legal matters like custody. The Legal Clinic operates out of our three offices as well as the Family Justice Center downtown and the El Cajon Courthouse. The lawyers and advocates also provide advocacy and support for clients going through the daunting legal system.

In keeping with CCS' tradition of preventing and treating domestic violence, there is a 52 week batterer's treatment program operated in North County. The program, Crossroads, is a court approved program, working directly with offenders. The participants are involved in a weekly group session where they address issues surround-

ing their violent behavior. The participants work with the group facilitators in achieving non-violent ways to work with their partners. The Crossroads program, by working with the offenders, is an integral part of addressing and preventing domestic violence.

CCS is fortunate to have three (3) Domestic Violence Response Teams (DVRT). These teams work with the El Cajon, North Central San Diego and Escondido Police Departments to provide direct service to victims of domestic violence. The DVRT are called by the police department to homes where domestic violence has occurred. The DVRT member works directly with the victim, providing support, referrals and often a safe place.

CCS has a 24 hour crisis hotline to handle calls from victims of domestic violence as

well as sexual assault. The callers are given referrals and an opportunity to speak with someone who will care and listen.

Last but certainly not least are CCS' residential programs. CCS has two emergency shelters, Project Safehouse and Hidden Valley House, that provide a safe, secure environment for victims of domestic violence and their children. Our two transitional housing programs are 12 month programs allowing the residents time to establish themselves and look forward to a violence-free life.

CCS wishes to thank all of our donors, volunteers and friends whose help is essential in ensuring that our services continue to be used to help individuals, families and children affected by domestic violence.

FRIENDS IN THE COMMUNITY

■ **Linda Kurtin** graciously donated a beautiful playground set to our East County Shelter, Project Safehouse. Ms. Kurtin also funded the transportation and installation of the playset.

Thanks to Ms. Kurtin's generosity, the children staying at Project Safehouse now have a fun, safe place to play.

■ **Amy Martinez**, mother of CCS' **Angela Salcido**, helped clean several apartments at our North County Transitional Housing units. We appreciate the time and energy both Amy and Angela put in to making the apartments better places to live for our transitional clients.

■ **Shad Hunziker**, brother of CCS' **Kimberly Hunziker**, donated his time and energy (and truck) into helping to clean and beautify our North County Transitional Housing project. We are grateful for his help.

■ **Dr. Cynthia Roberts** donated 500 pens printed with the CCS name and phone number along with inspirational quotes for distribution to clients and survivors.

■ A big thank you to **Sean Fanning** of **Steppenwolf Designs**. Sean donated his amazing graphic skills to help design our agency donor wall.

■ Our North County office had the pleasure of working with **Steven J Travers** of **Allstate Environmental Services**. They were kind enough to donate their contracting services during our recent facility renovations.

■ Renowned artist, **Marie Najera**, invited us to participate in her art exhibition, **Laundromat Stories and Affordable Housing**. A portion of the evenings proceeds were designated to our transitional housing programs offered to families fleeing violent homes.

■ **Mike Rypins** was our agency administrative volunteer of the summer. Mike spent a good portion of his summer break helping out with administrative tasks around the office.

■ **Barbara Gottachell** and the **El Cajon Sewing Crazies** put their amazing sewing skills to great use. The members hand sewed tote bags and filled them with toiletry items as a welcome bag for our shelter clients.

■ The Pacific Beach staff members at **San Diego County Credit Union** spent over two weeks organizing a food drive for CCS clients. In addition to their regular workload, **Krista Torquato, Joe Robles, Alison Figi, Dennis Grimes, Kari Larson, Natalie Pallasigue, Kristine Press** and **Erika Chavez** worked with their credit union members to help make a difference in the lives of families affected by violence. Thank you SDCCU!



Food Drive organized by San Diego County Credit Union Staff Members.

CCS UPDATES AND EVENTS

Support Domestic Violence Awareness Month by attending these events:

Golf Anyone?

The Willowbrook Men's Club is pleased to announce the date for the **6th Annual Carl Geffers Memorial Glowball Golf Tournament** on Saturday, October 11th, 2003. The event benefits the east county domestic violence prevention programs of the Center for Community Solutions.

The tournament is held at night with the help of a special ball that becomes illuminated when a glow stick is inserted into the ball. Registration includes a delicious catered barbecue dinner. Various prizes will be offered through the opportunity drawing at the end of the game.

For more information contact Event Chair, Bob Gore at 619-443-5994

Looking for a Volunteer Opportunity?

Join the Project Safehouse Auxiliary. If you have a few hours to spare each month and would like to make a difference in the lives of the families affected by violence, consider attending one of our meetings to see if this volunteer opportunity is for you. Group meets informally once a month with shelter staff to brainstorm ways that they can support the shelter. Help organize client holiday parties, food drives, and more. For additional information contact Erin Miserlis 858-272-5777.

East County Night Out

Save the date! Saturday, November 22nd is the **5th Annual East County Night Out** at Barona Valley Resort and Casino. The event benefits the transitional housing programs for women and children at CCS. Come enjoy a night of dancing, great food, and great company. A live band will be performing throughout the

evening and a silent auction will be part of the fun. Tickets are \$100 each and tables of ten are available. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact Erin Miserlis at (858) 272-5777.

Cause for Celebration

CCS is the beneficiary of **Nordstrom's 10th Annual Celebrate Our Community Event** scheduled for Saturday, October 25th at the Culy Trucking Co. in downtown San Diego. The event honors 6 outstanding young adults from the San Diego area with college scholarships as well as one community service honoree. This year's honoree is none other than our own **Jewel Kelley**. Enjoy a cocktail reception followed by a ceremony honoring these special individuals. Tickets are \$60 each. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact Erin Miserlis at (858) 272-5777.

Local Real Estate Agent Supporting CCS

Vera Fallis, an agent with **One Source Realty** is pledging a percentage of her sales to help support the domestic violence programs offered at CCS. "I hold the Center for Community Solutions with such high esteem. I strongly believe in their mission to aid and assist those in need. I know firsthand how dedicated and concerned they are for the wellness and safety of those in the community. CCS consists of a group of compassionate, caring individuals who cannot continue their mission to fight violence unless we all do our part to help. I will joyfully donate up to \$1,000 per closed transaction to CCS. My goal is to inspire and encourage others to contribute as well. Please join me, if we all pitch in we can collectively make a tremendous difference."

CCS STAR EMPLOYEE KIMBERLY HUNZIKER

Kimberly Hunziker, residential Services, is the CCS Star Employee for the month of October. Kimberly is the Case Manager for our



North County Transitional Housing program. As Case Manager, Kimberly works directly with the residents in the program providing support and referrals to her clients while also working with her clients to help them make sound decisions to assist them in reaching their goal of self-sufficiency. In addition to her case management duties, Kimberly has also worked tirelessly to help clean up and

maintain the apartments that constitute our Transitional Housing program. Often with her brother, Shad Hunziker's, assistance Kimberly has cleaned out our storage shed to make room for donations and has improved the appearance of the apartments. Kimberly, currently enrolled in San Diego State University's Master of Social Work program, has also helped our north county shelter, Hidden Valley House, by providing counseling to our shelter residents. CCS wants to thank Kimberly for her hard work and dedication.

CCS WISH LIST

- Individual Bottles of water for survivors
- Individual packs of Kleenex
- Diapers
- New undergarments (women and children)
- Digital Camera
- DVD Player
- Video camera
- Children's Videos and DVD's
- Home Depot / Lowes gift cards to be used for shelter repairs and maintenance
- Wall mount for standard size television
- File cabinet
- Day erase boards
- New or gently used Computers
- Electric Typewriter
- 1-2 Volunteers to help assemble agency brochures