



News from the Nurseries

A Quarterly Newsletter from the Friends of Crisis Nurseries

SPRING 2005



South Nursery 9th Anniversary

The South Nursery officially opened and began serving children and families in February 1996. To date, the South Nursery has served over 1,680 children and their families by providing a safe, nurturing "home" for the children while the parents received counseling and referral services and accessed community resources in order to resolve issues ranging from domestic violence, drug abuse, mental health, homelessness, and employment. Respite has also been

provided to single mothers, single fathers, grandparents and foster parents in need of a break.

The South Nursery would like to thank you for the support given to these children and families. Your donations, financial contributions and volunteer support make it possible to continue providing these much needed services to children and families in our community.



The Crocker Road Designer's Showhouse

The Friends of the Crisis Nurseries are proud to announce their partnership with local interior designers Paulette Trainor and Bobbe Brown to present a Designer Showcase House located in one of Sacramento's premiere neighborhoods. The newly remodeled, 4,000 sq. ft. cottage-style home built in the 1920's will feature 21 distinctive spaces created by some of Sacramento's most talented and sought-after interior designers. The Showhouse Tour is scheduled to run for two weeks beginning September 17th.

When Paulette and Bobbe, long-time supporters of the Crisis Nurseries, decided to develop a unique one-time design project to benefit the Nurseries, they were gratified to discover that so many of Sacramento's premier interior designers were eager to lend their talents to create this exceptional design extravaganza. It is their hope that the project will not only raise community awareness but also the funding that the Nurseries so desperately need.

The Friends of the Crisis Nurseries are extending an invitation to everyone in the community to participate in this exciting endeavor. If you are interested in volunteering on a committee or would like to be a financial sponsor of the event, please contact Chris Weske at (916) 988-5870.



If you are interested in joining our team of volunteers, please contact Volunteer Coordinator Marilyn Parker at (916) 290-8254.

President's Message

Abby Hewitt, Friends of Sacramento Crisis Nurseries

Many exciting things have happened in the last few months – all because of the dedication and efforts of a wide variety of volunteers and generous contributions from the community. You'll read about most of them here in the newsletter. If you see any activity that you would like to be part of, I encourage you to contact us and join the fun!

In December, we had our annual Holiday Open House and Diaper Drop at the North Nursery. Guests enjoyed cookies and cider as they toured the nursery. There was a spirited group of adults and kids painting tiles for the Obelisk and throughout the afternoon, the area under the Christmas tree steadily filled with boxes of diapers, cans of formula and a variety of items from the Wish List.

A grant from Sacramento Junior League has led to the formation of a Speaker's Bureau, with a group of SJL members undergoing training sessions to help them carry the Nurseries' message to the community. Board members Kathy Palmer and Christine Mattos are chairing this committee along with SJL member Amy Birchill.

Under the guidance of two of our board members, Paulette Trainor and Bobbe Brown, 16 of Sacramento's most talented and creative interior designers will be working with us to present a Designer Showhouse in September. Planning and development of the marketing committees are underway, and we're excited about the responses from various people who want to help.

And the Giving Grandmas group just sounds like a whole lot of fun!

So much goes on all the time in support of the Crisis Nurseries and our children. We encourage you to become more involved: Bring someone who hasn't seen a Nursery for a visit, drop off an item or two from our Wish List, purchase and paint a tile for the Obelisk, participate on a committee for the Showhouse, join the Giving Grandmas – or contact us with your own suggestions for ways to join us in providing assistance to these beautiful children and their families.

NURSERY TOURS

Many of you have expressed an interest in scheduling a tour of one of the Nurseries.

If you would like to arrange a tour for yourself or for a group, please contact Edie Richmond at (916) 243-5835.



2004-05

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Sacramento Crisis Nurseries

Sue Bonk

Director of the Sacramento Crisis Nurseries

Sacramento Crisis Nursery South

6699 South Land Park Drive
Sacramento, CA 95831
(916) 394-2000

Sacramento Crisis Nursery North

4533 Pasadena Ave.
Sacramento, CA 95821
(916) 679-3600

The Friends of the Crisis Nurseries is an auxiliary of the Sacramento Children's Home.



Sacramento Children's Home
SERVING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SINCE 1867

Sacramento Children's Home
2750 Sutterville Road
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www.crisisnurseryonline.com

Director's Message—by Sue Bonk

It is time, once again, to acknowledge and thank the volunteers and generous donors who support the Sacramento Crisis Nurseries. The countless families who bring clothing, food and gifts for the children, the generous Sacramento community that financially supports the program, and those who give their valuable time to help care for the children, raise funds, and provide outreach to help ensure that everyone knows about Crisis Nursery services.

Our volunteers have come forth again to help in two new endeavors. In a partnership with the Junior League of Sacramento, the Crisis Nursery Speaker's Bureau has been formed. Junior League members and other volunteers have completed 15 hours of training in

preparation to speak on behalf of the Crisis Nurseries in Sacramento and Yolo Counties. Letters are being sent to civic organizations, businesses and churches -- any group that may want a speaker at their meeting, luncheon or event. (You may call 679-3606 to request a speaker).

Another new volunteer opportunity is our "unpaid childcare worker". Screened and trained volunteers can now work at the Crisis Nurseries as "full-fledged" childcare staff and will be counted as part of the mandated 3:1 ratio.

The Sacramento Crisis Nurseries serve hundreds of children and families annually. It is a vast and costly program. We are only able to continue providing our services because of the dedicated,

generous support of the Sacramento community.

At the beginning of this new year, our thoughts turn gratefully to those who have made our progress possible. Thank you, and may you have peace and joy in the year ahead.



A New Beginning

Spring is a time of new beginnings, and last spring was no different. A beautiful baby girl was born and came to stay at the Nursery. The adoption process began, and I had the pleasure of helping to nurture our new baby until she was released to her new family. It was a wonderful spring day, actually, Good Friday. The social worker and soon-to-be parents came to visit. I carried the baby girl into see them, and they were immediately overcome with love and joy for this child. An hour later, the social worker came and told me she was releasing the baby to the couple. Tears of joy were abundant, and as I watched them leave, I thought what a wonderful Easter this family would enjoy. The parents have stayed in touch with me, and I have been able to watch the baby grow. What a gift!

Pat Park, Childcare Worker



Mom, baby Mackenzie and Pat Park at one of their frequent visits.

Matthew's Story

It is not a rare sight at the Crisis Nurseries to see a few teary eyes when a child leaves; the workers and volunteers alike become attached to these children to whom we give so much of ourselves. People say that in the line of work we do, you get jaded after awhile. I think that is folklore. It has been a year-and-a-half since I started here, and it still tugs at my heart every time I see a child to the door. And while each child that is served at the Nursery makes his or her mark, there are those that leave an unforgettable place in our hearts. So is the case with Matthew.

Matthew was brought to us at just two-days old. When he arrived, he was a shriveled bundle of hospital blankets and "onesies" that sagged around his tiny frame. As all babies do, Matthew grew into his skin; he became alert and fell into a content trance whenever our child-care worker held him. He was beautiful, and we all wanted to take him home. But as the story goes with all the children that come through the Nursery, Matthew's 30 days were eventually up, and his time had come to move on.

Although Matthew's experience with the child welfare system had not come to an end, his second phase came in the loving package of a foster mom who's face was weathered by the years but who's eyes sparkled with unmistakable love for children. Her first words when her eyes fell on Matthew were these: "Oh! An angel from God." How right she was. Although there was sadness in our hearts for our "loss", there was also hope growing. There was a satisfying sense of accomplishment as we saw our work through to a happy end.

Tiphini Axtell, Childcare Worker

A WILL TO GIVE

We hope you saw the Sacramento Bee article a few weeks ago featuring one of our wonderful volunteers, Jim Donoghue. Jim has utilized his will as a gift device for the benefit of the Nurseries and the UC Davis Medical Center. His example speaks volumes about the power of planned giving to make a difference long after he can no longer rock the babies.

In our last newsletter, we reviewed one of the more complex gift strategies involving Charitable Remainder UniTrusts (CRUT) to donate appreciated assets such as stock or real estate. If making a lifetime gift, a donor who still needs income from the asset can combine a tax-deductible gift with an income stream.

In the fall issue, we discussed the concept of making a bequest through a will or trust. This is a gift that matures at the death of the donor. Real estate,

stocks, bonds or mutual funds, or other monetary gifts are designated for the Nurseries in the will or family trust. After the donor passes away, the trustee of the trust or the executor of the estate arranges to transfer the asset to the Nurseries. Because the Nurseries are a program of the Sacramento Children's Home, a tax-exempt charity, the gift is excluded from the estate for estate tax purposes. You can designate the gift for a specific program of the Nurseries, the general operating fund, or for the Raley Endowment for the benefit of the Nurseries.

The next issue will discuss gifts from life insurance and IRA's. As you may know, consulting with tax and legal advisors is part of most estate planning strategies. Should you or your advisors want more detailed information or to discuss a potential planned gift to the Nurseries, please call Nancy Garton, Friends of Sacramento Crisis Nurseries' VP of Planned Giving, at (916) 921-2110.



A Fish Story

What do you do with a cranky two-year old who wants his mother at three o'clock in the morning? How do you get his attention while you calm and quiet him so he falls back to sleep?

At the North Nursery, restless babies are often soothed by simply being held and quietly rocked while they watch an incredibly fat yellow goldfish swim peacefully around a large fish tank. Named 'Nemo' by the kids, the fish is one of several inhabiting the tank (there were more, but rumor has it that they unwittingly contributed to Nemo's size). The Friends group donated the tank several

years ago when they decorated the visitation room, so it was natural that Sue approached them when the filter system failed and Nemo's existence was threatened.

Friends' board member Chris Weske made a couple of phone calls, and the next day, Torrance Chumbley, owner of Neptune Aquarium, visited the Nursery. Torrance immediately cleaned and 'spruced-up' the aquarium and ordered the parts needed to repair the filter system (at cost). Having been won over by the kids and the volunteers, Torrance also offered to provide on-going cleaning service at a fraction of his usual cost. Nemo will now swim in new and improved surroundings, and

cranky babies will continue to be calmed by his fluid motion.

Through the years, so many volunteers have supported the Nurseries. We're so blessed that they continue to be there when we need help. Even when the help is for a fat, beautiful goldfish!

Thank you, Torrance.



Individual Donations: November 2004 - January 2005

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 Anonymous
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 Bobby & Elizabeth Barkley
 Glenda Beezley
 Debbie Blagsrech
 Delores Bousliman
 Douglas & Janet Brown
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Thank you to the generous donations made in honor/memory of others:

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Thank you to the generous donations made by organizations:

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 Carmichael Inner Wheel
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 Carmichael Presbyterian Church, Sara Circle
 Carmichael Presbyterian Church, Susanna Circle
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 Century 21 Select Real Estate, Inc.
 Child Action, Inc. Employees
 Commision on Teacher Credentialing
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 Community of Christ Church
 Corinthian Homes
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 Environmental Science Associates
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 Ethel Lansdale Aux 67 VFW
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 General John J. Pershing Ladies Auxiliary, No. 4647, VFW
 Girl Scout Troop #1582
 Girl Scout Troop #2715
 Golden Empire District
 Greenhaven Lutheran Church
 Greenhaven Mother's Club
 Inner Wheel Club of East Sacramento
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 Kilwinning Lodge No 203
 Ladies Auxiliary of VFW Post 1985
 Ladies Auxiliary of VFW Post 2003
 Ladies Auxiliary of VFW Post 3045
 Ladies Auxiliary of VFW Post 6604
 Ladies Auxiliary of VFW Post 8762, Jr. Girls Unit 4647
 Land Park Lions
 Land Park/Greenhaven JFC
 Latter Day Saints Church
 Light of the Valley Lutheran Church
 Massie Family Foundation
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 Mira Loma Booster Club
 Mission Oaks North Homeowners Assoc
 Moms Club of Land Park
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 North Sacramento Women's Club

North Sacramento Federation of Women's Club
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 Sacramento City College Foundation
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 Sierra Bridge Club
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 SWSW Investment Club
 Sylvan Oaks Christian Church
 System 1 Search, Inc.
 The Club @ Natomas Park
 The Home Theater Company
 The Sacramento Auxiliary No. 85 VFW
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 Wild Hawk Women's' Golf Club
 Women's Social & Cultural League
 World Savings
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In Memorium: July 2004-February 2005

Gifts were given by:

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In memory of the following:

Keith Anderson
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 Thurmond Boykin
 Andrew Cochrane
 Brian Delaney
 Juanita Delgado
 Ellen Jacinto
 Earline Kaupp
 Dolly MacBride
 Hal & Clara Marvin
 Tom McNally
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 Robert Murphy Jr.
 Nick Petrota
 Ken Robbins
 Josephine Stassi

Lee W. Stohr
 Marietta Tedesco
 Grandson Tiggs
 Audrey Wilcox
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In honor of the following:

The Ayers Family
 The Bobolis Family at
 Christmastime
 Isabel Bullen-Wiggins
 Mrs. Ted Chamberlin
 Mr. & Mrs. Nathan Chandler
 Marvin Ellering
 Harles & Elsie Garton
 Valerie Hunt's Birthday
 Alberta Lorenz's Birthday
 Miss Constance Menzies
 Genelle Plato
 Daniel Joseph Rhoads
 John Rowder
 Mr. & Mrs. Peter Russell
 Mr. & Mrs. William E. van
 Loben Sels
 Mrs. Maurita van Loben Sels
 Bob & Mercedes Slakey
 John & Mary Sprague

Meet the Public

The Community Outreach Committee has been busy planning for upcoming events. Because these events are time-intensive, many volunteers are needed to ensure a successful day. The three events listed bring out thousands of people - they are a lot of work, but they are fun. If you can join our volunteers, please call (916) 679-3600.

Yeah Baby!

Saturday, March 19th & Sunday, March 20th from 10:00AM - 5:00PM at Cal Expo.

Volunteers needed to staff two shifts per day: 10:00AM - 1:30PM and 1:30PM - 5:00PM.

They are expecting over 20,000 people!

Birth and Beyond "Safe At Home" Safety Fair

Saturday, April 16th from 11:00AM - 3:00PM at Wood Lake Park, 500 Arden Way.

Volunteers needed to staff two shifts: 11:00AM - 1:00PM and 1:00PM - 3:00PM.

They are expecting 1,000 people.

Safetyville USA Family Safety and Health Expo

Saturday, May 7th from 11:00AM - 4:00PM at 3909 Bradshaw Road.

Volunteers needed to staff two shifts: 11:00AM - 1:30PM and 1:30PM - 4:00PM.

They are expecting 3,000 to 4,000 people at this free event.

IT'S FIESTA TIME AGAIN

The Rotary Club of Sacramento Breakfast is planning the second annual Fiesta de Mayo, South of the Border Festival and Silent Auction to be held at the Dante Club on May 7, 2005. Last year, the Fiesta raised nearly \$15,000 for the Crisis Nurseries and Rotary youth projects. Many of the Friends attended and will attest to the great time they had!

For those uninitiated, here's the scoop: Latin music (salsa, jazz), fabulous south of the border cuisine, no-host bar including scrumptious margaritas, and one of the best silent auctions around.

Tickets are \$35 per person or \$500 for a reserved table for 10, and they may be purchased from Pam Long (556-4454), Nancy Garton (921-2110) or Abby Hewitt (348-6168). Auction items may be donated through these same sources. (Our Friends provided some awesome items last year!)

Dust off your dancing shoes, loosen up those salsa-swinging muscles, and call for your tickets today. There's not a moment to lose!

Sacramento Crisis Nurseries Wish List

Household Items

- White Cotton Dish Towels (New)
- Dish Rags (New)
- Anti-Bacterial Liquid Hand Soap
- Spray Bottles
- Clorox Wipes
- 33-Gallon Trash Bags
- Trifold Paper Towels
- Scotch Tape
- Masking Tape

Children's Items (Non-Toxic)

- Paint and Brushes
- Easels
- Wiggles Video
- Parachute
- Bubbles
- Raffi/Children's Music CD's
- New Books
- Evenflo Express Car Seat
- Evenflo Titan 5 Convertible Car Seat

Linens

- Colored Wash Cloths (New)
- Bath Towels (New)
- Twin Comforters – Plain Colors (New)

Food Items

- Grocery Gift Certificates
- Juice
- Toddler Food Dinners
- Cake Mix, Cookie Mix (Cutouts)
- Formula – Enfamil Lipil, Enfamil Low Iron, Similac, Carnation Good Start, Enfamil Nutramigen
- Cornstarch
- Canned Fruits & Vegetables
- Canned Spaghetti O's
- Boxed Cereal
- Crackers, Cookies, Fruit Snacks, Pudding Cups

Children's Clothing Items

- Wipes
- Pull-Ups
- Boys and Girls Underwear 0-6 (New)
- Infant sleepers with Fold-Over Hands (New)
- Boys and Girls Clothes 2,3,4,5,6T (New)
- Tennis Shoes – Sizes Child 3-13; Youth 1-3

Bathroom/Personal Needs

- Pic Combs
- Hairbrushes – Child Size
- Toothbrushes
- Lice Combs
- NIX Lice Treatment
- Baby Bottles

Miscellaneous Items

- First Aid Supplies (Band-Aids, A&D Ointment)
- Bus Tickets
- Bean Bags – Child Size
- D-Size Batteries
- Polaroid 600 Film
- Target Gift Cards

- Raley's, Bel Air, Albertson's Gift Cards
- Honeywell Air Cleaner
- Computer for Children to Use
- Lockable Computer Desk
- CD Player (Nursery Rooms)
- Non-Latex Gloves

Per OSHA requirements, we are not able to accept used toys or stuffed animals. The Crisis Nurseries do not use baby powder. At this time, we are accepting only new items. Thank you for your support.

Refer to our website
www.crisisnurseryonline.com
for the most current wish list.

Donation Delivery:
Monday-Friday 8:30-4:30
Closed Holidays

Gifting Grandmas Unite for Fun and Funds

A new fun and funding group of Friends is forming: The Gifting Grandmas (The GGs). Recognizing that grandmothers have so many 'gifts' to give - time, love, understanding, caring - we thought it was a natural that they would appreciate an opportunity to learn about and support the Nurseries - and have some fun at the same time. In early February, a small group of self-proclaimed GGs met to select a name, establish a funding structure and design a recruiting plan. They decided to invite all grandmas (and grandmothers, grannys, nanas and grandmas-in-waiting) to coffee and "goodies" on Saturday, April 16th, where guests can learn more about the Nurseries and enjoy the fun of unlimited picture sharing and bragging rights! Because this is also a funding group, they established a base pledge for members of \$300 per year - with a payment schedule to be determined by each member. If you're interested in joining the fun loving, baby-loving GGs, and would like an invitation to the April event, call the North Nursery at 679-3600, or email Glenda Hill at glendaahill@earthlink.net.

CRISIS NURSERIES TEAMS UP WITH JUNIOR LEAGUE

With a grant from the Sacramento Junior League, the Crisis Nurseries has begun the task of establishing a Speaker's Bureau.

Intended to help Sue Bonk with her ongoing speaking engagements, these speakers will inform both civic and professional organizations about the critical work being done by the Crisis Nurseries. Not only has the League given the Nursery seed money to establish this bureau, but more importantly, committed League members have signed up to be part of this first group of speakers. Led by an organized and efficient League member, Amy Birchill, the "magnificent 16" met January 27th for an orientation at the North Nursery. Following a guided tour, members introduced themselves and expressed not only their admiration for the work of the Nurseries, but also their eagerness to be a part of helping to promote it.

Five community professionals have volunteered their time and expertise to educate the group about the abuse and homelessness problems that bring women to the Nursery for help. Robert Sanger from the Child Abuse Prevention Council, Julia Day of WEAVE, Beth Limberg of Building Blocks, Connie Frank of Mary House and Wanda McGuire, an alcohol and drug counselor, all generously spoke to our group in February. At our final session, the Toastmasters provided their critiquing skills, so our speakers are now ready to go! The end result will be a well-informed group of speakers, ready to spread the word of the Crisis Nurseries' services to all of Sacramento - a lofty goal and a worthwhile one. We cannot thank the Junior League and our volunteer speakers enough for helping us to achieve this goal. One speech at a time! First Sacramento, then the world!

Special Thanks to Special People:

Girl Scouts Support the Nurseries

In February, Friends Board member Carol Luery attended a Girl Scout event called Thinking Day at Sierra View School. The event was a Career Fair where we were invited to speak with the Girl Scouts and pass out information about the Sacramento Crisis Nurseries. The Nurseries were also the recipients of donations from various troops.

THOMAS|ferrous • Marketing & Design

Thank you to THOMAS|ferrous for providing the design and production of our newsletters! We appreciate their time and commitment to helping the Nurseries.

Obelisk Tiles are Forever!

Want an Easter gift that won't cause a sugar high or turn into an ugly chicken? Looking for a Mother's Day present that will last forever? Maybe you'd like to support the Nurseries during April, Child Abuse Prevention month.

Have we got a suggestion for you! As you can see, our wonderful Obelisk that proudly displays a couple hundred hand-painted tiles, is a beautiful and colorful addition to the North Nursery. The strange white band around the middle of the Obelisk is waiting to be filled in with painted tiles, as are the two back sides of the monument.

We're waiting to hear from you. We'll schedule a time for you, your children, your service club or Scout troop to come to the Nursery and paint your tile – or we'll paint one for you. It's fun. It's easy. And it's a wonderful way to help a child while you remember a loved one.

Tiles are \$100, \$250 or \$500. All proceeds benefit the Sacramento Crisis Nurseries.



Call Melody at 679-3600.

Mom's Club of Carmichael
Annual Rummage Sale
North Nursery, 4533 Pasadena Ave
Saturday, April 30

Donations accepted prior to April 28 at North Nursery.

Sacramento Children's Home



2750 Sutterville Rd.
Sacramento, CA 95820



Return Service Requested

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Organization
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