

Special Thanks to Special People:

Starbuck's Storage Clean Up

About a dozen employees and friends helped to totally reorganized three of our storage areas. In addition, Starbuck's volunteer program "Make Your Mark" contributed a cash donation on behalf of the workers. Starbuck's also donated coffee for our recent "Tiles for Tots" event.



Well-Dressed Trick or Treaters!

Crisis Nursery Volunteer June Riddle made the cutest Halloween costumes for the children to wear as they trick-or-treated around the neighborhood. They enjoyed dressing up in the costumes throughout the entire month of October!

UAMC-Universal American Mortgage Company and Friends!

Far exceeding their goal of 150 dozen diapers, Universal American Mortgage Company along with North American Title Company donated nearly 500 dozen diapers and other needed supplies to the Nurseries.

The Rotary Club of Sacramento Breakfast visited the North Nursery and presented a check for half the profit from the Club's Fiesta party held in May, 2004. The Rotary Club is a long-time supporter of the Crisis Nurseries. Pictured with Nursery Director Sue Bonk are Rotary Club members, Treasurer Deb Thorton and Past-President Abby Hewitt.



Albertson's Community Partners

Albertson's is now contributing to the Sacramento Crisis Nurseries through the Community Partners Program. Contributing is automatic with the use of the Albertson's Preferred Savings Card. The Crisis Nurseries Community Partners identification number is 490001002559. You can sign up several different ways:

- In-store – Provide the cashier with the Crisis Nurseries ID number to link your card.
- By Mail – Registrations forms are available at Albertson's.
- Online – Go to www.albertsons.com, locate the Community Partners link and enter your card number.

Solar Power to Save Energy

SMUD installed a complete set of solar panels at the North Nursery to assist with water heating.



News from the Nurseries

A Quarterly Newsletter from the Friends of Crisis Nurseries

WINTER 2004



Success for Crisis Nurseries Statewide

We are proud and excited to announce the passage of SB 855, which creates a new licensing category for crisis nurseries in California.

As you know, the Sacramento Crisis Nurseries were created in response to our community's need for a program to provide temporary emergency respite care for infants, toddlers and young children of families who are in crisis. The nurseries provide a safe place for children to live for up to 30 days when their families have no other options, as an alternative to giving up custody of their children to the public child welfare system. As a result of the successful model of the Sacramento Nursery, crisis nurseries were established in Yolo, Placer and Nevada Counties. In addition, there are crisis nurseries in San Joaquin and Contra Costa Counties.

Under current law and regulation, crisis nurseries must be licensed as group homes and comply with stringent regulations that govern those group homes serving children under the age of six. These "under six" regulations were intended to ensure that very young children who are placed into group homes for an extended

period of time receive the most family-like care possible. However, most children stay in crisis nurseries for a very short period of time, and no child is permitted to remain for longer than 30 days. For this reason, the current group home regulations are not a good "fit" for crisis nurseries and create significant cost increases.

SBS 855, introduced by Senator Michael Machado, was signed by Governor Schwarzenegger and will take effect January 2005. SB 855 establishes a new category of licensure for crisis nurseries that is more appropriate to our service model. It puts crisis nurseries on the map as a separate licensing entity, not to be incorporated under the group home category. We thank Senator Machado, Aide Anthony Bye and the California Alliance for the time and effort over the past two years to make this dream a reality. Thank you also to the State Department of Social Services, Community Care Licensing for their assistance and support.

FUND-RAISING OBELISK UNVEILED AT TILES FOR TOTS

The weather gods smiled on the Crisis Nurseries and delivered a crisp, clear October evening as nearly 200 friends gathered at the North Nursery to unveil the Obelisk and celebrate the community's commitment to keeping kids safe.

Guests admired the colorful Obelisk, adorned on the West and South sides with over 200 hand-painted tiles. Subject matter and artistic talent was varied and exciting from professionally painted tiles to the creative styling of two-year-olds; from company logos to Sponge-Bob Square Pants. Tiles were painted by volunteers from the Rio Americano Interact Club and by the fourth grade class of Kelly Weske; and lots of tiles were painted for and by grandchildren. (See page 4 for a complete list of tile donors to date.)

Inspired by the array of artistic examples evident on the Obelisk, many guests took advantage of the opportunity to *continued on page 4.*



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



Larry Blunt, Sandy Smoley, Senator Mike Machado.



Sacramento, CA 95820

2750 Sutterville Rd.

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President's Message

Abby Hewitt, Friends of Sacramento Crisis Nurseries

It's been a busy and stimulating Fall as we prepared for the Tiles for Tots party on October 22, and geared up for all the community health fairs and outreach opportunities.

Evie Palumbo and her amazing committee, Marilyn Blunt, Marla Bommer, Donna Chipps, Gloria Eller, Nancy Garton, Sandra Hoover, Vi McNally, Marilyn Parker, Tina Reynolds, Marcia Rodebaugh, B.J. Ueltzen, Patty Wackman and Chris Weske, put together food, tables, guest lists, music, wine...all the things necessary for a successful event. At the same time, Chris Weske, Carol Luery and I were encouraging last minute tile 'commitments' to come on over and paint, and Angela West was shuttling painted tiles to and from Alpha Ceramics. Simas Tile installed the prep work on the Obelisk and worked diligently around the rainy days to mount tiles on two sides in time for the party.

We had a lot of help preparing the tiles. Kelly Weske, Chris' daughter, invited us to take tiles and paints to her 4th Grade class. As they had fun painting, the kids asked questions about the nurseries and were really very serious about helping. These tiles were assigned to many of our buyers who had requested that a child paint for them. Lori Sacco brought her Girl Scout troop to the Nursery one afternoon, and they gathered around the tables in front to paint their tile, each taking turns with a color of the rainbow or a letter. They also brought over boxes of diapers the girls had collected in a diaper drive.

At the same time, our Volunteer V.P., Carol Luery, and Marilyn Parker, Friends Board member and new Nurseries Volunteer coordinator, have been contacting and training volunteers who asked to help represent the Nurseries at community events. Speakers' Bureau co-chair Christine Mattos helped with an orientation, bringing everyone up to date on the Nurseries' services and programs.

Donna Chipps completed work on our new web site. We invite you to visit and encourage you to tell your friends and associates to visit us as well.

The connections continue to grow. Each time someone visits the nursery or hears about the children and families we help, they tell someone else and our family of Friends expands. Two sides of our beautiful addition to the North Nursery are covered with tiles – but we still have room for another 200 tiles. Tell your family and friends – remind them that a tile is a gift not only to a child staying temporarily at the Nursery, but also a permanent recognition of their loved ones and their support of children.

Enjoy the holiday season.

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
Sacramento, CA 95820 • (916) 452-3981
www.crisisnurseryonline.com

News from the Nurseries is underwritten by a generous donation from Larry Booth, Frank M. Booth, Inc.

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Sacramento Crisis Nurseries Wish List

Household Items

- Paper Towels
- Toilet Paper
- **White Cotton Dish Towels (New)**
- **Dish Rags (New)**
- Sponges
- Dishwasher Soap
- Anti-Bacterial Liquid Soap
- **Plastic Spray Bottles**
- **Clorox Wipes**

Children's Items

- Arts and Crafts
- **Paint and Brushes**
- Easels
- **Cornstarch**
- Parachute
- Bubbles
- Ponytail Holders
- Raffi Music Tapes
- Cosco High Rise Booster Car Seat
- Graco ComfortSport 8433
- Convertible Car Seat

Linens

- Colored Washcloths (New)
- **Twin Sheets (New)**
- Crib Sheets (New)
- **Comforters, Twin Size**
- Bath Towels (New)

Food Items

- Grocery Gift Certificates
- Juice
- **Baby Food Dinners**
- Cake Mix, Cookie Mix (cutouts)
- Pedialite
- **Formula –Enfamil Lipil, Similac, Carnation Good Start**

Children's Clothing Items

- **Diapers - Size Preemie, Newborn**
- Wipes
- Pull-Ups
- Boys and Girls Underwear 0-6 (New)
- Infant Sleepers with Fold-Over Hands (New)
- **Boys Clothes 4-6 (New)**

Bathroom/Personal Needs

- Pic Combs
- **Hairbrushes – Child Size**
- **Diaper Genie Refill (Large)**
- Toothbrushes

- Lice Combs
- Sunscreen

Miscellaneous Items

- **Bus Tickets**
- Target Gift Certificate
- Blow Dryer
- Digital Camera
- Bottle Dryer
- Honeywell Air cleaner
- Microwave
- VCR/DVD Combo Player
- Cordless Phone

Refer to our website:

www.crisisnurseryonline.com
for the most current wish list.

Donation Delivery:

Monday-Friday 8:30-4:30

October Was Health and Safety Fair Month

The Sacramento Crisis Nurseries participated in a more than a dozen events held throughout our local communities during the month of October. These fairs gave us contact with nearly 10,000 people who might use our services or refer a neighbor or friend to us.

These health fairs included the following agencies: Seta /Headstart, First Five, Sacramento Fire Department, Sacramento City College, Sacramento County of Human Assistance and several Birth and Beyond programs.

Staffing the health fairs would not have been possible without the help of the Nursery volunteer coordinator, Marilyn Parker and our wonderful volunteers. I would like to give special thanks to Marnie Badgely, Jim Donoghue, Joy Papailias, Larry Thommen, Pat McGonigle and Vi McNally. Thank you again for all of your assistance in educating the community about the importance of the Sacramento Crisis Nurseries.

Submitted by Carol Luery

Of Firemen and Mushrooms and Love

Thursday evenings at The Crisis Nursery have long been the high point of my week.

On a recent evening there, I headed into the wonderful play kitchen with a light-haired four-year-old little girl who said she was going to cook us dinner. "What are you going to make for dinner?" I asked. "Spaghetti or pork chops or hamburgers?" "Mushrooms," she announced. "Mushrooms? What a surprise for a four-year-old to decide on mushrooms for dinner! But the kids are full of surprises.

Another evening in the not too distant past, I was playing with a dark-haired little guy and his fire truck. He was busy putting out fires and saving people with his ladder. As luck would have it we ended up watching a Barney episode with fire fighters later that evening on TV. My dark haired little friend, sitting with me on the love seat, advised "I'm going to be a fireman. I will put on my jacket and put on my boots and put on my belt and get my hose. But you can't get in the fire or it will turn you into a hot dog!" he warned. The tiny little blonde perched on the arm of the sofa on my other side agreed, "I'm going to be a fireman, too!"

The rewards of being at the Nursery are great. Like watching a little boy who should already be walking, but most likely isn't because he was kept in a crib too much of the time, learn to pull himself up to his feet, stand and begin the process of learning to walk. Or when one of the kids bonds with you and their arms reach for you all night.

There is nothing more rewarding than nestling a baby with a bottle into the crook of your arm. Little hands reach out to grasp you, as eyes search your face and then slowly close as a tiny tummy becomes full and satiated with milk. To gently lift a damp, warm body, snuggle it into your shoulder and rock the sleeping baby as you softly pat her back is a pleasure beyond compare.

The Crisis Nursery is such a wonderful place for little ones to be. Full of love and warmth, good food and toys. It truly is a blessing for the families who need it.

Submitted by Joy Papailias



Senator Mike Machado, Carol Wallace, Paula Gray, Jim Munson.

(continued from page 1)

tiles that evening, taking them to be painted by our three volunteer artists or choosing to paint the tiles themselves.

While the music of Las Pesadillas provided background entertainment, members of the Rio Americano Interact Club passed a variety of tasty hors d'oeuvres from Lucca restaurant. Our mistress of ceremonies, Michelle Kane from KOVR, Channel 13, welcomed everyone and introduced Sacramento Children's Home Executive Director Roy Alexander, Friends President Abby Hewitt, Nurseries Director Sue Bonk and California State Senator Anthony Machado. Friends Board members escorted guests through the Nursery and answered questions about the program and services provided to children and their families.

It was a wonderful evening that allowed Friends the opportunity to thank all of the people who have contributed to the building and decoration of the Obelisk – all of the people who care about the Crisis Nurseries and our kids.



Paulette Trainor, BJ Ueltzen, Pauline Buck.

The Friends of the Sacramento Crisis Nurseries Wish To Thank

All Who Purchased Tiles for Our Obelisk

\$2,500
Rachel Bardis
Vernita Bohannon
Dan & Jody Ford
Junior League of Sacramento

\$1,000-2,499
Pat Anderson
Carol Bone
Larry & Mary Kate Carter
Garton & Associates, Nancy Garton
California Connections, Abby Hewitt
Carol Luery

\$500-999
Roy Alexander
Bardis Foundation
Brian Bombeck
Mike & Bobbe Brown
Lynn Cannady
Diane & Rob Cassil
CMSH Electrical
Deborah DaPonte
Steve & Cynthia Edwards
Go to Your Room, Karen Field
David & Erla Goller
George & Sandy Hoover
IBM, Ken Mark
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Aircor Commercial, Charles Jones
Jan Malek
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Wendy Wilkinson
Ann Wingard
Earl Worley
Jill Wright
Rolf Zschoernig

All Who Helped With the Construction of Our Obelisk

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Carson Development Co.

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Joe Kerekgyarto
Greg Erath
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Kenneth L. DeBruhl
Mike Dossa
Roebelen Contracting

Jim Simas
Bob Files
Robert Simas Ceramic Tile

Winners of the Tiles for Tots Raffle.

Three days/two nights at a private Tahoe Donner residence—Winner is Leslie Harper.

Gourmet dinner party for eight at the designer home of Chuck and Paulette Trainor—Winner is Donna Sauter.

Jackie Christie designer handbag, created exclusively for the Crisis Nurseries—Winner is Joy Dobson Way.

Doug Christie-autographed Kings basketball—Winner is Dr. Larry Gish.

Appreciating Appreciation

The Ins and Outs of Planned Gifts with Stocks or Real Estate

In the last newsletter, we discussed some of the advantages of naming the charity of your choice in your Last Will and Testament or in your Family Trust. Today, we'll cover some of the advantages of making a gift of appreciated assets such as stock or real estate.

The simplest form of giving appreciated assets is where the owner of stock or real property transfers the title to those assets directly to the charity. The charity can then sell the asset and use the proceeds for operating expenses, for an Endowment if specified, or even for a special program designated by the donor. The donor receives an income tax deduction for the fair market value of the asset and escapes the capital gains tax on the increase in value. If, conversely, the donor sells the appreciated asset prior to gifting, the donor must pay capital gains tax on the appreciation in value. This would reduce the total donation by that unnecessary tax and further reduce the donor's charitable tax deduction.

A more interesting version of this tax strategy is possible. Sometimes a donor needs to continue to receive income from the asset during his or her lifetime AND AT THE SAME TIME wants to provide meaningful funding to the charity. One popular arrangement is called a *Charitable Remainder Unitrust (CRUT)*. Here's the process:

1. The donor establishes the irrevocable trust (CRUT) naming the charity as the ultimate beneficiary of the trust assets.
2. The donor then makes a gift of the property to the CRUT. (It's important that the real estate not have any mortgage on it.)
3. The trust pays a fixed percentage of the value of the trust each year to the donor, or spouse and/or children. At the death of the last income beneficiary, the trust assets pass to the charity.

There are also income tax deductions and the potential for tax-favorable income to the donor when using a CRUT.

If any of these notes strike a chord with you or those around you, please don't hesitate to call Nancy Garton at 916-921-2110. As a member of the Friends of the Crisis Nurseries Board, Nancy is dedicated to assisting those interested in helping the Nurseries to find the method which fits their situation the best. She recommends consulting with tax and legal advisors as part of any significant estate planning strategy.

Holiday Gifts for Lasting Memories

Why not give a tile for each of your children or grandchildren? Celebrate the holidays by purchasing a gift that will help the Nurseries while providing a lasting memory for your family. Children enjoy painting their tiles and will love finding them on the Obelisk for years to come.

Call Chris Weske 988-5870 for information or to reserve a time to paint your tile. Tiles are \$100, \$250 or \$500.

Individual Donations: Sept-Oct, 2004

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Gary D. & Maralyn M. Aldrich
Roy Alexander
Samira Al-Qazzaz
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Director's Message—*by Sue Bonk*

The Sacramento Crisis Nurseries have been blessed with continued community support from the day we opened the doors of the south nursery almost nine years ago. Local businesses, civic organizations, churches, and private donors have generously donated money, supplies, and inkind services, which have enabled us to continue to provide this much-needed service to the families in our community.

The Sacramento Crisis Nurseries have always relied primarily on private funding through donors and private foundations. A small county contract and an equally small grant from HUD for our homeless children is the only public money we receive. Both types of revenue have taken a “hit” this year: Our county contract was cut by more than half, and declining stock market income has resulted in decreased private grants. These factors have led the Crisis Nurseries to reduce spending this year in the form of staff reductions and cutbacks in operating expenses.

As in all human service agencies where the majority of the costs are in staff salaries, fewer childcare workers and case managers means fewer services provided to children and families. The world won't miss a few less widgets, but it will miss a child who fails to be protected from abuse or neglect. It will miss a stable, self-

supporting family that takes care of its children. It will miss a child who dies or is incapacitated from lack of medical care and treatment.

At-risk children and their families lose when financial times are tight. We ask that you not forget the many blessings you do have, in spite of the hard economy, and share with those less fortunate during this holiday season. The Sacramento Crisis Nurseries needs your financial support this year more than ever. Please do what you can to help.

A wonderful poem written by Nobel-prize wining author Gabriela Mistral says it all:

“We are guilty of many errors and many faults.
But our worst crime is abandoning the children,
Neglecting the fountain of life.
Many things in this world can wait,
But the child cannot.
Right now is the time his bones are
Being formed,
His blood is being made,
And his senses are being developed.
To Him we cannot answer
‘Tomorrow.’
His name is ‘Today.’”

Holiday Open House Diaper Drop and Formula Drive

Join us again this year for our Annual Holiday Open House on Sunday, December 12, 2004. All you need for admittance is a package of disposable diapers or formula. There will be lots of holiday goodies and hot mulled cider to enjoy while visiting the North Nursery at 4533 Pasadena Avenue, Sacramento. Bring a friend from 2 pm to 4 pm. This is a wonderful opportunity to share the holiday spirit with friends and the nursery staff.

Baby Jessalyn Goes Home

The Sacramento Crisis Nurseries were able to play a special role in the bright new life of baby Jessalyn. At birth, Jessalyn's mother signed over her parental rights. The infant was placed at the Sacramento Crisis Nursery South by the County for safe-keeping. While she was there, a search was made for possible adoptive parents.

With the hard work of the social worker and the case manager, a family was found and on its way out to the Nursery to meet baby Jessalyn in just a few days. When the couple arrived, they were placed in the visitation room with the social worker while the childcare staff prepared Jessalyn to meet her potential new family. The young couple waited eagerly, holding hands with a bit of nervousness as Jessalyn was brought into the room. The childcare worker gently placed her in the arms of the adoptive mother. Tears flowed down her cheeks when she held her new baby. “She's perfect,” she said as she looked at her husband.

That day a family was created, a child was saved, and all hearts at the nursery were touched.

