

Family Supportive Housing, Inc.
San Jose Family Shelter

Serving homeless families in Silicon Valley



www.familysupportivehousing.org

August/September 2005

Summer Camp 2005

What a great time the children had at summer camp this year! The Shelter was able to send 30 children to Mt. Cross Lutheran Camp in the Redwoods for a week of swimming, hiking, campfires and exploring. They learned great things about themselves, the world around them, and forged new and lasting friendships. They all came back with funny and sometimes touching stories about their experience and the great memories they take away will last a lifetime.

A heartfelt thanks goes out to the many, many people who made Camp possible this year. Thanks to Mt. Cross for helping subsidize the cost of camp. Thanks to Lu Walthart and Prince of Peace Lutheran Church for making it possible for the children to all go to camp prepared with bathing suits, shorts, warm coats, shoes, cameras, sunblock, etc. Thanks to Marcia and Bill Swift and the generous people at Holy Cross Lutheran Church and Joanne Lambert and AAUW for their camperships. Thanks to Cathy Spenhoff and everyone at Holy Cross Lutheran Church for all the "stuff" that campers need. They provided pillows, duffel bags, bath towels, beach towels, toiletries and bibles.



The children all traveled together by bus on Sunday afternoon eager and excited to start their week. On Friday they were picked up by staff members and Kathy Imwalle and Diane Price. Everyone was happy, tired and full of great camp stories! It was heartwarming to see the joy on their faces and hear about their great adventures. Thank you to everyone who provided rides home.

This is an expensive venture and we are grateful for all the people who helped. It is well worth the time and effort to be able to provide an experience for the children that they would otherwise not have.

*Sobrato Foundation 2:1 Challenge Grant leverages
into \$30,000 with your help!*

The Sobrato Foundation has pledged \$20,000 to the San Jose Family Shelter. We are extremely thankful that the Sobrato Foundation believes in the needs of our clients and the programs we provide. To realize this gift, we must raise \$10,000 from new or increased donations from caring people like you by December 31, 2005. Once we do, the Sobrato Foundation will match it and give us another \$10,000! Don't miss out on this 2:1 matching gift opportunity. Please give a gift today that will double in size and impact for the Shelter. For every \$1 you give we will receive \$2 from the Sobrato Foundation.

Thank you for your generosity!

San Jose
Family
Shelter



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Executive Director

Mission Statement

To support and empower homeless families in Santa Clara County on their path to self-sufficient living.

**Family Supportive
Housing, Inc.**
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Director's Report

Summertime Greetings,

Thank you to all of the people who made camp such a special experience for children in the shelter and in Aftercare. 31 children went to camp and all of them had a wonderful time. We were very blest this year that so many were able to attend camp. It is a lot of work to make this happen and thank you to all who helped.

Summertime at the shelter is also happy because of the Occupational Therapy interns who spend their summer helping here. They run three weeks of day camp for all of the children in the shelter and it is great fun. Each week the group goes off site one of the days, this week it is to Happy Hallow Zoo and next month they will all go to The Tech Museum. It is important that the children all do something special during the summer and we are lucky to be able to provide this experience.

Funding this year is a particular challenge and we are grateful to all who have helped. We have begun preparations for "back to school" and for our annual Soup Kitchen Dinner. The time just flies by and we are always challenged to stay ahead of the game.

Thank you for continuing to support us as we go about our important work of empowering people to be self-sufficient in our community.

Patricia Crowder
Executive Director

Success Story

Jose and Lupe came to the San Jose Family Shelter from southern California. They knew a few people in the area, but otherwise they had no other resources. With family far away in Central America and limited English skills, they had hard work ahead of them. Within five days of their arrival here at the Shelter, he had secured his first job at a local restaurant. She got her children enrolled in Voyager Daycare and in the San Jose Unified School District. After a few weeks she also found a job at a nonprofit agency that helps families in need. They began saving money so that they could move into permanent housing as soon as possible.



Within six weeks he had found a second job at a clothing store. Now he works at least one job every day and most days he goes to both jobs. She takes care of the children, works, and is preparing for the birth of their third child. This growing family will soon move into an apartment in San Jose. They have worked so hard during their stay here that they will undoubtedly succeed in maintaining their permanent housing.

A True Masterpiece!

Last month a group of Girl Scouts, under the leadership of their program manager, Marla Howard, spent a weekend at the Shelter painting the walls leading to Court "C" where we have our Homework Program. They worked with the very talented mural artist Teresa Stevens to come up with a beautiful design with the help and input of the children at the Shelter. Teresa came in and sketched the design and the girls completed the project over a two day period. How the mural brightens up the hallway and the "school" theme helps to get the children ready as they enter the homework program!

Thank you to Marla Howard, Teresa Stevens and all the Girl Scouts. Your hard work is evident in the masterpiece you created.

You must stop by and see for yourself what a beautiful mural it really is!



Harry Potter - At the Shelter!

Last week, employees of the United State Post Office along with the Post Master himself came to the Shelter and surprised all the children with a new copy of the latest Harry Potter book! Every child received a poster, Harry Potter glasses, a Harry Potter wristband and a copy of the just released "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince"! After lunch everyone sat on the deck under the trees, opened their books and the summer OT interns took turns reading a chapter aloud.



What a perfect afternoon!

Thank you to the United State Post Office and their employees!

Special Requests

The Shelter is in need of linens. We welcome twin and full sheet sets and pillow cases.

School Needs

\$15 Gift Certificate to Payless Shoes for school shoes
\$20 Gift Certificate to Target for school uniforms and school clothes

Kitchen Needs

meats and cold cuts
cheeses

Thank You!

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Visit our website at
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Save The Date!

The 19th Annual Soup Kitchen Dinner will be held at Bellarmine College Preparatory on November 17, 2005. Make plans to attend this fun event. As always, there will be great food, wonderful music and a fun silent and live auction. Most importantly, proceeds directly benefit the San Jose Family Shelter. Invitations will be mailed in September.

If you would like to help, please call Trish Crowder or Beth Leary at (408) 926.8885

Volunteer Meal Teams

August 2005

Breakfast Teams

Aug 6 Sat. St. Joseph Cathedral Basilica
Aug 7 Sun. Sai Group
Aug 13 Sat. SJ Christian Reform Church
Aug 14 Sun. Sathya Group
Aug 20 Sat. Saratoga Presbyterian Church
Aug 21 Sun. Bethel Lutheran Church
Aug 27 Sat. Sathya Group
Aug 28 Sun. Evergreen Caring Heart Org.

Lunch Teams

Aug 13 Sat. Leather & Lace Motorcycle Club
Aug 20 Sat. Notre Dame Student
Aug 28 Sun. Orchids

Dinner Teams

Aug 6 Sat. St. Francis Church
Aug 7 Sun. Westminster Presbyterian Church
Aug 13 Sat. New Restoration Church
Aug 14 Sun. Campbell Church of Christ
Aug 19 Fri. St James
Aug 20 Sat. St. Justin's Parish
Aug 21 Sun. Mother's Kitchen
Aug 27 Sat. Willow Glen United Methodist
Aug 28 Sun. Good Samaritan U.M.C.

September 2005

Breakfast Teams

Sep 3 Sun. St. Joseph Cathedral Basilica
Sep 4 Sat. Sai Group
Sep 10 Sun. SJ Christian Reform Church
Sep 11 Sat. Sathya Group
Sep 17 Sun. Saratoga Presbyterian Church
Sep 18 Sat. St. John Vianney Parish
Sep 24 Sun. Sathya Group
Sep 25 Sat. Evergreen Caring Heart Group

Lunch Teams

Sep 10 Sat. GTAT
Sep 17 Sat. CRC
Sep 24 Sat. QTAT

Dinner Teams

Sep 3 Sun. St. Jude Church
Sep 4 Sat. Westminster Presbyterian Church
Sep 10 Sun. St. Stephen in the Field
Sep 11 Sat. Cavary Church
Sep 16 Fri. St. Paul
Sep 17 Sun. St. Justin's Parish
Sep 18 Sat. Immanuel Lutheran Church
Sep 24 Sun. St. Andrews Parish
Sep 25 Sat. Good Samaritan U.M.C.

Thank you to all our loyal and dedicated volunteer Meal Teams!