



Esplanade House Children's Fund

Helping the Homeless Help Themselves

EsplanadeHouseChico.com

2010



CALLING ALL GOLFERS!

The Esplanade House Children's Fund will be holding its 3rd Annual "Tee Up For Tots" golf tournament at Canyon Oaks Country Club on Monday, June 7, 2010.

SEE BACK PAGE FOR MORE INFORMATION

*Can you put together a foursome?
See the flyer on the back page!*

*Can you donate an item for our
silent auction or raffle?*

*Can you sponsor a hole and let it
advertise your business?*

Contact our tournament coordinator,
Lexi Grier at lgrier@buttecaa.com
or call 891-2977 Ext. 217.



Presented By:



EsplanadeHouseChico.com



ButteCAA.com

Graduation 2010

You're Invited!

When

Thursday, June 10th at 11 a.m.
Refreshments will be served!

Where

Our Divine Savior Catholic Church
Social Hall on E. Lassen Ave.

What

Come help celebrate what your
donations have made possible:
Joy, laughter, tears, gratitude,
smiles, sobriety, pride,
appreciation, hope!



A Resident Shares Her Story

In her own words by Olivia Belknap

I had never felt so worried in all my life; standing before the judge feeling that I had done all I could to get my daughter back. I had been sober for 9 months, gone to parenting classes and kept up with meetings. That day the judge noticed my achievements, but added, "Just one piece yet to do; you must obtain proper housing." In my heart I had known that this was coming. I was working hard to find a good place to be a home to my baby girl and myself. Seventeen days after she was detained, I put an application in at the Esplanade House, and had been calling them faithfully. I received their call just two days after my court hearing and my daughter and I moved in within a week.

I was amazed at the immediate support I was given, it was as if hands were under me to lift me up. My new neighbors helped me move what few things I could call mine into my new apartment. I began to meet with a case manager, who assessed my needs in all areas of life. Before I knew it, I had plenty of food, better beds with nice linens, and a nice set of dishes. Everyone kept saying, "These are the gifts of sobriety." Wow, this still brings tears to my eyes.

The next week, with a schedule in my hand, I was introduced to my new drug and alcohol counselors, started a budgeting class, a parenting class, daily living skills class, and even stress reduction! **With all the information I was learning and the resourceful help of my case manager I began to "plan my work, and work my plan."** Looking back, I cannot believe all the wonderful things that living at the Esplanade House has helped me accomplish.

I have learned positive parenting skills, healthy eating, and how to do self care. I went to credit counseling and I am on the road to clearing up the financial wreckage of my past. I petitioned the courts to regain the privilege to drive.

With the help of my case manager, I worked out a payment plan to get my old student loans out of default so I could go back to college. I am now finishing my second semester towards a bachelor's degree in nursing. At 34, I registered and actually voted for the first time in my life. Although these things seem unmatchable, the most amazing thing that we have accomplished is bringing my older daughters home to live with us. This has been a huge adjustment, but the Esplanade House with its flexible hand has given us support that we could not have received elsewhere.

I feel like the Esplanade House fully believed in my potential. All the staff worked closely to convince me that I could live up to that potential! In the beginning, it was so hard to grasp because I was so unsure of myself, every little thing that came up seemed mountainous. The Esplanade house has helped me shrink my obstacles down to size. They are teaching me how to navigate through those obstacles that I do not have power over, and how to change the things I do have power over!

Reading Volunteers Needed

Do you enjoy reading to children? We have started a wonderful Reading Advancement Program, and we owe a huge debt of gratitude to volunteers who make this possible. Their commitment to helping our children learn on a one-to-one basis makes an incredible difference in how quickly they learn to read. Our goal for all our children to have that one-on-one experience. Please join us in this rewarding endeavor!

We are looking for volunteers to read once a week for one hour to our toddlers ages 2-5. If you're interested please contact Lexi Grier at lgrier@buttecaa.com for more information.

News from Child Development Center

By Heather Whitacre

Happy Spring from the Children at Esplanade House! Thanks to our donors, the children enjoyed field trips to the park, the new Gateway Science Museum, and Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream (they also donated over 100 popsicles to our families...yum!).

We've had lots of changes recently! With new staff and new it has been an exciting time. We separated our preschool room into two sections; one for ages 2-3 yrs. the other for 4-6 yrs. old. This combines similar ages and learning stages and has made a huge difference in the learning environment.

Kudos to students at Chico Oaks Adventist School and Champion Christian for volunteering their time to do projects with our children and community service projects around the Esplanade House!

We continue to partner with GRUB in providing nutrition curriculum once a week for our children, and tend our on-site garden. We also joined with UC Davis Collaborative Extension Nutrition Program to provide a structured nutrition curriculum to the children and nutrition training to our preschool teachers.

A local and very talented artist, David Dan, volunteered his time to create mural artwork in both our preschool, and lobby. The children love these beautiful paintings of our natural world, as they discover new "critters" every day! Come check it out!

As you can see, we continue to focus on making the center the best it can be. We are excited to see how these changes are creating new learning opportunities for our children and their families!

We are always looking for volunteers or substitute teachers to join our team. If you are interested please contact Lexi Grier at (530) 891-2977 ext 217 or Heather Whitacre at (530) 895-6552 ext 231.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW EMPLOYEES

Nicholas "Nick" Villegas Maintenance

Nick comes to the Esplanade House with seven years of maintenance experience, and will be in charge of maintaining our campus and apartments. Nick moved to Chico from Maui in Feb. 2010 along with his wife Ariel and two sons, Acen 6 and Anthony 3.

Catherine "Cat" Moore Substance Abuse Counselor

Cat joined the Esplanade House as a substance abuse counselor in Nov. 2009. Prior to that she worked in the same capacity for Tehama County. Cat is from S.F. Bay Area and has a large family that has migrated to the North State.

Jaime Pilgrim Assistant Teacher

Jaime has been with our Children's Center since August 2009. She received her BA in Child Development from Chico State and loves working with children. She teaches in the preschool room with 4 to 6 year olds.

Amber Gubbels Assistant Teacher

Amber brings her talents to both the infant & toddler rooms and has been with our Children's Center since Feb. 2010. She is enrolled in Early Childhood Development classes at Butte College.

Kathy Peter Substitute Teacher's Aide

Kathy volunteered at our Children's Center beginning in June 2009 and became an employee in Jan. 2010. She is married with 4 children and 2 grandchildren. Kathy continues her studies in child development at Butte College.

CAN YOU HELP WITH ANY OF THE FOLLOWING?

Wish List

- Food cards for families entering the program
- Gently used clothing, men, women and children
- Household items needed to set up an apartment
- Bed linens and towels, kitchen utensils
- Tools for our maintenance needs
- Gift cards to help families with birthday gifts
- Cleaning supplies
- Paper shredder
- Microwaves

Volunteers

- Children's tutor
- Mentors for our Family Mentor Program
- Family or marriage therapist to donate a few hours of counseling
- Help with after school program for elementary school age children

Child Development Center

- Substitute teacher with 12 units ECE
- Cotton balls, tissue paper, art gems, play dough, stickers
- Washable paint, feathers, glue (sticks and liquid)
- Glitter, paint brushes, contact paper
- Outdoor equipment

Special Thanks

These are people who have committed themselves to our program and families: Janet Rauch, Maureen Daley, Omega Nu, Soroptimist, Celia Hanna, Dell Inc., Intel, Matson & Isom Technology Consulting, Barbara Schrader & Lou Boelens, Girl Scout Troop 86, Eagle Scout Candidate Shawn Fogelman, Chico Booze Fighters, Canyon Oaks Womens Golf Club & Emma Jessee.



We would like to thank the following volunteers and sponsors for making this newsletter possible on a pro-bono basis!

- ☼ **Dan Brashers, PBS Printing**
Printing/folding
- ☼ **Mike Dalling, DallingDesign.com**
Layout & Design
- ☼ **Debbie Burgess, JiffyPrint**
Camera Ready Art
- ☼ **Lynne Bussey, PR & Marketing**
Copy/editing/mailing supplies

DO YOU SHOP AT FOOD MAXX OR SAVE-MART?

Just use their "Share Card" program every time you shop, and Esplanade House will receive 3% of your purchase! Contact Lucia Navarro-Imsdahl at lnavarro@buttecaa.com for your card today! It really helps and is so easy!





Monday, June 7, 2010

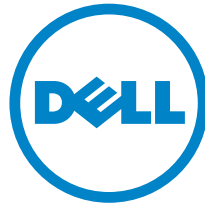
Canyon Oaks Country Club
Chico, CA

Breakfast & Registration: 8:30-10:00am
Shotgun scramble: 10:30am

Presented By:

HOLE IN ONE PRIZES

\$10,000 Cash
Carnival Bahamas Cruise
Golf package for two
Set of clubs & matching bag



TOURNAMENT PRIZES

1st Place: 4 tickets to the final round - U.S. Open in Pebble Beach, Sunday, June 20, 2010.
2nd & 3rd Place: Pro Shop Script

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE

Golf Cart Sponsorships
Hole-In-One Sponsorships
Driving Range Sponsorships
Breakfast Sponsorships
Hors D'oeuvres
Beverage Cart Sponsorships
Green Tee Sponsorships



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Lexi Grier:

lgrier@buttecaa.com

or

Gloria Rodgers

grodgers@buttecaa.com

(530) 891-2977 Phone

Benefiting the Esplanade House
Children's Fund providing services
for homeless children



EsplanadeHouseChico.com



ButteCAA.com

The Esplanade House Children's Fund. Another partnership of **Community Action Agency of Butte County, Inc.**

Helping People. Changing Lives.

