













The Spirit of Giving Starts Young

By Roylyn Burton, Community Program Specialist

The Birthday Fairy didn't visit Aiden Deleest on his birthday in December. Instead, Aiden played "shoe angel" and gathered new shoes to donate to children in need.

Aiden, who turned 9 last December, enjoyed the typical child's birthday party. He celebrated his special day with family and friends. But, instead of X-Box games and superhero toys, Aiden received new shoes. "I get so much stuff for my birthday. I wanted to give stuff to people who don't have nice things," said Aiden. So, for his birthday, all he asked for were new shoes for children. And new shoes he got.

Sharon Landis, senior social worker, received the call from Aiden's mom, Mina, with the news of the shoe donation. "My day at work was an ordinary day, until I received a mother's phone call saying her 9-year-old son wanted to hand-deliver the shoes he collected from his birthday party. The day became so much more because it was about the heart of a little boy that cares!" exclaimed Landis.

Aiden, along with his younger brother, Eli, younger sister, Ava, and mom, delivered the shoes and spent a few minutes touring the office. Aiden is no stranger to giving. According to Mina, Aiden saved up his chore money to sponsor a child through the Christian organization, World Vision. "He has a very giving heart. I was very blessed by him. I thought he was going to learn something through this, but it turns out, I was the one who learned how to be a blessing to others," Mina said.





A Home for Every Child: Meet Eve

ve is a friendly, charming and engaging teenage girl. She has many interests including music, art (specifically drawing and painting), reading, and watching Anime cartoons. Eve also enjoys playing video games, playing the trumpet in the marching band and socializing with friends. Eve aspires to attend college, majoring in Performing and Visual Arts. She also would like to learn to play the piano and the violin.

Eve loves bookstores and music shops. Her favorite type of music is metal and hard rock. She likes to express herself and one way to do this is her preference in dressing in black clothing. Her favorite colors are black, white and red. Eve loves

animals and is quick to assist in taking care of any family pets. Eve identifies herself as a vegetarian, although reportedly does not like most vegetables; deferring to pasta and pizza.

A stable, loving home, where she is a valued member of the family, would give Eve the opportunity to meet her full potential. Eve voiced that she would like a family who would allow her to be herself and express herself. A family who shares her love of art, music, and animals would be most ideal. Please contact the Adoption Matching Coordinators, Margot Umemoto at (714) 704-8945 or Elizabeth McConnell at (714) 704-8944 if you can open your heart and home to Eve.











California Partnership Plan for Children in Out-of-Home Care

By Michael Manchester, Foster Care Licensing

The California Partnership Plan for Children in Out-of-Home Care will be incorporated into our placement practices and is one of the documents that caregivers and assigned social workers will sign after placement of a foster child. This document was developed by the California State Department of Social Services in collaboration with 17 California counties, as part of the Quality Parenting Initiative (QPI). The plan will not replace county and state laws and regulations but we will attempt to apply the laws and regulations in QPI-style.

Caregivers and child welfare agency staff alike believe that our foster children need normal child-hoods as well as loving and skillful parenting. This form of parenting will allow the children to honor their loyalty to their biological family while giving them the freedom to bond with their foster family. We are aware that none of us can succeed in strengthening and improving our approach to caring for children and families in crisis by ourselves.

Some of the caregiver commitments outlined in the partnership plan include:

Caregivers, child welfare agency staff and the families of foster children will work together in a respectful and positive partnership, creating a safe and nurturing space in which children can thrive.

Caregivers will provide excellent parenting; fully incorporate children into their family; support children's ties to their biological and extended family; advocate for the children in all areas of their lives; honor the children's connection to their religion, culture and ethnicity.

Likewise, agency staff will commit to:

Allow the best possible outcomes for the success of the placements; provide information, support and collaboration to the caregivers; provide all services and resources necessary to enable the caregivers to provide quality care for the foster child; provide information on expectations of excellent parenting; be responsive and available to caregivers.

These are just a few of the items that are detailed in the California Partnership Plan for Children in Out-of-Home Care. We invite you to continue this journey with us in doing everything we can to improve the life-long outcomes for our children.

To learn more about QPI, attend one of three scheduled forums held in the Annex Auditorium, 744 N. Eckhoff St., in Orange. The dates are: Monday, January 13 at 7 p.m. and Tuesday, January 14 at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.



Foster Care Auxiliary

The Foster Care Auxiliary always strives to offer the most services, trainings, events, and products to our foster families.

Available to our members:

Computers for Foster Students Program
Support Group
Lending Library of Foster and Child Care
Related Material
Baby Gear Lending Program
Foster Parent Training Opportunities
Fun Family Events
Scholarships
Birthday Corner
Monthly Distribution Days of new items obtained from community resources
Thrift Store with deeply discounted, used donations
A network of foster families available for support and help

Visit our web site or contact us if you are interested in joining! 333 S. Brookhurst St. Anaheim, CA 92804 FosterCareAux@yahoo.com / (714) 778-3383 www.FosterCareAux.com

Join the Board

The Foster Care Advisory Board meeting is held every other month on a Wednesday from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. at 800 N. Eckhoff Street in Orange. Attendees include licensed foster parents and Children and Family Services Management Team members and discuss training opportunities, events, budget, and other information regarding the care of foster children. For more information, please contact Joanna Hussey at (714) 704-8255 or e-mail Joanna.Hussey@ssa.ocgov.com.

Upcoming meeting dates:

January 22, 2014 March 26, 2014 May 28, 2014 July 23, 2014 September 24, 2014



Faith in Motion & Community Partners Provide Thanksgiving Meals



hree churches supplied Thanksgiving meals to families who would have otherwise gone without this past Thanksgiving. Orange Hills Assembly in Orange provided 36 Thanksgiving dinner bags complete with items to make sides, dessert and a grocery store gift card for the turkey. Sound Chapel in Santa Ana gave five, large baskets filled with dinner staples, a fresh, pumpkin pie, a gallon of milk, and a frozen turkey. Tustin Calvary Chapel delivered hot dinners on Thanksgiving day to 2,000 families in the city of Tustin which included our caregivers and emancipated youth. It is partners like these who make all the difference in the lives of our children and families. Thank you to all who gave of their time and resources to make Thanksgiving a special one for so many in need.

Foster & Kinship Care Education

The foster and kinship care education program at Saddleback College provides quality education and support opportunities to caregivers of children in out-of-home care. The free classes are designed to assist the caregivers in meeting the children's educational, emotional, behavioral, and developmental needs.

In order for foster parents to meet their annual eight hours of training, monthly classes are offered throughout Orange County. To view classes, visit www.saddle-back.edu/fkce or call (949) 582-4884 to request a class catalog and to register for classes.



Meetings will be held in comfortable settings...like a park...and children of all ages are welcome!

for more information, contact cynthia bradbury, licensed foster parent, at (714) 588-4316 or at cbradbury@socal.rr.com.

Relative Support Services Available

live Crest's "Relatives Raising Children" is a Kinship Support Services Program, funded by the California Department of Social Services, to provide support services to any relative caregiver or non-extended family member caring for someone else's child in Orange County. Juvenile court dependency is not required.

Because we care about your family, we offer kinship support groups in English and Spanish throughout the county. If you are a relative caregiver or you know one needing support, kinship related information or if you want to help in some way, please contact us at (714) 543-5437 or visit our website at www.olivecrest.org/kinship.

El Programa de Olive Crest "Criando al Hijo del Pariente" es un programa de servicios de apoyo para personas que están criando a niños de la familia. El programa está financiado por el Departamento de Servicios Sociales de California, para proporcionar servicios de apoyo en el Condado de Orange.

Los grupos de apoyo del programa están disponibles en inglés y español en varias partes del condado y se enfocan en las necesidades específicas de familias que están criando a niños de la familia. Si usted es padre de crianza de un niño de la familia o conoce a alguien que esté buscando este tipo de apoyo e información relacionado al programa, o si usted quiere ayudar de algún modo, por favor póngase en contacto con nosotros llamando al (714) 543-5437 o visite nuestro sitio web en www.olivecrest. org/kinship.





Free Spanish Support Groups for Relatives

La Habra Family Resource Center

- Meet other relatives who are raising children who are not their own
- Receive and give emotional support
- Receive community resource information

La Habra Family Resource Center 301 W. Las Lomas Dr.
La Habra 90631
6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Every 1st Wednesday of the month (January 8 and February 5)
Child care is provided.

To register, call (714) 447-3460 and press 0.

Grupos de apoyo para parientes criando al hijo de un familiar.

Acompáñenos y conozca a otras personas que están criando al hijo de un familiar.

- Reciba y brinda apoyo emocional
- Reciba información sobre recursos en la comunidad

Habrá cuidado de niños.

Llame para apuntarse al (714) 447-3460 y oprima 0.

Cada primer miércoles del mes: enero 8 y febrero 5.

Women's Therapy Support Group



HD, INC. Psychology Services is pleased to partner with The Foster Care Auxiliary. Discounts available for caretakers in Foster Care Auxiliary families.

Description: This is a process group designed to help each member learn how to re-claim their lives by learning the skills to eliminate the effects and symptoms of life/trauma and by replacing with multiple modalities for self care within the supportive environment.

Cost: \$40/week or \$160/month 2140 W. Chapman Ave., Suite 253

Orange, CA 92868

Office: (714) 264-9446; Fax: (714) 538-7680

www.lhdinc.net lhdinc1@gmail.com

Directory

FOSTER CARE INFORMATION LINE (888) 871-KIDS (5437)

CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES RECEPTION

(714) 704-8000

(714) 935-7584 (emergencies & after hours)

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Michael Riley Social Services Director

Mike Rvan

Social Services Chief Deputy Director

Gary Taylor

Children & Family Services Director

Anne Bloxom

CFS Deputy Director

Susan Holl

CFS Deputy Director

Christine Smith Snapper **CFS Deputy Director**

Jorge Solé

CFS Deputy Director

RESOURCE FAMILY RECRUITMENT, LICENSING & **DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

Paula Kitchen, Program Manager

RECRUITMENT & DEVELOPMENT

Jim Deming, Supervisor (714) 704-8230

Roylyn Burton, Community Program Specialist (714) 746-2778

*Juan Herrera, Recruiter/Trainer (714) 704-8242

Sharon Landis. Recruiter/Trainer (714) 704-8257

*Yazmin Leal, Staff Specialist (714) 704-8828

*Lorena Rodriguez, Information Line (888) 871-5437

Robert Waddington, Recruiter/Trainer (714) 704-8256

FOSTER & KINSHIP CARE LIAISON

*Joanna Hussey (714) 704-TALK (8255)

LICENSING

Brent Payne, Supervisor (714) 704-8887

Donna Avise (714) 704-8821

*Nena Casis (714) 704-6102

Colette Kim-Abiog (714) 704-6105

Michael Manchester (714) 704-8819

*George Reves (714) 704-8896

**Lianne Vu (714) 704-8811

*Angelica Zikoor (714) 704-8838

BIRTHDAY GIFTS FOR FOSTER CHILDREN

Mona Gustafson (714) 679-2438 Call for an appointment

EMERGENCY SHELTER HOME (ESH)

*Estela Ahuero (714) 935-8104

TRANSITIONAL PLANNING SERVICES PROGRAM

Jaime Muñoz, Program Manager

*Irene Briggs, Supervisor (714) 940-3965

Ilan Wolf, Supervisor (714) 704-8314

MULTIDIMENSIONAL TREATMENT FOSTER CARE (MTFC)

Dr. Mary Eason, Program Supervisor (714) 704-8238

Terry Maher, Program Supervisor (714) 704-4122

Michelle Medina, Recruiter/Trainer

Denise Odom. Recruiter/Trainer

(714) 704-8837

(714) 704-8835

SPECIAL MEDICAL PROGRAM

Karen Werno, Placement Coordinator (714) 704-8533

Mary Ewart, Medical Intake Coordinator (714) 704-8531

Cindy Hutchison, Medial Intake Coordinator (714) 704-8531

TIME OUT FOR PARENTS (TOPS)

New Alternatives, Inc. (714) 245-0045

WORKING CAREGIVER CHILDCARE

*Karen Pinkerton (714) 704-6145

FOSTER & KINSHIP CARE EDUCATION

Saddleback College (949) 582-4884

FOSTER CARE ADVISORY BOARD

Sallie Miller (714) 848-2558 Karen Templeton (714) 556-5250

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUPS

Fountain Valley

Sallie Miller (714) 848-2558

Huntington Beach/Parents of Teens Jessie Damerval (714) 848-0347

Single Parents (Male/Female) Cynthia Bradbury (714) 843-6835

Foster Care Auxiliary/Anaheim Kathy Harvey (714) 778-3383

Orange/Spanish Support *Joanna Hussey (714) 704-8255

ORGANIZATIONS

California Children's Services (CCS) (714) 347-0300

CalOPTIMA

Liaison (714) 246-8864 Member Services (714) 246-8500 Claims Department (714) 246-8885

Child Health & Disability Program (CHDP) (800) 564-8448

Denti-Cal (800) 322-6384

Foster Care Auxiliary of Orange County (714) 778-3383/www.fostercareaux.com

Kinship Center (714) 957-1004

Olive Crest Kinship Support Program Helen Lindsey

(714) 543-5437 ext. 1211

Orange County Mental Health (714) 834-5015

Vision Services Plan (800) 877-7195

*Spanish Speaking

**Vietnamese Speaking

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