



H.I.S. House News

January 2005

Upcoming Boutique to Feature Stylish Bargains

An eclectic selection of vintage clothes and jewelry will be on sale at the HIS House Boutique on Saturday, March 5. Guests may select from new and gently used garments that will add the perfect compliment to your existing wardrobe.

The Boutique will be held at the Placentia Presbyterian Church between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Carolyn Holmes, new chairwoman of the Community Resource Committee reports that vendors have also been invited and she hopes many will bring their new accessory items and make them available to all who come to the Boutique.

For those members of the community who might already be planning to attend the Library's Author's Luncheon fundraiser that same morning, we would encourage you to stop by the Boutique before going to the lunch and pick up a new bauble to wear or handbag to carry your keys in.

With an event like this, you can never be too sure just what exciting treasure will be waiting for you. Stop by on your way home and check it out.

Upcoming Events

Boutique	March 5
Give to Family-to-Family	Today
Tea and Fashion Show	May 21
Wine Tasting & Auction	August 26

Walkathon a Sunny Success

By Jean Turner

The sky was blue, air was crisp, rain had ceased and trees surrounding the lake at Tri-City Park framed vistas of snow-covered mountains to the east when Eileen Hoggard arrived on Saturday, January 15, 2005, to support HIS House's third annual Walkathon. While chairperson Jean Turner and a crew of volunteers were setting up the registration and snack area at Shelter #1, Eileen began striding around the lake before 8 a.m. and completed 12 circuits prior to her departure. Not only did she walk the farthest of the 35+ participants, but the pledges she collected provided over one-third of the total \$1,500 raised by event.

Deane Cassidy, with the help of Rupal Ramani, who volunteers regularly with child care, solicited the help of seven El Dorado High School volunteers. They signed folks in, set



Eileen Hoggard makes one more lap for HIS House

out and distributed snacks and punched participant cards as walkers completed each circuit of the lake.

Several board and community resource members provided water and snacks and many also came out to walk. Carolyn Gaffney spread peanut butter on crackers to tempt walkers to stop by and partake of refreshments.

Since New Year's Day will fall on a Sunday next year, look for a repeat event early in January 2006.

Introducing 2005 Board of Directors

The following Executive Board has been elected and committee chairs have been selected to serve HIS House for 2005. They can be contacted via our website.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

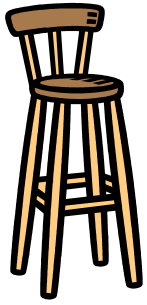
Chair— John Marshall
Vice Chair— Jim Gaffney
Recording Secretary— Jeannine Ford
Corresp. Secretary— Barbara Goff
Treasurer— Ted Mar
Past Chair — Ken Kleckner
Member-At-Large — Monica Banas
At-Large/Mailings— Ann Walling
Director— Teri Niebuhr

STANDING COMMITTEES

Community Resources— Carolyn Holmes
Admission & Interviews— Frank Campbell
Assist. Treasurer— Betty Orr
Donations in Kind— Jane Seymour
Facilities/Maintenance— Roy Buck
Grants— Elaine VanDeventer
Health & Safety— Marlene Stewart
Newsletter— Kathy Frazee
Policies/Procedures— Dave VanDeventer
Support, Track And Review (STAR) — Deane Cassidy

AD HOC COMMITTEES

Publicity— Betty Escobosa
Office Volunteers — Marlene Stewart
Website — Eric Schreiner
Legal — Monica Banas



A VIEW FROM THE CORNER "CHAIR"

By John Marshall

Last year ended with a successful auction in November, which netted the shelter roughly \$25,000. We

were also the recipients of a number of personal and corporate donations in the month of December that helped us finish the year ahead of budget on revenue. Our expenses were in line with the budget at \$225,000.

One way you may contribute to H.I.S. House is through our Family-to-Family program. This is a \$50 donation, at least once per year, whereby your family helps support one of the families in the shelter in one of the 16 expense areas. These include everything from child care to building maintenance. One of our goals this

year is to double our Family-to-Family giving. We will be talking more about this in future issues. Please see the attached coupon in this publication.

Besides increasing our Family-to-Family giving this year, we have several other goals that I would highlight:

- Increase the graduation rate in our program from 50 percent to 65 percent. This is the number of people who successfully complete our program in 4-6 months. (According to our Director a 50 percent rate is already quite high).
- Expand our Community Resource committee by at least 3 people from other churches

and organizations in town.

- Increase our mailing list by at least 250 people.
- Offer additional counseling services to our residents to help them improve some of their practical skills in such areas as financial planning, nutrition, and smart shopping.
- Remodel our office area.
- Upgrade the bathroom areas in the house with new lighting, paint, etc.
- Evaluate alternative sources of funding through the Community Resource Committee.
- Increase storage capacity on the sides of the house.
- Improve the heating and cooling efficiency of the building.
- Investigate adding playground equipment.

Your continued support of this mission helps to make Placentia, "A Pleasant Place."

Community Good Will Brightened Holiday Season

By Teri Niebuhr

December is always a joyful time at H.I.S. House, with Christmas parties and gifts galore. On December 22 Kent Clayton, CEO of Placentia Linda Hospital came by with not one but two gifts - \$3,000 from the physicians of Placentia Linda and \$4,500 from the Tenet Healthcare Foundation. Thank you both for supporting those less fortunate in your community.

Christmas at H.I.S. House means parties, oodles of presents, goodies and homemade stockings. Thanks to the following groups for making Christmas, for our residents, a day to remember:

North Cities Quilt Guild, La Habra Christian Church, Anaheim Vietnamese Christian Church, Sons of Norway, Luan Cox and her Soccer Team, St. Stephen Lutheran Church, Boeing, Stein Mart,



Director Teri Niebuhr accepts gift for HIS House from Kent Clayton.

Boy Scout Troop 99, YMCA, Shinnyoi-En USA Buddhist Order, Corvette Supersports, Gae & Hugh Wood, Brenda Benner, Placentia Linda Hospital Guild, St. Mary Magdalen Anglican Church, Ladies Workout Express, The De La Pena and Seymour Families, Placentia Roundtable Women's Club, Eastside Christian Church, Blessed Sacrament Church, Curves of Anaheim and Placentia, U.S. Post Office-Anaheim Distribution Center, Valencia High School Peer Leadership, St. Joseph Catholic School.

Find HIS House On the Web

For the latest information about HIS House Log on to www.hishouseplacentia.org

Our webmaster, Eric Schreiner, has created a user-friendly website for the Shelter. You can sign up to obtain future newsletters from the website and save HIS House the cost of postage.

You can also contact any of the listed Board members through the hot links found there. If you have questions about an event, checking the website may provide the answer you need.

Eric welcomes all friendly suggestions for making the website "slicker" or more user-friendly. He also appreciates other ideas you may have for the content of the site.



Director's Note



Iman El Haj Ibrahim joins HIS House staff as case manager.

I would like to introduce our new part-time case manager, Iman El Haj Ibrahim. Born in Morocco and raised in California, she is the second eldest of five children. Iman is a graduate of California State University Fullerton where she earned a Bachelors Degree in Human Services. This fall, Iman will be applying to the University of California at Riverside graduate school where she will study Human Relations.

In addition to performing case management at H.I.S. House and 913 (our second step program) Iman is a counselor at Canyon Acres home for emotionally disturbed children.

In her spare time, Iman enjoys music and spending time with her fiancé Kevin.

New Policy Implemented to Counter Rising Costs in Orange County

By Elaine VanDeventer

How can we help the most??

That was the topic of discussion at the recent January Board Meeting. What presented the greatest obstacle in helping our residents achieve the goal of independence and self-sufficiency? Statistics recently presented in the *Los Angeles Times*, based on the U. S. Department of Labor studies, were discouraging for our population. The cost of living in Orange County is the sixth highest in the nation. (Yes, northern California is higher). The cost of housing in our community accounts for more than 34 percent of the average household budget, with the typical one-bedroom apartment in north Orange County now renting for \$800-\$1,000 per month! This same article pointed out that it would take more than \$17.50 per hour, working full time, for a resident to even afford rent and basic living expenses in our area. So how does someone who averages perhaps \$7.50 per hour survive in the community? How does this person overcome inability to increase wages to a meaningful living standard? And what can we best do to help?

Occasionally we get residents who are employed at that \$17 per hour range—or even more. These

residents have had some personal disaster upset their ability to survive, and our four-month stay is enough to allow them to save money and get on with their lives. But for those who do not have the job skills, who perhaps do not have sufficient education, or whose own personal problems have hampered their ability to obtain better employment, our four-month stay does not appear to allow them time to save enough to get them “on their feet.” Even with two parents working, with assistance providing food and clothing and child care expenses, and saving the suggested 80 percent of their earnings, these families often fall short. And the single parent, with only one salary, faces an even more insurmountable problem.

The Board decided that one change, which should have an immediate positive impact, would be the extension of stay to six months. This extension would be granted to those who are actively working with their case manager, employed full-time, meeting personal goals, and following shelter rules. At the end of the six-month period, these H.I.S. House “graduates” would then be eligible to enter the second step program at 913 N. Bradford, if space was available, where they could live for an additional six months, while paying minimal rent (averaging \$300 per month) and utilities. Our hope is that at the end of the full program, our graduates will be on their way to a better future. Thank you for your gifts that help us help others to a happier tomorrow.



Parking Bicycles, Made Easy

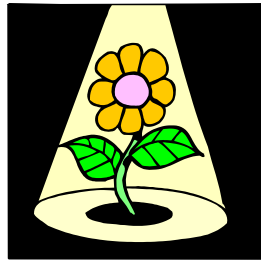
Ask and you shall receive, and that's what happened when Eagle Scout candidate, Jeff Johnson, came calling and asked what type of project the shelter needed. And the staff had the perfect project, a bicycle rack. Why? Because the shelter is fortunate to have bicycles donated for our

kids and adults on a regular basis. H.I.S House had a problem, too many bikes and no place to store them so Jeff and his troop came to the rescue. Not only did he and his team build a bicycle rack for six but they built a new utility door to replace the worn and peeling existing door. Thank you to Jeff and his team.

Volunteer Spotlight

Several positions on the board are now filled by individuals who have not served in the past. We introduce them to you here.

Ted Mar, his wife and two girls have lived in Fullerton for the last 20 years. They are active members of the Placentia Presbyterian Church (PPC) where Ted served a term as an Elder and Deacon. He currently works in Costa Mesa for Griswold Industries, a manufacturer of commercial valves, as their manager of cost accounting. Ted first heard of HIS House through PPC and has always



supported this ministry financially, helped out with the auctions, and now looks forward to serving as the Treasurer.

Anaheim resident Jeannine Ford has been a member of PPC since 1969 where she ushers, sings in the Celebration Choir, and serves as an Elder. Jeannine works at Experian Information Solutions, Inc. in Costa Mesa as a contracts manager. She became involved in HIS House when Frank Campbell, a member of the HIS House committee, asked if she were interested in becoming part of the HIS House board. Jeannine replied in the positive and serves as the Recording Secretary.

Carolyn Holmes has lived in Placentia for 18 years and is a member of Blessed Sacrament Church. A year ago she retired from the J & C

Construction company, which she owned with her husband John. Carolyn has volunteered for 30 years in various capacities for all three auxiliaries of the Long Beach Children's Hospital. It is this experience in fundraising that she brings to her new role as Community Resources Chairwoman. Thanks to Marion Hetherington for introducing Carolyn to HIS House.

Jim Gaffney and his wife Carolyn have supported the shelter in many ways over the past years as active volunteers. Jim is very familiar with the maintenance schedule of the shelter and he participates regularly in fundraising activities. Jim and Carolyn have lived in Placentia for 22 years and are members of Eastside Christian Church. Jim has made the three-year commitment this year to be Vice-chair. This position then moves into the Chairmanship and follows up with the role of Past-chair.

Please keep these volunteers in your prayers.

Prize Money Shared with HIS House



Diane Crawford gives check to Teri Niebuhr

Have you shopped at Savon on Rose and Yorba Linda Blvds.? Well, chances are you have probably been served by Diane Crawford the most courteous customer service representative in the United States.

Diane competed with other customer service representatives all over the country and won! Her prize was \$2,000; \$1,000 to keep and \$1,000 to donate to a charity of her choice and she chose H.I.S. House. Congratulations, Diane and thank you for choosing H.I.S. House.

Family-to-Family Program

Family-to-family is our community challenge gift-giving program where one family supports another. Beginning its fourth year, this program is based on an annual contribution of at least \$50.00 per family.

Monies donated this quarter will be used for Counseling Services.



Participants last quarter include:

- Rex and Kay Hovey
- Jim and Carolyn Gaffney
- Lawrence and Carol Doeling
- John and Patricia Hayes
- Frank and Jackie Campbell
- Al and Mary Strazdas
- Blessed Sacrament Church Outreach

Yes, we want to join the Family-to-Family Program. Our family promises to donate at least \$50 for the support of a H.I.S. House family this year and succeeding years so long as we have sufficient income. Our check is enclosed for 2005.

Name _____

Address _____

_____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

The Garden Gallery

Of Old Towne Orange



Hosts
"An Afternoon in the Park"
Fundraiser
For
H.I.S. House Transitional Shelter



Saturday, April 23, 2005

Please join us for "An Afternoon in the Park" fundraiser from 11:00-4:00. Let's all join in and make a difference in helping a family start over again! 3 ways to help **H.I.S. House**:

1. All \$ donations accepted. Please make checks payable to **H.I.S. House**.
2. 25% of all sales on April 23 at **The Garden Gallery** will be donated back to **H.I.S. House**.
3. Bring any of the following and fill our **Helping Hands House**:

Gift certificates- Walmart, Target, Payless Shoes, gas vouchers, grocery store gift certificates, personal hygiene- deodorant, toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, body wash, pillows, household cleaning supplies, bath towels, kitchen towels, non perishable food, toilet paper, paper towels, diapers, sheets for twin beds, back packs, school supplies, adult and children bikes, bike helmets.

Most men, women and children come to the shelter with very little. Please help **The Garden Gallery** put smiles on these family's faces and offer a gift certificate for a new pair of shoes, a coat, gas for their car or a bike to ride to work so they can start work and get back on their feet again. My family and I were once residents at **HIS House** and because of the *ENDLESS LOVE* and generosity of people like you, I am now back on my feet. So, please join us at **The Garden Gallery** for "An Afternoon in the Park" and help make this fundraiser a huge success!!!!!!

Events for the day.....

- Villa Park High School Jazz Band and Marching Band will be performing with beautiful music from 12:00p.m. To 2:00p.m.....
- For the kids we will have a Bounce House.....
- Artists will be painting in the Gardens.....
- Hoagie sandwiches, chips, drinks and dessert for sale, provided by P.J.'s Abbey Restaurant.....
- Kettle Korn.....

"**LOVE**" is the word for the day.....Please join us in some fun spreading the word "**LOVE**" around!!!!!!!!!!

If interested in volunteering for this event and would like to help set up, clean up or organize, please call **The Garden Gallery** (714) 516-9337 and leave your name and telephone number and we will be glad to call you back and ask for your help to make this a Super Successful Fundraiser for **H.I.S. House**. We look forward to hearing from you.

THE GARDEN GALLERY 403 W. CHAPMAN AVENUE, ORANGE, CA 92866
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