

Ettie Lee's RESIDE

Saving Lives, Changing Lives and Building Hope for Children and Families in Family-Like Settings

October 2008

ETTIE LEE YOUTH & FAMILY Services provides the following services for abused, abandoned and neglected children:

- Nurturing, loving environments, for boys 8-17, in 9 group homes
- Adoption Agency
- A network of more than 35 loving foster families
- Permanent placement for boys and girls of all ages
- Fully accredited substance abuse treatment
- Outpatient after-school mental health programs
- Evidence-based treatment program

A New Beginning

For Melody, Wally, Hailey, Bradley and Savannah



Bottom: Ettie Lee Foster/Adopt moms and children, (l to r) Blanca Espadas and Melody (2), Adrianna Pino and Wally (3) and Maria Lara and Hailey (6). Top: Outside Foster/Adopt mom Irene Velazquez with older siblings Bradley (8) and Savannah (7).

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Remember Ettie Lee Youth & Family Services when you designate your United Way gift.

Ettie Lee Youth & Family Services completed our first adoption in February 2008. What could be better than that you might ask? Ettie Lee completed their second adoption on August 18...That's when Esmerelda Mendoza and Alvaro Salazar formally adopted Michael. Michael has been with the couple since he was a few days old.

There's more! Ettie Lee completed three more adoptions on Friday August 22. Melody 2, Wally 3 and Hailey 6—all siblings were adopted by three of our foster families. Hailey was adopted by Maria Lara. Hailey has been in Maria's home for a year. Wally was adopted by Adrianna and Mauro Pino who took him in as a foster child two years ago. Melody was adopted by Ettie Lee foster parents Blanca and Isidro Espadas. Melody has been with her family since birth.

What? More? On the same day that Melody, Wally and Hailey were adopted, their two older siblings Bradley and Savannah were also adopted by Irene Velazquez a foster/adopt mom outside of Ettie Lee.

What makes this a most unique situation are the positive relationships that were formed between ALL of the adoptive parents—including the "outside" family. Every month ALL of the families get together. Although they will not see each other every day, they will see each other throughout the year because the parents know how important it is for all of the siblings to have each other.

And, Sandra Johnson, our foster family/adoption agency director, reported that in the next couple of months, she hopes to have finalized five more adoptions!

From the President's Desk



Clayton Downey

On October 22, 2008 the Oak Knolls home in Azusa will formally become the **Linda Brandes Home**. We are in the final planning stages of the formal dedication

ceremony. The board of directors of Ettie Lee will host dignitaries from the surrounding city, county and state governments, local businesses and agencies as well as donors, VIP's and the press. All gathered will celebrate long time donor Linda Brandes.

Linda Brandes has been a friend of Ettie Lee Youth & Family Services since 1996. She has been generous with her resources and has realized first hand that she can make a significant difference in the lives of the vulnerable children that Ettie Lee serves.

Several years ago Linda came to our rescue when she generously gave half of the funds needed to fully update Ettie Lee's technology needs. Other grantors then quickly followed, noting that half of the multi-thousand dollars of funding that was needed had already been received.

In 2006 Linda's generosity allowed us to carry out the long overdue, and very expensive, capital improvements at our nine homes. We were able to install new windows and flooring, purchase and install commercial stoves, water heaters, pool covers, tables and benches. We painted home exteriors, landscaped and repaired broken sidewalks and driveways as well as replaced furnishings.

And most recently, in 2007 Linda continued to demonstrate her commitment to Ettie Lee as her philanthropy reaches \$1,000,000.00.

The home has been called Oak Knolls because of the many oak trees that surround the property. The home, built in the 1920's, was the estate of a prominent doctor and his wife Helen Ovard. Upon her death many years ago, Mrs. Ovard donated the property to Ettie Lee. It is our only 2-story building that is home to eleven boys. Although the home has been adapted for our residents, it still has some of the fancy architectural details such as the two turret rooms.

Spotlight On

Tobi Nishikawa



Tobi Nishikawa has been working at Ettie Lee for over six years serving as our Lead Intake Social Worker. What is an Intake Social Worker, you ask? Tobi explains it this way.

Ettie Lee has a unique intake program. Unlike similar organizations, Ettie Lee employs licensed therapists as intake social workers, which makes the placement process more efficient. Tobi explained that having a therapist works as an advantage for prospective residents because they know the appropriate factors to look for when placing a resident into one of our homes. These factors include gang affiliation; behavior (timid, aggressive etc.), age and ethnicity which help determine

which group home is best suited for the boy.

As the lead intake social worker, Tobi wears many hats. She is a therapist, an organizer, a screener, an evaluator and a publicist. Tobi works hard to keep our beds full at our nine group homes. She frequently acts as a spokesperson for Ettie Lee when she meets with probation officials, officers and the Department of Child and Family Services. She has to be ready at a moments notice when she is called to evaluate potential residents from all over the four counties we serve. Her success is made possible in part by the others in the intake department which include Alva Stewart, Intake Social Worker and Cindy Thatcher, Intake Coordinator.

An Opportunity For You

Kingsport Advisors is proud to be working with Ettie Lee Youth and Family Services on a new fundraising program. This program provides a way for donors and friends of Ettie Lee to turn their insurability into an asset. This program can provide those who participate with the ability to make some money for their families and also to leave a large gift to Ettie Lee without taking any money out of their pockets.

If insurable, a donor can apply for an insurance policy that will be fully financed with no out of pocket cost. All or a portion of the death benefit of this policy can be pledged to Ettie Lee upon the death of the insured, or if the insured finds that he no longer wants the

policy after holding it for two years, it may be shopped around to a growing secondary market that will purchase the policy for an amount greater than the cost of

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financing. The excess amount can then be given in whole or in part to Ettie Lee to provide for needed services today and the growth of an endowment for tomorrow. In addition there are some tax benefits that might prove important to you through this program.

If you are between the ages of 70 and 85 and in relatively good health, you might want to look into this opportunity to benefit you, your family and Ettie Lee Youth and Family Services.

Please call Vicki Mastro at 626-960-4861 today to schedule a no obligation appointment to review if this program is applicable to you. The children and staff of Ettie Lee appreciate your support and look forward to your investigating this outstanding program.

How Do I Write a Bequest to Ettie Lee?

Everyone should have a will! However 6 out of 10 people do not. Making a provision in your will for our organization is a simple process. Such bequests can be included in your will as its creation or added and updated later by a codicil.

When making a bequest, it is important to name precisely the individuals and organizations you intend to benefit. By avoiding generalities such as a common name for an organization, you avoid confusion or possible litigation and ensure that your donation reached its intended beneficiary.

While not necessary, it is helpful to make us aware that we are being named in your will. This way you can be sure your bequest will be executed in the manner you intended. In addition, Ettie Lee Youth & Family Services would like to recognize donors who have named us in their wills. Furthermore, public recognition of your generosity can inspire others to consider supporting Ettie Lee Youth & Family Services.

There are two different ways to make gifts to us through your will, with varying tax benefits. The simplest and most popular approach is an outright bequest. Below is the wording you can use when writing a charitable bequest to us:

“I, (name), of (city, state, zip), give, devise and bequeath to Ettie Lee Youth & Family Services, 5146 N. Maine Ave., Baldwin Park, CA 91706, (written amount or percentage of he estate or description of property) for its unrestricted use and purpose.”

We would be happy to consult with you on your particular needs, questions or concerns. Please feel free to contact the Development Office at 626-960-4861, Ext. 3111 at your convenience and at no obligation to you.

WISH LIST

(new or gently used items are accepted)

Household items

- Throw rugs for bedrooms
- Light switch covers for bedrooms
- Pictures for bathroom walls
- Shower mats
- Blankets for twin beds
- Alarm clocks
- Books for boys age 8-17
- Pillows and Pillow protectors
- Gift cards for book stores
- Couches
- Board Games
- Pool sticks

Personal Items

- Wall posters for bedrooms
- White towels and wash cloths
- Beach Towels
- Sun Block
- Hygiene supplies
- Super Cuts gift certificates
- Backpacks
- Prepaid phone cards

- Hand held electronic games
- CD players
- Grey undershirts (all sizes)
- Gift cards to clothes and shoe stores

Outdoor Activities

- Sports equipment (excluding baseball bats)
- Karate, Music or Art Lessons
- Ping Pong Tables

Fun Things To Do

- Art supplies
- Movie theater passes

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This is just a partial list! If you have an idea but don't know if we could use it, please call Vicki Mastro 626-960-4861.

Thanks so much.

DONATE YOUR VEHICLE

www.cars4causes.com

OR CALL 1-800-766-CARE

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Proceeds can benefit:

Ettie Lee Youth & Family Services

Let ***cars4causes***

know when you call or donate on line

Ettie Lee Youth & Family Services is a tax exempt 501(c)(3) organization.

To contact us, call 626-960-4861.

Ettie Lee operates in the counties of Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Orange and Riverside.

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gratefully acknowledges all our donors. If your name is inadvertently missing or misspelled, please call Vicki Mastro at 626-960-4861 so that we can make a correction in our next newsletter.

Every Picture Tells A Story



April 2008

From left to right: Clayton Downey, Ettie Lee President/CEO, JoAnn Lockett, Home Sponsor Chairwoman and Carmen Perry, Ettie Lee Board Member at CUW's Spring Luncheon



May 2008

Matthew Rutherford from Boy Scout Troop 644 delivered 10 quilts recently. In the background is Ettie Lee President/CEO Clayton Downey. Ettie Lee tries to give a handmade quilt to each boy leaving our care.



May 2008

An army of Big Sunday volunteers spent the day sprucing up our Oak Knolls home in Azusa. The group activity was spearheaded by Sandy Cobos and the Big Sunday organization.



September 2008

Target volunteers prepped and painted three bedrooms in our John Eccles home in Baldwin Park. Paul Sledd led the group.



September 2008

Target, Rosemead donated school supplies this year. This was coordinated by Paul Sledd, Human Resources Team Leader, pictured on the right and accepted by Vicki Mastro (in white shirt).



June 2008

Welcome, Sarah Caperton, volunteer extraordinaire. Sarah has been assisting at the Maine office as well as our Foster Family/Adoption Agency in Covina. Let us know if you or someone you might know wants to volunteer.



September 2008

Students, led by Ashley Hemphill, from Intercoast College in West Covina brought school supplies and new clothes for our foster kids. They will also be getting involved with us more as we approach the holiday season.



July 2008

Over the summer boys from our Oak Knolls Home in Azusa enjoyed some time at Raging Waters in San Dimas. Each and every month, Friends of Foster Children fills needs such as community outings, video games, board games, books, athletic equipment, cameras, clothing, art supplies as well as some medical expenses and home furnishings. During the Christmas Holidays they fulfill the three wishes of each of our group home residents.



August 2008

Linda Brandes, Ettie Lee major donor is honored by (from left) Board Chair Ron Bateman, Clayton Downey, President/CEO and Board Member Walt Allen. Recently the group visited Linda at her Rancho Santa Fe home.

Ettie Lee Youth & Family Services

1st Annual eBay Auction

November 2nd – 16th

Simply Go To The Following Website Starting on November 2nd

And Start Shopping*!!!

Please Check The Website

Throughout The Auction

As There Will Be New Items

Added Throughout The Event

<http://shop.ebay.com/merchant/ettielee1>



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Get Your Holiday Gifts & Support A Worthy Cause!

***must create an eBay account and set up PayPal account to make purchases**

All Proceeds Will Help Serve Our Abused, Abandoned, Neglected and At-Risk Youth That We Serve In Our Nine Group Homes And Foster Family & Adoption Agency

Questions? Call: James Ramirez at (626) 960-4861 or E-mail: James_r@ettielee.org

Be A Foster Parent !

(626) 967-5082



Ettie Lee Youth & Family Services

Support Ettie Lee Youth & Family Services—place a bumper sticker just like this on your car...Contact James and he'll send one (or more!) to you... 626-960-4861 or james_r@ettielee.org

There's an Ettie Lee Home near you: Azusa • Bloomington • Baldwin Park
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