

Ettie Lee's FIRESIDE

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

October 2010

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
- On-site, fully-contained school
- Permanent placement for boys and girls of all ages
- Fully accredited substance abuse treatment
- Outpatient after-school mental health programs
- Evidence-based treatment program
- After-Care program

Meet Monica Sevajian A Former Foster Child



The Sevajian's—Monica, Sophia Hailey and Paul—on a Big Bear getaway.

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

Monica was in Foster Care with Ettie Lee from 1992 to 1998. She is still in contact with her foster family and has a family of her own as well. Monica said her foster parents were strict, but credits them for keeping her on the straight and narrow as well encouraging her to be her own advocate. When not working as a Case Investigator for the Painters Union, Monica and her family enjoy traveling, concerts and going to sporting events. One day Monica would like to be a mentor for a child that is in foster care at Ettie Lee.

For 20 years, Ettie Lee has operated a Foster Family and Adoption Agency. Ettie Lee recently became certified as a Intensive Treatment Foster Care Agency and will also be able to provide homes for children who are in need of individualized treatment on a 24/7 basis.

From the President's Desk



Clayton Downey

"Ettie Lee is one of only 13 agencies in Los Angeles County that are licensed as an ITFC agency."

In August, Ettie Lee Youth & Family Services became a certified Intensive Treatment Foster Care Agency (ITFC). For the past 10 years Ettie Lee has been a Foster Family Agency (FFA). The additional certification will allow Ettie Lee to help children who are more seriously emotionally disturbed. Ettie Lee's dual licensure—both foster care and adoption—allows us to be eligible for the new ITFC certification as well as our willingness to provide these services. Ettie Lee is one of only 13 agencies in Los Angeles County that are licensed as an ITFC agency.

These specialized ITFC Ettie Lee homes will allow a child to receive the 24/7 individualized treatment that he/she needs in a family environment. It has been shown that children in familial environments are more apt to respond in a positive way in a "normal" atmosphere than if placed in a group home which is much more restrictive. It's also less expensive for the State! The goal for any child is a permanent home and once a child has been normalized through this intensive treatment she/he is more likely to be able to go back home, and if this is not possible, adopted into a loving home.

The ITFC program in Los Angeles County began in 2008, and will not be adding new agencies until 2012.

EMERGENCY CARE

When A Child Needs A Home In A Hurry

Help Ettie Lee be a part of the treatment plan of a young person who needs emergency placement.

According to an article by the Child Welfare League of America (CWLA), "When the state takes a child under its protective wing, it's rarely a planned event. Child welfare workers don't have the luxury of finding the right foster family ahead of time and giving that family several weeks to decorate a bedroom for the child, purchase clothing and toys, and get school paperwork in order," and "When a child must be removed from his home due to abuse and neglect, he is usually removed immediately, no matter the time of day. A social worker takes his hand, comforts him, and leads him to safety and security."

At Ettie Lee, we want to be prepared for these children when they need us. Please help us to purchase the much needed roll-away beds and linens for just this type of situation! An emergency foster home placement can last 24 hours, a few days or weeks to a few months.

"Emergency care should be part of a full array of treatment and placement options that begins with family support for children who can remain safely at home and includes kinship care, family and therapeutic foster care, and residential treatment," says CWLA President and CEO Shay Bilchik. "It must also integrate community-based support networks for children placed in family settings or residential facilities."

Jake Terpstra, a former foster care and licensing specialist for the U.S. Children's Bureau, notes a growing emphasis on deinstitutionalizing emergency care for children and adopting a system that focuses greater attention on emergency family foster care. The primary drivers, Terpstra says, include cost—emergency shelter (institutional) care costs about \$150 and up, per day, per child. Costs for emergency foster care, in a private home, are below \$50 per day, per child. Makes sense.

Retirement planning that helps you and Ettie Lee

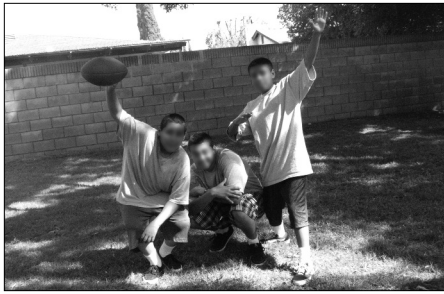
One way to make the most of your retirement planning is to set up a Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA) and guarantee yourself an income for life. CGA rates went up on July 1st, so now is a good time to set one up and take advantage of tax savings, and help Ettie Lee Youth & Family Services at the same time. Please call Vicki Mastro at Ettie Lee, 626-960-4861, if you would like additional information.

Sample Charity Gift Annuity Rates

AGE	PAYOUT RATE
65-66	5.5%
69-70	5.8%
75	6.4%
80	7.2%
85	8.1%
90+	9.5%

On the left are sample Charitable Gift Annuity rates as of July 2010. Actual numbers may vary depending on discount rates at the time of the annuity's creation. Rates are subject to change. Rates for a two-person annuity differ Donors should consult their own attorneys or financial advisors for tax and legal advice when considering any type of planned giving.

Every Picture Tells A Story



With a simple request every month, Friends of Foster Children provides the young men in the Ettie Lee homes with items they request. During the summer some of the items requested were beach and sports equipment, including fishing poles!



Thomas Mayfield, a John Eccles Home resident in 1973-74 surprised us all with his recent visit. He told one of the staff members that he was one of the worst kids there at the time and with tears in his eyes, he credited his turn around to the house parents, because he said "my house parents gave me...me!..an award for most improved, and that got me going."



As a resident in one of Ettie Lee's Homes Steven Tang worked hard to get all of his credits before he was reunified with his family. He was not able to do that but, happily, he continued to work on his high school diploma and in June he graduated! Congratulations Steven.



The volunteers (spearheaded by Jean Arnott) of California Utah Women celebrate every youth's birthday at the Robertson Home in Redlands. Also, this past Mother's day the volunteers brought in an array of gift items that the young men "shopped" for and wrapped for their moms. To top it all off the volunteers brought all the necessary materials to make Mother's day cards.



In September, Michelle Ramirez, brought home-made cakes for all of the residents at the North Hollywood Home. Michelle is the current President of California Utah Women and sponsors the North Hollywood Home. We are currently looking for home sponsors for our Diamond L Home in Bloomington and our Fontana Home. If you can help, get in touch with Michelle at 661-255-0759 or mich4cuw@ca.rr.com.



We caught up with Walt Allen, Covina councilperson and Ettie Lee Board Member at the grand opening of Shirley's Gourmet Dugout in Covina. With him is Covina's Junior princess.



In-N-Out Burger's recent donation allowed us to purchase a beautiful, new pool table. The young men are loving it!



Recently Scandia Amusement Park donated 200 admission tickets for Ettie Lee's group home residents, foster children, family, staff and friends! The park, located in Ontario, California has roller coasters, mini racecars and miniature golf.



Here's another beautiful sofa that The Sofa Co. has donated. We don't know what we would do without their continued support!

Honor Roll of Donors

March 2010 – August 2010

\$25,000+

Wal-Mart Foundation

5,000+

California Utah Women
Friends of Foster Children
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\$1,000+

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Unique

Ettie Lee 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.



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
.....
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.*

Every Picture Tells A Story



We snapped a shot of foster parents (l-r) Elizabeth Arnold, Vicki Morrow with Ettie Lee staff members Claudia Cuevas and Carla Barnes and foster mom Lynelle Weber at Ettie Lee's Foster Family/Adoption Agency Open House.



Laura Jimenez, Senior Field Representative for Assemblymember Ed Hernandez presented a certificate of appreciation to Karen Cash (center), Director of the Foster Family/Adoption Agency and Clayton Downey, President and CEO of Ettie Lee Youth & Family Services during the Open House.



Residents on a field trip to the California Science Center got to ride on the suspended bicycle. Whoaaaaaa!



During the summer some residents at our John Eccles Home planted a garden.



Two of our homes were fortunate to be able to participate with the Big Sunday organization again this year. At our Fontana home volunteers painted a new basketball court as well as a mural on a former "eyesore." Volunteers at our Waterflow home did some landscaping as well as installed privacy fencing.



DONATE YOUR VEHICLE

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Proceeds can benefit:

Ettie Lee Youth & Family Services

Let ***cars4causes***

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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.

Be A Foster Parent !

(626) 967-5082

Ettie Lee Youth & Family Services





3RD ANNUAL eBay AUCTION

We are excited about the upcoming
We already have many goodies for you to bid on!

- ➔ The Auction will again be held in November over a period of several weeks
- ➔ Check our website and social networks as it gets closer. We will have all the information for you there
- ➔ If you're interested in donating items for our auction we would love to hear from you!
 - ➔ Contact james_r@ettielee.org or 626-960-4861

Here is a look at some of the 2010 donors



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ETTIE LEE
Youth & Family Services
5146 North Maine Street
P.O. Box 339
Baldwin Park, CA 91706-0339

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

Be A Foster Parent!
(626) 967-5082
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