



# Neighborhood Homework House



## Rewriting the Future

As we enter our 18th year of working with students and families here in Azusa we have observed some amazing transformations. The transformations occurred in students and in families therefore we believe that our work is about helping students and families rewrite their futures. As you read through the

newsletter, take note of where rewriting of futures is occurring. Most of you know that we have a very small staff but a dedicated volunteer force. Those volunteers also have futures that are being rewritten. Please visit our website to read and hear their stories. And your future also is being

rewritten as you partner with us in our work. Our success is your success and we are honored to have you join us in the journey. Please know that you are always welcome to contact either of us for a personal tour.

Fellow workers...NHH Team



Operation Christmas Child



Family Night: Las Posadas



Teens at 5 Bread 2 Fish (Skid Row)



# NHH Open House 2014

This year we hosted our second annual Open House with a special invitation to the Business Community. During the evening, a handful of our teen leaders served as tour guides for our visitors providing their own first-hand experience of how their futures continue to be re-written because of Neighborhood Homework House. Many of our guests found these personal stories especially meaningful and relished the rare opportunity to visit while our program was going on.

We believe we have a symbiotic relationship with our business partners, not only is our work advanced because of their gifts of time, expertise and resources but their investment rewrites the future of the larger community.

## Fun Fact

Businesses that encourage their employees to volunteer produces a 'highly engaged workforce...[that] is more likely to exert extra effort and have lower turnover rates.'

## Partners Rewriting the Future

During our Open House, we extended the opportunity to our guests to host a donation bin during the holiday season where instead of collecting toys to be distributed those gifts would be used to re-stock our Housebuck store (aka in-house incentive program). We are delighted to report the overwhelming response from the following groups:

America's Christian Credit Union  
Foothill Transit  
Azusa Police Department

Azusa Pacific University: University Services,  
Athletics, Stamps Theological Library, Human  
Resources, Office of General Counsel

Additionally, we had a tremendous response to our request for donations towards experience opportunities/field trips for our teens both from individuals and from community partners including Azusa Rotary. The donations were so generous we will likely use them towards our spring "Campus Crash."







## Better to Give Than Receive

As 2014 drew to a close, our students responded to the transformational nature of the Nativity story by giving and serving others. Our K-5 students learned about the needs of children living in developing nations all over the world and were challenged to “buy” gifts for them using their house bucks. Those gifts were packed into shoe boxes and through Operation Christmas Child, sent around the globe. Our teens spent a day serving in LA’s skid row community again this year working alongside of 5 Breads & 2 Fish. We know in both these projects, our students futures were rewritten through first-hand engagement in the needs of others. We believe, like the late Maya Angelou, that: *“when we give cheerfully and accept gratefully, everyone is blessed.”*

### Teens Learned

•“There are a lot of people in need.”      “The homeless are important to God”  
 “Sometimes homeless are bullied because of the way they look.”  
 “I should give back to my community”

Finally, all our K-5 students were invited to a night of celebration where an alumni staff and his band lead Christmas Carols, our teens and Azusa High School Interact Students lead games, Glendora United Methodist Church lead an interactive presentation of the Nativity as well as provided goodie bags for all and Foothill Church blessed our kids with chocolate milk and cookies. Santa even made a cameo!

## Teens Bring Christmas Fun to Elementary Kids





## Contact Information

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## Follow us:



# SOWING SEEDS OF KNOWLEDGE



SAVE THE DATE:  
March 6, 2015

NEIGHBORHOOD HOMEWORK HOUSE ANNUAL FUNDRAISING DINNER

## Panel of Advisors

Teresa Blaire	Susan Downs	Sue Phelps
Chris Chenet	Joanne Hinojosa	Jaime Sanchez
Tom Clark	Samuel Martinez	Sarah Silk
Shelley Coolidge	Hilda Miramontez	Bobbi Thomas
Lt. Mike Bertelsen	Yolanda Peña	

## Board of Directors

Jan Wickersham, President	Linda Apodaca
Ginny Dadaian, Secretary	Scott Bledsoe
Philip Goss, Treasurer	Richard Mathews
Stuart Aldrich	



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Our mission is to partner with parents of at risk Azusa students to provide the tools to thrive academically and socially.

## Those who help us thrive:

