

Save The Date!

The Gift...

...that keeps on giving.

DATE:
March 9, 2012

LOCATION:
APU- Upper Turner

TIME:
6:00 PM

COST:
Our gift to you

Please join us as we take an opportunity to give back to you. You are invited to be our guest at Our Neighborhood Homework House's Spring Dinner celebrating 15 years of service to Azusa's most precious resource.

Simply reserve your seat by logging on to our website, sending an email to info@onhh.org or contacting us at 626.969.7051.



Our Neighborhood
Homework House
Serving the children of Azusa since 1997

NEWS

January 2012

Traditions!

Most families have traditions to punctuate seasons in their family's life and so does Homework House. We have created for our children and their families traditions that will encourage and uplift them during the season of thankfulness and giving.

Each year several of our families are identified to become beneficiaries of turkeys and other items at Thanksgiving. This year **Senator Dr. Hernandez** participated in distributing turkeys to these families. Our children and their families were excited to meet Honorable Dr. Hernandez and to hear his individual words of encouragement and inspiration.

Las Posadas, a reenactment of Mary and Joseph seeking shelter also has become another tradition. Our parent leaders organized and facilitated the caroling from our 6th Street site to our 9th Street site. At 6th Street more than 200 neighbors gathered with lights and continued singing and reciting selected readings. The highlight for our children were savoring the delicious shared dishes and breaking the pinatas. Yes, we even had two (2) this year so that our little ones could have a time apart from the older students. At the end of the evening many of our students and their families received homemade lap blankets and other donated seasonal items.

A new tradition for our students and their families the past few years have been **Snow Day**, sponsored by **ACCU. Foothill Transit** again provided bus passes that allowed our students to go as a family. Students played in the snow, had their pictures taken with Santa and enjoyed the Petting Zoo.

The final tradition of the season is the **Christmas parties**, separate ones were held for the K-2 students, 3rd-5th grade students and teens. At the parties our students experienced the unconditional love and support from individual community members. Each year community members make the parties memorable by providing individual gifts requested by our students. Squeals of delight and shouts of joy were heard as students played games, sang songs and peeked at their gifts. As students left their parties, they could be seen giving hugs to staff and volunteers and wishing them a Merry Christmas.

Our traditions are made possible by your generosity. **THANK YOU!**

In This Issue

Traditions

Givers

Our Givers

The Corner

The Teens Turn

Save the Date!



Our Neighborhood
Homework House
Serving the children of Azusa since 1997
P.O. Box 0993, Azusa, CA 91702

Givers...That Is What You Are!

You just gave and gave...our families are the beneficiaries of your gifts of time, energy, items and dollars that encourages them.

Center Middle School – The students at Center demonstrated their understanding of giving back by donating the proceeds from their candy sales to support their friends and peers at Homework House.

Bloomfield Bakers – The folks at Bloomfield remembered Homework House's need for technology updates and donated 'gently used' computers and laser printers.

Christmas Angels – Individuals in the community provided a requested gift for each of our students.

Kathy Knecht – Provided homemade blankets and other winter accessories for distribution at Las Posadas.

Foothill Community Church –Our teens were invited to join with their youth group in a Christmas celebration.

Vineyard Church – The women of their church baked and decorated dozens, no dozens of sugar cookies for our parties.

Northrop Grumman – Sue Phelps coordinated employees of Northrop and provided Christmas party favors, served refreshments and assisted with games.

Foothill Church – Several members of the church organized games for the K-5 parties as well as provided baked goods.

Calvary Temple in Fontana –Their Youth Group came all the way from Fontana to present in a skit the Christmas story for our K-5 students.

United Employers Resource, Inc. – The complete human resource solutions for us, the experts, who are offering their services so that we may focus our energy on programs.

Dollar Store-San Dimas – Rosemary generously donated and delivered several boxes of toys and games that will be used to restock the House Stores used for our K-5 students as incentives and celebratory gifts.

We are most grateful for your generosity....THANK YOU!

Our Roll Call of Givers

Community

Center Middle School
Christian Faith Center
Foothill Christian Church*
Glenkirk Church*
Kiwanis Club Of Glendora
Soroptimist International
Vineyard Community Church*

Corporate

Bank of America
Jamba Juice
La Flor de Mexico, Inc.
Kohl's
Canyon City Barbeque
Cardinal Laboratories
Proforma Quality Printing

Foundation

Cobb Foundation
Verizon Foundation
Target Foundation
J.B. and Emily Van Nuys Charities
Selders Foundation

The Canyon City Foundation
Pelletier Foundation
Carrie Estelle Doheny Foundation
Parsons Foundation
Sempra Energy Foundation

Individual

Jennifer & Michael Bertelsen
Teresa and Guy Blaire
Frank Chavez
Thomas and Carolyn Church
Ali and Jeremiah Clark
Thomas Clark
Michael and Marcia Conway
Scott and Shelley Coolidge
Jo Cox
Ginny Dadaian
Paul Dennis
Mark and Barbara Dickerson*
Leslie and Douglas Ford
Bob and Kerry Freeman*
Betty Futter
Jacob and Abigail Gaines*
Everardo Gonzales

Sam Gonzalez
Philip Goss
Alan Hall
Timothy & Katherine Harrington
Jennifer Hicks*
Steve Hunt
Betty Jackson
Rae and Frank Kearney
James and Denise Kennedy
Gina Miller
Carlos and Hilda Miramontes
John Momot
Ginny Nilsen
Robert and Debra Peterman
Donna Petiford
Tricia Runzel
Robert and Hazel Smothers
Kevin and Diana Spink*
Lidia Talavera
Shana Urive
Nathan and Marie Vanderlaan
Jeri Vogel
Janet Wickersham*
Dale and Karen Winslow*

***Core Club Members**

Sponsors noted as of December 13, 2011

The Corner

Dear Friends,

Homework House has experienced an amazing journey –**15 years!** We are now asking that you join us in sustaining our work for another 15! As you review our list of supporters you will note that some of you have already become members of our **Core Club**. We invite many more of you to do so! It is easy, simply identify an amount that you can give us each month and mail it to us or send it electronically via our website or your bank.

As you can read, we are preparing for our Spring Dinner. Please plan to join us so that you can hear about the transformative work that occurs with your help. You can also help us by introducing us to several of your friends who also would like to support our work and inspire our students and their families. We thank you in advance.

Homework House Staff

Barbara Dickerson, Ph.D. Executive Director
Shana Urive, Senior Program Director
Crystal Marquez, Program Director
Adrian Greer, Program Director
Luke Spink, Administrative Director

Homework House Board

Jan Wickersham, President
Tom Clark, Treasurer
Melissa Torres, Secretary
Stuart Aldrich
Ginny Dadaian
Richard Mathews

The Teens Turn

Our teen program has shifted to better serve our teens. You will remember that 15 years ago the founders began the program with a focus on students grades K-5. The Neighborhood Teen Project started first as a part time program and then became a full time program within the last three years. Today our program has taken what we know of the developmental needs of teens and reinvented itself.

The Junior High Program delivery takes place in a three-to-one academic setting. The junior high students are provided homework assistance as well as challenged in Math and Language Arts four (4) days a week. On Fridays the teens are provided physical activity time by partner groups. Additionally our junior high students can interact with their peers from all three (3) Middle Schools in Azusa during 'Hang Out Time'.

For our Senior High students, we are implementing a Senior Care model. We have partnered with Think Together, another afterschool program at the high schools, to ensure that our students are provided with the best academic assistance possible. Senior High students are encouraged to visit us at the Teen Center just to hang out with their friends (from all three (3) high schools in Azusa). **We require** the senior high students to engage in a contract with us where they agree to meet with staff at their individual high schools, attend a specified number of sessions on site, attend teen topic sessions, and give back to the community through volunteering.

Finally, one of our major objectives is supporting the students' academic journey. We provide all of our students with many incentives to perform well. The first triad had several of our students receiving high marks and we continue to encourage and applaud their efforts. Your continued support is needed to help us ensure that most of our teens become first generation high school graduates.



Help us save on mailing costs by sending your e-mail address to: homeworkhouse@gmail.com

