



Grand Avenue

The Road to Relative Caregiving June 2006

The Kinship Resource Center of Santa Clara County

In March, 2006 the Grandparent Caregiver Resource Center changed its name to the Kinship Resource Center of Santa Clara County. The name change is more inclusive of all relative caregivers and we wanted to reflect our dedication to all relative-headed households. Our services at the Kinship Resource Center, also known as KRC, have not changed and we will continue to provide excellent support and resources for all relative-caregiver families. Please contact the KRC Manager, Meghan Kang, at 408.325.5194 if you have any questions or concerns regarding this name change.

Independent Living Skills Program partners with The Eastside Neighborhood Center Seniors

The Independent Living Skills Program (ILP) recently partnered with the Catholic Charities Eastside Neighborhood Center seniors to provide activities for teenagers. During the coming months, the ENC seniors and the ILP teens will have the opportunity to become involved in dance classes, computer classes, and constructing a mural with the seniors. Please contact the ILP coordinator, Gianina Pellegrini, at 408.325.5243 for more information.

Annual Picnic in July

The Kinship Resource Center (KRC) will hold its annual picnic and potluck on Saturday, July 22nd at Lakewood Park in Sunnyvale. As the date approaches, we will provide more information about this enjoyable event! Please mark your calendar. We hope to see you all there!

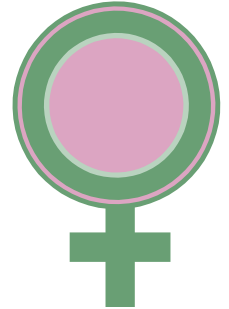
What's Inside

Nurses Corner	2
Grandmothers Luncheon	2
New Staff	2
Support Groups	3
ILP Graduation	3

Nurses Corner

Early detection of breast and cervical cancer is vital to successful treatment.

The KRC is committed to assisting its clients in accessing annual mammograms and cervical cancer screening (PAP smears). If you have questions or concerns about breast cancer, mammograms, or cervical cancer, the KRC's Community Health Nurse, Sharon Wagoner, is here to help you. She can provide complete health screenings, answer all of your questions, and facilitate access to medical care, including breast and cervical cancer screenings. If you are concerned about co-payment costs for mammograms, Sharon can refer you to free screening services. Sharon Wagoner can be reached at 408.325.5176. The KRC encourages women to perform monthly breast self-exams and schedule annual mammograms and PAP smears.



Second Annual Celebrating Grandmothers Luncheon

Led by Judge Sharon Chatman, the non-profit, Building Peaceful Families hosted the second annual Celebrating Grandmothers Luncheon on Friday, May 12th, 2006. Once again, this day was a beautiful recognition of the many grandmothers raising grandchildren in Santa Clara County. 100 grandmothers were honored for their priceless contribution to our communities by providing love, support, and guidance to the grandchildren in their care. Public officials and government representatives, including Senator Joseph Simitian, attended this event to honor the strong women in our county that have successfully taken on the difficult task of raising grandchildren. The luncheon took place at the Airport Hyatt and the guests were honored with a delicious meal, beautiful decorations, entertainment, raffle prizes and gift bags. A special thank you to Judge Chatman and Building Peaceful Families for hosting such a memorable event and for taking the time to thank the hundreds of grandmother's who make such a positive difference in the life of their grandchildren.

Congratulations to Lupe Lopez who recently gained guardianship of her granddaughter, Jessie!

Welcome New KRC Staff

We are proud to announce the recently hired staff to the Kinship Resource Center: Rebecca Barajas, case manager and Elizabeth Tapia, Social Worker (from the Department of Families and Children) bring positive attitudes and a wealth of experience to our program. Rebecca is a relative caregiver and Elizabeth has extensive experience working with relative-headed families. Rebecca and Elizabeth are Spanish speaking and ready to assist our families.

Support Groups

- Lunchtime Support Group
Time: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 11:30 am—1:00 pm
Location: Catholic Charities, 2625 Zanker Road
- St. Frances Cabrini
Time: 2nd and 4th Mondays, 6-7:30 pm
Location: 15333 Woodard Road
- Ujirani Family Resource Center
Time: Alternate Mondays, 12-1:30 pm
Location: 1023 E. Brokaw Road
- Big Daddies—For male relative caregivers
Time: 3rd Wednesday of each month, 6:30-8 pm
Location: 2625 Zanker Road
- Friends Outside—For caregivers whose adult children are incarcerated
Time: Wednesdays, 9:30-11 am
Location: 551 Stockton Ave.

If you would like more information about support groups, please contact the KRC at 408.325.5164

ILP Teens Graduate

The Independent Living Skills Program (ILP) successfully completed its second year with a BBQ/Potluck and Graduation on June 3rd, 2006. Over 25 students participated during the year, and eleven teens graduated from the program. Congratulations to the following students: Angelique V., Carlson D., Chance L., Dominic O., Erica K., Gabriel C., Joseph R., Naomi V., Nichole M., Preston P., and Resha V.



ILP teens pay their bills during the "A Day in the Life of Independent Living" activity.

ILP prepares high school youth for independence through educational classes in practical life skills areas, such as managing money, job skills, college preparedness, and self-care. The ILP is bi-monthly during the academic school year and in addition to learning useful life-skills, teen attendance is rewarded with gift certificates and fun prizes! If you will be attending high school in the fall and are interested in joining this educational program, please contact the ILP Coordinator, Gianina Pellegrini at 408.325.5243 or the Teen Representative, Naomi Vidal at 408.449.3646 for more information and to register for our 06-07 planning meeting in August.

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Kinship Resource Center
Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County
2625 Zanker Road
San Jose, CA 95134-1920

