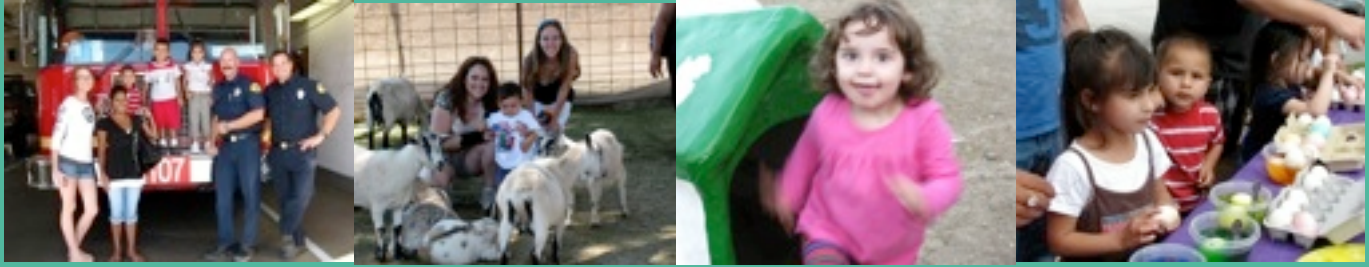


Childbirth Connection Foundation



Summer 2010 Newsletter

Letter From The President

Greetings! Life is a journey not a destination. These words rang true for me as I faced a health issue a few months ago giving me time to reflect upon the things in my life that I value most. Mostly I thought about my family and friends



who I love. I thought a great deal about how to balance my personal and work life and wondered if it was even possible. Then I realized that the Foundation offers this balance to the families we serve. It is through opportunities of growth that are rich with lessons that the possibilities emerge. Making a commitment to care for ourselves as well as for our fellow human beings makes me believe that our world will get better. That good will triumph over evil. That the cutbacks and economic difficulties are only temporary. During this economic crisis the Foundation has the opportunity to step up and provide relief to stress filled lives and that creates possibilities. Time moves quickly and children are growing. We want to use this moment to create memories and build community. Your partnership with us continues to make a difference. Thank you for all of your generosity and continuous support.

Love and many thanks, Randi

Girls Group Mentoring

Board member and mentor Maria, hosted our Girl's Group at her house in February for an afternoon of baking. The girls worked together to make chocolate chip cookies from scratch. While the cookies were baking, the girls learned how to make muffin pizzas for a snack. This quick and easy to make snack was a hit with the girls as it was something they can do on their own, fun and easy to make. Unfortunately, the cookies were not a success - our cookies "became mush". The girls re-grouped to investigate what could have caused the cookies to not turn out as expected. It was an excellent opportunity for the girls to learn that things don't always go as planned. Luckily, Maria's fridge was stocked with pre-made Pillsbury valentine cookie dough for the girls to enjoy.





they enabled me to go to both my Prom and Grad Night, which was awesome!!!!” Sanda will be enrolling at P i e r c e

Community College this fall. She is in the process of talking to her academic advisor to help her plan out her educational goals. Congratulations Sanda!!!

The Board Wishes to Thank Cara Moyer Duncan

Cara was a charter member of the Foundation’s board of directors, serving five years. She was an invaluable asset contributing as Board Secretary, Foundation Mentor and assisting in several special projects.

While finishing her doctoral dissertation on South African film, she was accepted as a Scholar in Residence at Emerson College in Boston and will be teaching two classes this coming year. We already miss you Cara. Good Luck!

Update: New Computer for Honor Student

Sanda graduated high school this June with honors. She was the recipient of many prestigious awards including: the President’s Education Award Program for Outstanding Academic Achievement, as well as five additional awards in English, Expository Writing, Social Studies, Government and Politics. Sanda reflects on the help of the Foundation and says “Since I have gotten my laptop I have probably done more than two hundred school related searches, tasks and assignments. I ended my High School education with a 4.0 GPA. The Childbirth Connection has impacted my life in many ways. They are always there for me and have helped me learn that it is okay to ask for help and accept help when you need it, even when you don’t, it doesn’t hurt to let someone be there for you. With their help I was able to complete many assignments without having to trek back and forth to the library, and



Easter Egg Hunt

The Foundation sponsored our annual Easter Egg Hunt at Dearborn Park in Northridge on March 30th. The children had fun coloring Easter eggs and saving them to take home. They all had a chance to get creative (and make a big mess!) while dyeing the eggs. It was amazing to see the beautiful colors and combinations of colors they came up with. Parents and staff were nearby to “oooh!” and “ahhh!” over their masterpieces.



The nearby playground, with swings, sand and climbing structures, was enjoyed before the party was over. The parents and instructors had to work hard to keep up with the kids as they went down slides, tried the swings and slid down poles. Finally, as everyone got tired, the kids were given a special Easter basket from Childbirth Connection Foundation that included a stuffed animal and collection of other toys and trinkets - a new treat to look through and enjoy on the way home.



After coloring the real eggs, 400 plastic eggs were hidden for the excited kids to find. With their parent’s assistance, even the littlest ones were able to gather a basket full of goodies. All the children were delighted at the candy, stickers, and small toys stuffed inside the plastic eggs and were soon sampling their stash.



Mountasia Trip

Fun For the Young and the Young at Heart

It was hard to tell who had more fun on our field trip to Mountasia amusement park - the kids or the moms and dads. Go-karts, miniature golf, bumper boats, arcade games and laser tag were available for everyone to enjoy, topped by pizza and ice cream at the adjoining Farrell’s Ice Cream Parlor.

Brad and Jodene, along with their 5 year old daughter, Victoria, made good use of all the attractions. Brad ran several “races” with other parents and instructors on the Go-Kart course and his daughter loved being along for the ride. Victoria also “toured” the track with her mother, at a more leisurely pace. But Victoria says that her favorite thing was the bumper boats, where she got to “squirt my parents and friends and get them all wet”.

Jodene says the best part of the day was the lunch at Farrell’s. It was a chance for the parents and kids to socialize and “chit chat,” as Jodene put it. They could compare miniature golf scores, bumper boat victories and numbers of arcade coupons earned, while munching on delicious pizza and ice cream. The kids were fascinated by a player piano that was nearby. It tinkled out festive ragtime tunes as we ate.

For the braver souls, the day was topped off with laser tag. Many of the kids and parents scored higher than our staff and we were all left panting and laughing after the fast-paced session. On the bus ride home they were already planning to beat those scores “the next time.”



Thank You Supporters

Thank you for your continued support as we reach out to families in need in our community. In addition to our group outings, some of the ways your donation's have made an impact in people's lives include:

- Groceries & Clothing
- Mommy and Me and Swim Classes
- Transportation Services
- Summer Camp
- Counseling Services & Support
- Dance, Art & Cooking Classes
- Eyeglasses and Prescriptions
- Laptops and Internet Services
- Team Sports
- Childbirth Education Classes
- Weight Watcher Meetings
- School Supplies, Books & Uniforms

Upcoming Events

Hollywood Bowl	July 14, 2010
Girls Group Skateland Trip	July 23, 2010
Annual Zuma Beach Trip	August 6, 2010
Annual Pumpkin Patch Trip	October 21, 2010
Thanksgiving Dinner Distribution	November 22, 2010
Annual Holiday Party	December 12, 2010



SAVE A TREE!!

Please give us your email address to receive future newsletters electronically we will never share/sell your information



We can now accept credit/debit card donations on our website via PayPal

Childbirth Connection Foundation

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