

Volunteers Mending Lives



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Tribute - Joan Multerer

Designate MEND

Building the Future

"Hope For Tomorrow"

Stop Summer Hunger

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MEND

July - August - September 07'

Matters!

FROM CLIENT TO CUSTOMER SERVICE: ANA'S STORY

I like the environment and volunteering keeps my mind occupied."



Before coming to MEND, Ana says she did not work and was not able to afford clothes or food to meet her children's needs. Now Ana shops at the Clothing Center once a month for herself, her husband and three children, and has even picked out a dress for her daughter's first communion. Ana says, "I am thankful to be part of MEND. I'm happy to say that I volunteer in the clothing department, and I would encourage others in need to volunteer too." ✚

Ana Acencio, 35, is a volunteer and recipient at MEND. She was referred to MEND two years ago when she was asked to do community service.

When Ana began her volunteer work in the Clothing Center, she quickly noticed the importance of MEND's work. "I remember the first time I helped a customer I was a little nervous, but excited at the same time," Ana said.

Ana enjoyed her work as a volunteer so much that after she fulfilled her community service hours, she decided to volunteer on her own time. "I like the fact that I can help others.





The Executive Director's Corner

Our Mission

as a Volunteer-driven organization, is to provide services that meet the basic human needs of the individuals who reside in the Northeast San Fernando Valley. These services are provided in a manner that safeguards the dignity of all recipients while promoting self-reliance.

Our Philosophy

rests on the principles that every person, created in the image of God, has innate human dignity and the right to be treated with respect; and every person has the fundamental right to what is needed for a fully human life.

The MEND Wish List:

Please help us meet critical needs with your time, contributions and services:

Volunteers Needed:

- Clothing Driver – 4 hours/week
- Cook – Tues and Fri 9 AM – 1 PM
- Dentists – 3 hours/month
- Dental Hygienists – 3 hours/month
- Food Distribution Window Volunteer 9 AM – Noon, Mon-Tues-Fri
- Food Packer 9 AM – 1 PM, Mon-Tues-Fri
- Home Visiting Volunteers 3-5 hours/month
- IT Volunteer – 2-4 hours/week
- Pharmacist – 3 hours/month
- Physician – 3 hours/week or once a month
- Volunteer Development 3 hours/month

Items Needed:

- Toothbrushes, toothpaste, floss
- Shoes and clothing for men and teens
- Baby wipes and new baby bottles
- Plastic grocery bags for food distribution
- Electric pencil sharpeners

To “Meet Each Need with Dignity”

describes how each of our volunteers and staff approach their work, the physical environment that is created, and most importantly, the attitude of respect that is offered to our needy recipients.


Recently, we’ve been talking about the “what” and “who” part of the MEND story and how we can succinctly describe these to the larger community. “Volunteers MENDING Poverty” is the tag line we’ve come up with so far, and for me, it conjures up countless images of people who are on the front lines of service to the poor.

I think of professional photographers Doug and Sally Warner who come every Monday to gently and respectfully interview MEND recipients who have come for food and clothing. There is Laurel Ross, recently retired administrator of a large childcare center, who spends one morning a week playing with the pre-school children of MEND service recipients in our Kindercare room. Another example is Ana Rosa Aguilar, a CSUN student who helped in our after-school program to meet a course requirement, but liked her volunteer work so much that she stayed on to become one of our English teachers*!

“Volunteers MENDING Poverty”

You may see these words or something similar in addition to our logo in future MEND newsletters and communications. We welcome your comments as we seek to better communicate the vital work MEND is doing in the community.

Marianne Haver Hill

*By the way, we recently hired Ana Rosa as our part-time morning ESL Coordinator! 





The TREASURE TRUNK
BENEFITING MEND

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818-832-9420

(In the Ralphs/Mann Theatre shopping center)

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Bring this coupon for 50% off any one item
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(One coupon per customer per day)




A TRIBUTE TO JOAN MULTERER

Much loved and long-time MEND volunteer Joan Multerer passed away recently. Joan was an active advocate for MEND at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Northridge. While on the church staff, she regularly included MEND announcements in the bulletin, organized a "Giving Tree" annually to provide Christmas toys for MEND children, recruited volunteers for MEND, and more. Joan was co-chair of the MEND Christmas program during the 1990's and served in many other capacities in that program each year. We will truly miss Joan's vivacious personality and her dedication to serving the poor through MEND. 

DESIGNATE MEND THROUGH THE UNITED WAY

One easy way to give to MEND is to donate through the Combined Federal Campaign for Federal Employees or the United Way's Annual Campaign.

Although MEND is not a United Way agency, we still qualify for designated donations. **When completing the United Way donor form, please remember to use MEND's Tax ID #: 23-7306337**

The Combined Federal Campaign, for federal employees, works much the same way. You can designate MEND as the recipient of your contribution. If MEND is not among the agencies listed in your Combined Federal Campaign packet, use our tax identification number as noted above. 

BUILDING THE FUTURE: DESIGNING TO MEET EACH NEED WITH DIGNITY



Robert and Ellen Lee of R.E. Lee Design and Construction were a huge asset to the design and development of the new MEND center. The goals were to inspire the clients and the community, and attract them to a building that offered help and hope. Robert and Ellen drew inspiration from the MEND mission statement to "meet each need with dignity," and placed themselves in the client's shoes and tried to imagine the client's side of the MEND experience.

The Lees donated countless hours of time and building upgrades over a three-year period. For the Lees, the MEND center was a very special, once-in-a-lifetime project and proved to be a very meaningful journey.

For Ellen, the ribbon-cutting ceremony represented the culmination of the project. She said, "To see the clients in absolute awe and that everyone was pleased with what had transpired on that property was amazing. The building represents hope and inspiration and mirrors the spirit of the community...it reminds us that anything is possible."

Robert says that he and Ellen are very proud of their contributions to the MEND Center. "We have been inspired, challenged, and I think ultimately successful in delivering a building that truly meets each need with DIGNITY."

HOPE FOR TOMORROW GALA RAISES \$95K

On Thursday, April 26, MEND hosted its inaugural gala at the new MEND center. The "Hope for Tomorrow" Gala was lead by Master of Ceremonies Rick Dees, a long-time Los Angeles radio personality, and Mistress of Ceremonies, Michelle Tuzee, KABC-TV Eyewitness News Anchor.



The gala was sponsored by: *The Zenith, Verizon, Disney, Kaiser Permanente, the Klein Family, and Agora Realty & Management. Production and Special Events Services* donated their talents in transforming the MEND center into a glamorous room where 240 guests were seated for dinner prepared by *Big Screen Cuisine* with wine supplied by *L'uvaggio di Giacomo*.

MEND awarded long time friends and supporters, including the "Hope for Tomorrow

story continues on next page...



I Would Like To Help 'STOP' Summer Hunger!

- \$25 \$50 \$75 \$100
 I wish to make a donation of \$ _____
 I would like to volunteer at MEND

Bill my credit card: Visa MC AMEX DISC

CREDIT CARD# _____

EXP DATE _____

PHONE# _____

SIGNATURE _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY / STATE / ZIP _____

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Please note my change of address Please remove my name from your mailing address

MEND
 10641 N San Fernando Rd
 Pacoima, CA 91331

PLEASE RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM WITH YOUR DONATION. YOUR GIFT IS DEDUCTIBLE AS ALLOWED BY LAW.

SUM07

Continued from page 3 - Gala

Award" to State Senator Alex Padilla; the "Leadership in MENDING Poverty Award" to Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa; the "Partnership for Tomorrow Award" to Providence Health and Services; the "Planting the Seeds for Tomorrow Award" to Allene Brown; and the "Faith for Tomorrow Award" to Steve Brown.



filming and production of the new MEND video which premiered at the gala; The Blue Eagles Total Force Guard – March Air Force Reserve Base; Company B, who paid a musical tribute to The Andrew Sisters; and the 140 businesses and friends of MEND who donated items for the gorgeous silent auction displayed on the mezzanine level of the center.

MEND would like to thank KABC-TV for their

The event netted over \$95,000 for MEND, the most profitable fundraiser to date! 

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday - July 28

Mervyns Childsfree

Wednesday - August 29

Annual Teeth to Toes Event

Friday - September 28

MEND Center Fall Fundraiser:
Mexican Dinner and Mariachis

6:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Saturday - October 27

Super Home Visiting Saturday
8:30 - 2:00 pm

Saturday - November 3

Super Home Visiting Saturday
8:30 - 2:00 pm

OUR DONORS ARE APPRECIATED!

Many thanks to the following foundations, businesses, and organizations that made contributions of \$1000 or more since the last issue of MEND Matters:

Current Program Support

- Adamma Foundation
- Agora Realty & Management, Inc.
- Flickback Media, Inc.
- Friends of Richard Alarcon
- General Mills Foundation - Community Action Council GSE, Inc.
- Fanny & Svante Knistrom Foundation
- The B.C. McCabe Foundation
- Our Lady of Lourdes Church
- Partners in Care
- SRI, LLC
- St. Euphrasia Church
- St. John Baptist De La Salle
- Sunair Children's Foundation
- Universal City Studios, LLLP
- Wal-Mart

Capital Campaign

- Beloit Investment Co.- Khougaz, O.J. & Erney
- L.A.S. Tile Co.

You Can Help Stop Summer Hunger!



SUMMER HUNGER



By Joining with MEND, You Can Help

This summer, each dollar you donate to MEND doubles in value. Los Angeles City Councilmember Richard Alarcon has solicited private donations to match each gift, dollar for dollar, through the end of August, up to \$25,000! This means that every \$25 gift will become \$50, providing meals for sixty qualified recipients instead of 30. Don't let hunger ruin this summer, use the coupon on the inside of this newsletter to enclose with your gift today!



**VOLUNTEERS MENDING LIVES!
JULY - AUGUST - SEPTEMBER**

**MEND Offices: (818) 896-0246
10641 N San Fernando Rd
Pacoima, CA 91331**

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