

Come Home to Casa

Dear Casa de Amparo Supporter,

Thank you for reading our Spring 2021 Come Home to Casa Newsletter. Within the last few months, the California Department of Social Services has made changes to how the most vulnerable youth in foster care will receive future treatment. A modification ending out-of-state placements, means there are over 100 foster youth returning to California needing safe residential care facilities such as Casa de Amparo's future Teen Wellness Center.



Tamara Fleck-Myers, LMFT
Executive Director

Many youth in foster care have endured significant trauma including abuse, neglect and sexual exploitation and because of this, they require a higher level of emotional, mental, and physical care. To meet the needs of these children, Casa de Amparo is constructing a Teen Wellness Center, which will provide intensive therapeutic treatment for youth like those currently returning to California from out of state. There are only two other centers like this in California, and simply put, there is not enough space for the current demand.

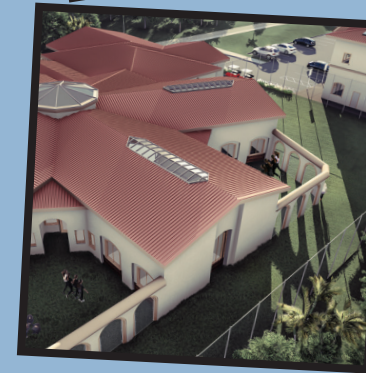
The urgency to successfully implement our Teen Wellness Center is felt now more than ever. We are in the midst of obtaining a construction permit with the County of San Diego to build this facility and have secured nearly half of the \$14.5 million needed to construct the Teen Wellness Center. The continued support from people like you has made this possible. We look forward to continuing to meet the evolving needs of teenage foster youth and being an integral player in providing care in California.

Sincerely,

Tamara Fleck-Myers

Tamara Fleck-Myers, LMFT
Executive Director

Teen Wellness Center Renderings



Meet the Chefs

April 18th, 2021
Join us virtually

<https://www.casadeamparo.org/Meet-the-Chefs>

FORE
the
CASA KIDS
Golf Tournament

June 4th, 2021
Vista Valley Country Club
<https://www.casadeamparo.org/FORE-the-Casa-Kids>

Host a Virtual Wine Drop Party!

Support Casa de Amparo virtually!

Host a virtual happy hour with your friends and help us gather wine for our exclusive wine cellars that are auctioned off at our larger fundraising events.

To learn more, contact Kate Fletcher at kfletcher@casadeamparo.org.

Get Involved

Join the Casa Family Tree! Become a monthly donor and make a lasting impression. Become a Casa Homemaker! Join over 400 volunteers who are the backbone of what we do and make Casa home for our youth. Contact Kate at kfletcher@casadeamparo.org.

Leave a Legacy

By including a gift to Casa de Amparo in your will or living trust, you create a legacy that will heal lives for generations to come. Contact Kathy Karpé at kkarpe@casadeamparo.org for more information.



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

The Bentivoglio Family Teen Wellness Center

With tremendous appreciation, Casa de Amparo is proud to name the future Teen Wellness Center as The Bentivoglio Family Teen Wellness Center. Financial support from the fund positioned Casa de Amparo's campaign to almost fifty percent complete. With plans underway to begin construction this year, the support marks a momentous milestone in helping Casa de Amparo transform the state of foster care treatment.

We are also extremely grateful to honor another family with The CEK Foundation Group Therapy Room. Additional thanks also goes to Supervisor Desmond for District 5 Neighborhood Reinvestment support and to past Supervisor Gaspar District 3.

NEW BOARD MEMBER: DR. THERESA AKATIFF

Casa de Amparo is pleased to welcome Dr. Theresa L. Akatiff as a new Board Member and Chair of the Program Committee! Theresa was born, raised, and completed all education in Michigan, then moved to Southern California in 2003 to complete a Residency for the VA Hospital in Loma Linda. She is a general dentist who graduated from UDM in 2003 and has owned a private practice in Escondido for the last 15 years. Theresa and her husband have two boys who are 9 and 10 years old. They are a very active family who loves to hike, bike, kayak, ski, and travel together! Jason and Theresa have donated to Casa de Amparo for over ten years and now she loves having more time to dedicate to such an amazing program.

Theresa has already been reaching out to the community for In-Kind donations and has received a huge response! She has made great strides in bringing a new energy to the Program Committee and we are looking forward to what she will bring in the future!

Casa Family Tree

OUR MONTHLY DONORS

You are the reason we continue to grow and be better for our youth. Just like every leaf on a tree is essential to its health, every dollar you give is essential to allowing Casa to treat and prevent child abuse each and every day.

JOIN OUR FAMILY TREE BY BECOMING A MONTHLY DONOR!

Go to www.casadeamparo.org/donate or email Kate at kfletcher@casadeamparo.org to learn more.



Healing Takes Community

SIGNATURE PARTNERS

Building a strong and safe community for our youth is at the heart of our mission. As a Signature Partner, your entire company can get involved through volunteering, event sponsorship, and in-kind drives.

BECOME A SIGNATURE PARTNER TO GET INVOLVED!

Go to www.casadeamparo.org/signaturepartner or email Kathy at kkarpe@casadeamparo.org to learn more.



WE'RE GETTING SOLAR!

CASA DE AMPARO IS MAKING SUSTAINABLE MOVES

Thanks to the SunForAll Solar Fund, our Casa Kids Campus is on track to significantly reduce our electric usage by installing solar to power the campus! SunForAll is a unique solar funding program for non-profits created by CollectiveSun with lead investor BQuest Foundation, and in partnership with other impact investors. The partnership makes going solar easy and affordable with an innovative impact investment structure consisting of a hybrid grant plus Program Related Investment in the form of a low interest loan. This financing mechanism resulted in a 30% cost reduction to our solar system which made the decision to go solar much easier. The planned PV system will be a 162.00 kW solar system and is expected to be installed this year.

Kara Ballester, co-founder and president of BQuest Foundation, says, "SunForAll gives nonprofits the gift of a "solar endowment" which helps them immediately save money on their utility bill and see savings grow dramatically over time. SunForAll creates more financial stability for non-profits while also making an impact on climate sustainability."

Thank you SunForAll, CollectiveSun, and BQuest Foundation for making this possible!



HOLIDAY SEASON RECAP

This past holiday season was abundant with fun activities for our residents! Halloween week featured a costume boutique, trick or treating around our Administration office, and a Halloween party including a DJ and food truck! Thanksgiving week included a relaxing spa day and a beautiful Thanksgiving feast with exquisite table settings for all of our residents. Christmas festivities were jam-packed with activities including ornament making, gingerbread house decorating, a hot chocolate night, and a cottage decorating contest. Our residents got an amazing Christmas Eve surprise thanks to our generous donors! We are incredibly grateful for our donors who made all of these fun activities possible for our residents.

HOLIDAY SHOUT-OUTS!

Jimbo's Naturally made Thanksgiving at Casa amazing with their donation of turkeys. All of our youth on campus had turkey to gobble up on Thanksgiving!

Lennar Homes went above and beyond with their holiday donation this year! They delivered a box truck filled to the brim with essential items for our youth.

Dianne Lane and her family provided side dishes for all our New Directions participants and new pajamas for all of our Casa Kids in Residential Services!

Nice Guys made sure our New Directions participants had a hearty Thanksgiving feast with their donation of turkeys for dinner!

