



Crystal Ball Gala

Saturday, November 14th, 2020
Fairbanks Ranch Country Club
www.casadeamparo.org/Crystal-Ball-Gala



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.

2020 Spring Newsletter from Casa de Amparo

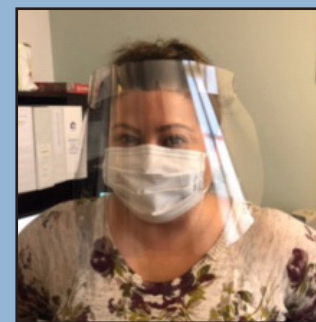
Come Home to Casa

Dear Casa de Amparo Supporter,

Thank you for taking the time to read our 2020 Spring 'Come Home to Casa' Newsletter. What a year it has been so far! I want to take this opportunity to give you a behind-the-scenes update as to what has occurred at Casa de Amparo in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic that continues to change our world. Experiencing this pandemic with over 30 girls (and 5 babies) living with us in Residential Services and 40 transition age youth depending on us as part of our New Directions Program, I am reminded of the critical role we play in keeping our youth safe and secure during times of fear and crisis.



Tamara Fleck-Myers, Executive Director



- As of June, we have not had any positive COVID-19 cases with our residents or staff. We took extra precautions to create various quarantine areas so we could separate youth who were potentially exposed. We hired outside help to assist with weekly sanitation and monthly deep cleanings, and have ramped up our cottage and administrative office disinfectant routine to twice a day.
- As numerous school-aged children have struggled with distance learning, many of our girls have expressed feeling more safe working on school from home as the stress of socialization and the larger school setting can be overwhelming for youth experiencing trauma. Instead, our youth are adopting positive behaviors and have been able to bond better with their case workers and therapists.
- Unfortunately, some of our 18-24 year-old youth living in our New Directions transitional housing program have lost their jobs due to the pandemic. With donations from the community, we have been able to deliver additional food and household necessities while also supplementing their monthly rent.
- As of April 1, 2020 we implemented a new, expanded EPSDT (Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment) contract with County of San Diego Behavioral Health Services to continue providing comprehensive mental health services in Residential Services. We have been ramping up staffing in anticipation of this contract for over a year and the approval comes at a time when our kids need therapeutic services more than ever. With this contract, the agency can hire 4 additional therapists and 4 case managers to provide daily therapeutic services to our Casa Kids.

I hope you and your family are doing as well as possible during these unprecedented times. You are invited to take a further look at our 2020 Spring Newsletter for more details about how the community has stepped up to make sure our Casa Kids feel safe and secure. Thank you for your support now and into the future.

Sincerely,



Tamara Fleck-Myers, LMFT
Executive Director, Casa de Amparo



6 BIG moments at Casa de Amparo due to COVID-19

ADAPTING TO THE "NEW NORMAL"

The ever changing world that we now live in has invoked a lot of change here at Casa de Amparo-- some good, some challenging. Since you, our beloved donor, help make things happen we wanted to let you in on some of the changes we've experienced.



1 BABY SUPPLIES IN DEMAND: FIVE CASA BABIES BORN DURING SHELTER IN PLACE

Casa de Amparo welcomed five babies since the start of California's mandated shelter in place. Each resident living in the Pregnant and Parenting program receives a one-of-a-kind themed baby shower hosted by community volunteers. Since visitors are not allowed on campus currently, we are extra thankful for the holiday donation drive hosted by Lennar. Lennar worked with their contractors and vendors to secure over \$20,000 of household and baby supplies which has kept Casa de Amparo well stocked to provide showers and ongoing supplies to our new little ones.



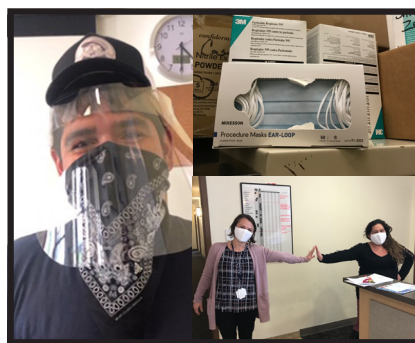
2 PRECAUTIONARY QUARANTINE ROOMS: THANK YOU F.O.C.U.S.!

At the Casa Kids Campus there are 4 cottages housing 32 girls and 5 babies. With so many residents living together and staff on-site 24/7, if one person became sick, community transmission would be inevitable. Knowing this, program staff had to quickly determine what to do if this worst-case scenario became reality. Casa de Amparo took precautionary measures to set up quarantine rooms with donations from Friends of Children United Society (F.O.C.U.S.) – an organization whose goal is to help make life better for San Diego County children and teens in need. They generously donated ten new mattresses, box springs and bed frames so that the children would be comfortable while safely quarantined from others.



3 ADDITIONAL SANITATION PROTOCOLS AND \$150,000 OF UNEXPECTED EXPENSES

Since the onset of COVID-19 Casa de Amparo has taken extra steps to ensure the safety of the residents and staff. Cottages are thoroughly cleaned by staff twice daily, in addition to a weekly sanitation and monthly deep clean from an outside cleaning company specializing in sanitization measures. A stockpile of personal protective equipment and cleaning products are on site for all staff and residents. Many local sewing groups and individuals came to the rescue right away with hand-made cloth face coverings! Due to distance learning and the elimination of off-campus activities, food and on-site activities costs have skyrocketed. Additionally, hazard pay has been dispersed to the frontline childcare workers who are so essential to the safety and well-being of the children at Casa de Amparo.



4 FOOD DONATIONS FROM AROUND THE COUNTY

One of the first difficulties Casa de Amparo faced just like many households around the country, was the scarcity of supplies in grocery stores. Chef Priscilla made daily trips to the grocery store and local food banks to obtain rationed items to ensure three daily meals and snacks for residents and care staff were not disrupted. Casa de Amparo has also received pantry and produce donations from multiple nonprofit partners, including Solutions for Change and North County Food Bank.



5 COVID-19 SUPPORT FROM LOCAL FOUNDATIONS

In March, there was immediate outpouring of support from the community to help local nonprofits. Many foundations rallied their networks and were quick to create COVID-19 grant opportunities for organizations to share their hardships and request financial help. Casa de Amparo benefited from financial support from the following local San Diego foundations:



6 VIRTUAL FUNDRAISING EVENTS: A WAY OF THE FUTURE

With the cancellation of two annual fundraising events, Meet the Chefs and FORE the Casa Kids Golf Tournament, Casa de Amparo pivoted to offer donors a different way to show their support. On Thursday, May 28th over 50 community members logged on via Zoom to the Casa Family Reunion. Executive Director, Tamara Fleck-Myers shared behind the scenes information on how the organization continues to make changes to keep the residents safe and healthy. New Directions resident, Lexus Jenkins shared her heart-wrenching journey through personal growth. And four lucky winners were drawn to receive exciting prizes. Each attendee was delivered a Party Pack to their doorstep before the event.



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.

