

Glendale Healthy Kids



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Case Manager: Jo Ann Parnell, RN
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October 2006

GHK Celebrates 11th Annual "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?"

Teamwork was the theme for the 11th annual "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?" Glendale Healthy Kids celebrated the teamwork that is the engine of this great organization. Doctors, dentists, pharmacists, labs, volunteers and staff all work together to help children from low-income uninsured families. The annual fundraising event was held Saturday, September 30 and Sunday, October 1 at eight different venues. Each venue had its own theme and the hosts generously donated the dinners.

Using an Arabian Night theme, **Paula and Art Devine** hosted forty guests in their beautiful home, complete with kabobs and belly dancing! Long-time GHK supporters **Page and Karen Whyte** greeted over 40 guests with an English theme, serving prime rib and Yorkshire pudding. **Gail Connell** of **Gourmet a go go** in Montrose joined **John and Ginny Simpson** and **Cathy and Bob Keen** in her restaurant and delighted 30 patrons with elegant tortas, cheeses, risotto, herb crusted chicken and fine wines. Back for their fifth year with this event, the fabulous **Glendale Firefighters** cooked a Mexican feast for nearly 80 guests at the home of **Debbie and Bruce Hinckley**. **Quacky the Duck** made a stunning appearance at this dinner, encouraging everyone to make duck adoptions for the GHK Duck Buddy Team, while the mariachis played in the background.

Father Joseph Shea of Holy Family Church treated a crowd to a heavenly repast at the Rectory and **Jeri Benton and Robert Clark** grilled steaks poolside for a party of 24 at their Chevy Chase Canyon home. GHK Board member **Suzi Sadd** and her husband **John** made sure no one would miss their Mexican fiesta with the 12' Quacky balloon positioned in front of their home. New this

year to the event was the **Glendale Association of Realtors** who hosted a magnificent party for 70 at the home of **Gerri and Art Cragnotti**. Live music from the balcony entertained guests as they feasted on a gourmet dinner in the **Cragnotti's** authentic Spanish hacienda patio. What a great weekend it was!

A record crowd of 320 attendees joined the sponsors in raising over \$38,000

for Glendale Healthy Kids. GHK is grateful to everyone on the team who made this fundraiser such a success. Sponsors of the event are listed on the GHK website along with pictures from some of the parties.

We extend a special thanks to the following merchants who contributed goods to the various dinners:

The Tam O'Shanter Restaurant
Anoush Restaurant
EDI Party Rentals
Gourmet a go go
Taylor's Restaurant

The **Teamwork** displayed by all of the gracious dinner hosts, the generous merchants, and the many sponsors and guests at the eight fabulous dinner parties made the eleventh annual "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?" a resounding success. On behalf of the underserved children in the Glendale community, Glendale Healthy Kids thanks everyone who participated.



Dinner Host John Sadd & Quacky put things in perspective.



From left: City Clerk Ardy Kassakhian, GHK Executive Director Camille Levee, Dinner Host Paula Devine, and GHK President Dr. Gary Finer.



From Our President Gary Finer, DDS

Like any twelve year-old, Glendale Healthy Kids is poised to leave childhood and begin the growth process towards maturity. Of course, growth can be awkward and difficult but we are very fortunate to have a new Executive Director to help guide our expansion and success. Camille Levee comes to GHK with many years of experience working in Non-Profits and her enthusiasm and skills with development should help our organization reach new levels. Please join me in giving Camille a warm welcome.

I am extremely grateful for the help of Bruce Nelson, Barry McComb, Sharon Dobbs and Bill Wilkie for their help in the search for our new Executive Director. I couldn't have done it without their support. On behalf of the Board of Directors I would also like to thank Cathy Keen and Debbie Hinckley for all of their hard work during the interim period. Debbie's and Cathy's energy and dedication to Glendale Healthy Kids is truly inspirational.



GHK had another successful year at doing what we do best; helping to provide medical, dental, mental health and health education services to the children of our community. Nearly 100 children received treatment at the Mobile Dental Clinic in July and another 85 at the Give Kids a Smile program in February. In addition, Project CHASE continues to expand under the leadership of Lillit Aladadyan and is making great strides in bringing health education to our community. We welcome several new board members this year and I am proud and humbled to lead the impressive and knowledgeable group of people who comprise our Board of Directors. I encourage everyone to join in our mission and help us grow.

Gary Finer D.D.S

President, Board of Directors

Executive Director's Corner

One of my first "assignments" was to attend the fantastic dinners generously donated and hosted at 8 homes throughout the area. Every exec's first few weeks should begin with such a wonderful event. Good food, good friends and a GREAT cause. What could be better? The test will come as I meet all of you again—and remember your names!

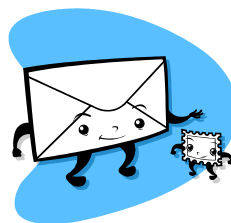
I am really looking forward to getting to know each of you better and sharing our success stories with you. Our office is tucked away in a corner of the Glendale Unified School District's offices, but it is far from quiet. The phone seems to be always ringing for Jo Ann. Liza tries to keep my schedule straight, and Lilit, Director of Project CHASE, is a frequent visitor from her out-based "cubby." (My husband says with my loud voice, she should be able to hear me over there without a phone.)

I know that many of you have had great experiences through involvement in our many programs. I'd love to hear them—so please feel free to call or email; I'd love to set up a time to meet you!

Until I can thank you personally, please accept my gratitude for all that each of you do on behalf of our kids!

Camille

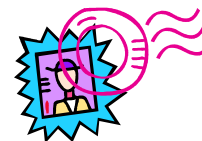
Camille@glendalehealthykids.com



SAVE POSTAGE AND PAPER!

If you would like to receive
your Glendale Healthy Kids
newsletter via email, please submit
your email information to:

Camille@glendalehealthykids.com



"The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members, a heart of grace and a soul generated by love."

—Coretta Scott King

Jo Ann Parnell, RN Case Manager



In June of this year, a family new to the United States came to the Welcome Center to register their son and daughter in school. One of the Welcome Center staff noticed that the boy's jaw was swollen and asked what was wrong. The father said the 9-year-old had a toothache, and they could not afford to take him to a dentist. The family was sent downstairs to Glendale Healthy Kids for help. The boy's jaw was swollen to twice its normal size, and he was unable to open his mouth. A new GHK dental provider agreed to see him that same afternoon. When Dad saw how quickly the GHK providers were willing to help, he asked if we could help his 17-year-old daughter. She had been ill with fatigue, fever and headache for several days, and nothing seemed to help relieve the symptoms. A Glendale Healthy Kids family practitioner agreed to see her the following day.

The dentist prescribed antibiotics for the boy, which were provided by a volunteer pharmacy, and he was referred to a pedodontist for further treatment of the infected tooth.

The daughter's case was far more complex. The provider physician wrote a prescription which was filled by one of GHK's pharmacies, but the symptoms persisted and she returned to see the doctor. A new prescription was written and filled at another pharmacy. Again no change in symptoms. At this point, lab work was done and new medications prescribed. A third pharmacy filled the new prescription, but after results of the most recent lab work came in the dosage was doubled, and a fourth pharmacy supplied the medication the child needed to double the dose. Several more visits, more lab work and continuing medication seem to have taken care of the problem and she is now successfully enrolled in high school, but still being followed by the family practitioner.

All of these medical visits, procedures, and medications were provided to this family at no cost because of the generosity of our providers. The father is extremely grateful to Glendale Healthy Kids for restoring both of his children to health.

Jo Ann Parnell, RN

Joseph's Story—GHK Making a Difference

Three years ago, Joseph's pastor brought him to the USC Mobile Dental Clinic, which is sponsored by Glendale Healthy Kids each summer. Joseph was an 18 year-old orphan who had very serious dental problems and had never received any proper dental care in his life. He lived with different relatives, sleeping on couches or floors, and he did not earn enough credits at Daily High School to graduate. He was down on life, ashamed of his smile and lacked direction. After a full week of treatment at the clinic, the USC Dental Clinic director promised to complete the extensive work necessary to restore his teeth to health so that Joseph could smile. For three years, Joseph was treated at the USC School of Dentistry, with Glendale Healthy Kids volunteers taking him to his appointments. He had root canals, extractions, periodontal surgery, implants, and braces during the three years.

Today Joseph attends Glendale Community College and holds down a full time position at Downey Savings. He was recently awarded the Outstanding Customer Service Representative of the District, an award citing Joseph's work ethic, his outgoing personality and his polished personal appearance.

Joseph is grateful to Glendale Healthy Kids for believing in him and for offering him hope. He says that no one ever gave him hope and that he prayed every day that his teeth would be fixed so that he would no longer feel "dirty." He believes that if it weren't for Glendale Healthy Kids, he would be one of two places today—prison or Forest Lawn. Instead, he is doing beautifully in college and holding down a full time job. Joseph's future looks bright, and he is only one example of the difference proper health care can make in a young life.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Without volunteers, we couldn't provide access to services for almost 2000 kids annually. There are many ways you can participate---as little as 2 hours a month or as much as 8 hours a week. There are opportunities to work with the kids, or assist with administrative tasks—even from the comfort of your home. Camille is looking for someone who likes to write and edit to assist with quarterly publications, for example. So if you have a few hours or more to give, call Camille at 818-548-7931, or send an email to

Camille@glendalehealthykids.com

Glendale Healthy Kids

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Healthy children make
better students...
Better students build
better communities.

Glendale Healthy Kids Board of Directors

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Secretary: **Barry Mc Comb**

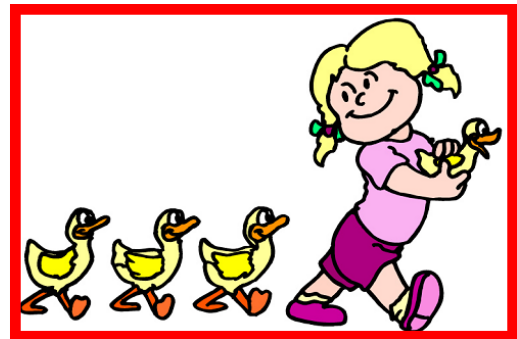
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Adopt a GHK Duck!
www.ducks4kids.com

Team #165

Kiwanis Incredible Duck Splash!

Saturday, October 21st

Verdugo Park

10 am until 3 pm