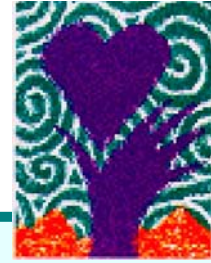


September 2010

Caring Connections



2010 Executive Board Members

Renett Banagas
Community Services
Coordinator

Cindy VanMeeveren
Bellflower Volunteer Center

Nichole McGahey
Bethel Reformed Church

Doug Easer
Bellflower Rotary Club

Elizabeth Trombley
Kaiser Permanente

Jeanette Gosden
Consultant

Mayra Lopez
Beaver, Menkes, & Hass
Accounting Corp



John J. Gunther Blue Ribbon
Practices in Community
Development Award

Association of California School
Administrators Partners in
Education Excellence Award

Greater LA Federal Executive
Board Partnership Award

California School Boards
Association
Golden Bell Award for
Partnerships & Collaboratives

Kaiser Permanente Supports Caring Connections!

GREAT NEWS! Back in April, Caring Connections submitted a grant request to Kaiser Permanente to support children and families in the Bellflower Unified School District with mental health, medical, vision, and basic needs resources. We are very excited to share the great news that Caring Connections was awarded a grant for **\$20,000!** This is the largest grant received in Caring Connections' history. We look forward to a very productive year using these funds to support our students. We thank everyone for their continued support to our program!



Backpacks for Kids!

Having a new backpack to start out the school year is important to children. For the past five years Caring Connections has assisted in helping Bellflower Unified School District students with new backpacks. With the support of programs like the Bellflower Volunteer Center and State Farm Insurance we are able to assist over 300 children with new backpacks and school supplies. The Bellflower Volunteer Center held their second annual Backpack Drive with many donations given from community members. State Farm Insurance held a Backpack-To-School event on August 28th. Children received backpacks with school supplies and were even provided a free lunch. Helping students start off the school year with all the tools they need to be successful is what we are all about! We truly appreciate the backpack donors for their generosity and support to our students.



Caring Connections Mission Statement:

*Our commitment is to
be a bridge to a
successful future for
children and families of
the Bellflower Unified
School District.*

2010

Case Managers

Angela Guardado
Albert Baxter Elementary
(562) 804-6505
Intensive Learning Center
(562)804-6513

Edna Amezcua
Craig Williams Elementary
(562) 804-6540

Sandra Roveri
Ernie Pyle Elementary
(562) 804-6528

Sailly Grkinich
Stephen Foster Elementary
(562) 804-6518

Renett Banagas
Frank E. Woodruff Elementary
(562) 804-6545

Ana Perez
Ramona Elementary
(562) 804-6532

Estella Delgado
Thomas Jefferson Elementary
(562) 804-6521

Norma Montes
Washington Elementary
(562) 804-6535

Tami DiPaolo
Esther Lindstrom Elementary
(562) 804-6525

Myra Rodriguez
Mayfair Middle School
(562) 925-9981 ext.3209

Socorro Melgarejo
Mayfair High School
(562) 925-9981 ext. 3209

Mary Ball
Somerset High School
(562) 804-6548
BAE Center
(562) 866-9011 ext.3150

Back to School Shopping Spree

On Saturday, September 11th families woke up bright and early-to get to the K-Mart on Rosecrans Avenue where the Bellflower Rotary Club assisted 60 happy little children with a back to school shopping spree. Each child received a gift card

in the amount of \$100. Bellflower Rotary members and volunteers assisted the students with the fun task of helping the children pick out clothes and shoes. Students had donuts and juice in the cafeteria area while they patiently waited their turn. Thank you to the Rotary Club and the K-Mart management for making this event possible!



Ralph's Community Contribution Program

If you are a Ralph's shopper and signed up to contribute to our organization through the Community Contribution Program, Ralph's requires a yearly re-register for participants. All you have to do is take the scan bar letter into any Ralph's store to link your card to our organization or you may go online at www.Ralphs.com. Below are online instructions:

- click on sign-in/register
- Input your Have your REWARDS card number. (If you do not know your card # you can call (800) 660-9003.)
- Sign-in with your e-mail address and password
- Click Edit Community Contribution information and input our 5 digit NPO number **92226**
- Search and select Caring Connections
- Save changes

It's that simple. Then every time you shop at Ralph's and scan your REWARDS card a percentage will come back to Caring Connections!

Thank you YMCA!

Thank you to the Los Cerritos YMCA for working with us for the past three years in sending Bellflower Unified students to summer camp. We were able to send 9 students on a one week trip in August to Camp Oaks. Students were able to experience hiking, swimming, crafts, archery and much more. And also a big thank you to the LA Quilters Guild who makes special quilt blankets for our campers to take.

Community Events

- **Bellflower's 12th Annual Car Show**
September 11th from 4:00-9:00pm on Bellflower Blvd. Sponsored by the Bellflower Noon Lions Club.
- **Mayor's Breakfast**
October 5th 7:00-8:30am at Simms Park sponsored by Kingdom Causes. Tickets are \$5.
- **Service Club Luncheon**
October 7th at 11:00am at Simms Park sponsored by the Kiwanis Club. Tickets are \$10.
- **Next Caring Connections Meeting**
Tuesday, October, 12th at 7:30am at the Bellflower Unified School District