

Ettie Lee's FIRESIDE

Saving Lives, Changing Lives and Building Hope for Children and Families in Family-Like Settings

Spring 2013

Ettie Lee's fully accredited, restorative programs serving at-risk, abused, abandoned and neglected children and youth include:

- Foster Family/Adoption Agency (in a network of 35 loving foster homes)
- Intensive Treatment Foster Care (ITFC)
- Nurturing, Caring Homes (6) for Youth (ages 10-21)
- Outpatient Mental Health Services
- State Certified Drug and Alcohol Program
- Therapeutic Behavioral Services (TBS)
- After-Care Services

11-12 ANNUAL REPORT ENCLOSED

Mel's Story



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Remember Ettie Lee
Youth & Family Services
when you designate
your United Way gift.



This is Mel's story...Just like other young men who have walked through Ettie Lee's doors, his stay at Ettie Lee was a life changer. "While at Ettie Lee I put in a lot of effort and I was able to stay more on task and accomplished the assignments, homework and projects as assigned by my teachers. This is what led me into the right place to improve my skills academically, and to stay away from the Juvenile Justice System," said Mel.

Two weeks before he was to be discharged at a previous facility, accusations triggered a fight between Mel and another youth. Fear took over and Mel, a meek youth with a criminal history, ran from the facility.

Now placed at Ettie Lee, we found that this father of a baby girl wanted to start a new life. He renounced his gang status and he embraced sobriety, by taking it one day at a time—substance use was tempting but becoming manageable.

Months later as Mel stood in front of the Judge who would determine whether or not he could go home, the Judge was shocked by his success. The Judge asked with sincere curiosity. "Why did you fail the other placement, but are so successful at Ettie Lee?" Mel clearly stated, "They are like a family to me."

Mel went on to describe how his therapist really helped him and how all of the staff members threw him a Daddy baby shower where he was able to take supplies and clothes to his baby's mama. "They told me I did not have to be the kind of father to my daughter that my dad was to me, and I knew that was true."

With his family away from his "hood" and a new commitment to his child, this young man may just make it.

From the President's Desk



Terri Varnum, M.A.

Under my leadership, Ettie Lee Youth & Family Services is restructuring, reforming, streamlining, and reorganizing the 64 year old

agency to insure its relevancy for the next 60 years!

Prior to the last young man leaving the Brandes Home in Azusa in February 2013, I had already begun renewing relationships with additional contractors such as the counties of San Bernardino and Riverside as well as solidifying our relationship with Los Angeles County. Ettie Lee's relationship with the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services remains solid as Ettie Lee's Foster Family Agency continues to grow (there are more than 60 children in care today). We have finalized 4 adoptions so far this year and anticipate the adoption of 5 siblings later this month. And, in an effort to reach out to even more children, Ettie Lee has added the Intensive Treatment Foster Care (ITFC) program to its services.

The addition of ITFC allows the placement of children with serious behavioral problems, who would otherwise require group home placement, to live with families in the community.

We are now serving children from our local communities, providing mental health, therapeutic behavioral and intensive substance abuse services.

Moving forward all six of Ettie Lee's residential facilities are receiving tender loving care—cleaning, painting and repainting—while we build specialized, targeted programs to meet the expressed needs of county probation and social services departments.

Intensive Treatment Foster Care



Jennifer Yang and Debbie Henderson are leading the effort to build Ettie Lee's ITFC program.

Ettie Lee Youth & Family Services is looking for extraordinary individuals who will make an important commitment to changing the life of one child—to become Intensive Treatment Foster Parents. Once the commitment has been made, the foster parent(s) receives training and support from Ettie Lee's qualified professional staff. This leads to you becoming a Certified Intensive Treatment Foster Parent.

Your focus will be on one child—who will have the chance to thrive with the special attention, skill, and patience that you have to offer. Your investment will be great, the expectations are high, and the rewards come from the knowledge that you have made a real difference.

Children six to 17 years of age who find themselves in Intensive Treatment Foster Care have serious emotional challenges and often have spent many years in many different group homes. Coming to Ettie Lee, these children receive careful attention and are matched with right the foster parent(s).

The program offers the team approach to treatment with the foster parent(s) as a part of the treatment team. A support counselor offers individualized counseling and emotional support, mentoring, and modeling skills for both the child and foster parent(s). Foster parents in this program receive a higher reimbursement rate for the care.

Questions? Please call Jennifer Yang at (626) 255-8227 or email at jennifer_t@ettielee.org.

Be A Foster Parent

Call Monica 626-967-5082

Se Habla Español

**Ask About Our Foster Parent
Referral Program. You Can Help
Recruit AND Earn \$300!!!**



ETTIE LEE
Youth & Family Services
754 E. Arrow Highway #F
Covina, CA 91722
(626) 967-5082 www.ettielee.org

Holiday Heroes

The holiday season brings out the hero in all of us. This year was no different. We were so very happy to be the beneficiary of many, many gifts for our youth (and in some cases whole families) from:

Our Corporate Heroes are: Alcoa, Assemblymember Roger Hernandez, 48th District, Baldwin Park High School, Baldwin Park Unified School District, Denny's (Azusa and Grand Ave.), Friends of Foster Children, Haemonetics, Harrington Group, Lewis, Brisbois, Bisgaard and Smith, and the Pacific Palms Hotel and Conference Center.

Our Home Heroes are: Jean Arnott, Robertson; Lois Buchanan, John Eccles; Pat Giles, Brandes; Michelle Ramirez and Connie Hulet, Diamond L; Joyce Wing and Karin Rogers, Fontana.

A very special thank you to Pacific Palms Hotel and Convention Center for hosting more than 75 residents and staff at the 2nd Annual Holiday Party at the Hotel on December 19. The chocolate waterfall was a hit, yet again!



Honor Roll

"We never consider our gifts as a donation. They are investments."

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Every Picture Tells A Story



Late last year, Ettie Lee Youth & Family Services met the standards for excellence in child and family services based on completion of accreditation through the California Alliance. Ettie Lee's President & CEO, Terri Varnum (center) is pictured with Carroll Schroeder (l) and Mary Kay Gerski (r) of the California Alliance at the award ceremony.



Our Friends at Alcoa Fastening Systems, City of Industry lovingly purchased not only gifts for a young foster child, but for his foster parents, the Villanuevas, as well.



Friends of Foster Children's annual Sugar Plum Tree at the Santa Anita Mall is staffed by volunteers each year. A few of the volunteers on December 13, 2012 were (from l to r) Sherrill Leavitt, Marta Viscara and Jack Alm.



Friends of Foster Children's Foster Caring Committee supports Ettie Lee every month! Recently they purchased supplies that will enable the youth to put together "life" books while they live at one of Ettie Lee homes.



The San Gabriel Valley YMCA and Y-ACES donated a whole bunch of canned goods for the children and families that we serve during the holiday season.



California State Senator Ed Hernandez and Suburban Water Systems provided turkeys during the holidays. Accepting turkeys is Vicki Mastro, Ettie Lee's Director of Development.



One of the projects that Alcoa volunteers participated in for their volunteer month, was to install a beautiful raised garden at Ettie Lee's John Eccles home.



Ettie Lee is proud to participate in the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power's Donor fair held each autumn. LADWP employees have supported Ettie Lee for more than 30 years.

Statement of Financial Position

Assets	2012	2011
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents (Note 2)	\$ 1,224,447	459,739
Accounts receivable – net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$50,000	513,947	929,944
Prepaid expenses	207,569	236,549
Total current assets	1,945,963	1,626,232
Non-current assets		
Investments (Note 3)	636,956	689,461
Property and equipment (Note 5)	371,352	663,398
Total non-current assets	1,008,308	1,352,859
Total assets	\$ 2,954,271	2,979,091
Liabilities and net assets		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$ 175,062	180,575
Accrued payroll	212,296	238,746
Accrued vacation	266,075	281,671
Other accrued expenses	9,425	10,617
Accrued unemployment liability (Note 6)	41,107	56,551
Deferred revenue	650,900	540,156
Current portion of note payable (Note 7)		17,019
Total Current Liabilities	1,354,865	1,326,548
Non-current liabilities		
Long-term portion of note payable (Note 7)		781,319
Total non-current liabilities		781,319
Total liabilities	1,354,865	2,107,867
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	1,497,626	743,675
Unrestricted – board designated (Note 2)	3,758	8,000
Temporarily restricted (Note 8)	79,283	100,810
Permanently restricted (Note 9)	18,739	18,739
Total net assets	1,599,406	871,224
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 2,954,271	2,979,091

Statement of Activities

Revenue and Support		
Fees from government agencies (Note 10)	\$ 8,249,658	8,871,768
Contributions	399,759	406,873
Interest and dividends	46,938	(123,847)
Other Income	10,476	10,509
Interest and dividends	6,828	12,302
Net assets released from capital restrictions		
Net assets released from program restrictions		
Total revenue and support	8,713,659	9,177,605
Expenses		
Program services	7,977,250	8,461,379
Support services	1,071,434	1,025,825
Fund development	202,219	195,489
Total expenses	9,250,903	9,682,693
Other changes		
Gain on sale of property and equipment	1,265,426	619
Total other changes	1,265,426	619
Change in net assets	728,182	(504,469)
Net assets, beginning of year	871,224	1,375,693
Net assets, end of year	\$ 1,599,406	871,224



WISH LIST

There are many ways that you can support the children and families of Ettie Lee Youth & Family Services' group homes and foster homes. Whether it's a financial gift or a gift of time or your talent, please call the development department so we can help match your idea with the needs of the children and families we serve.

Also the following are items that are always needed:

- Toiletries of any kind: toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, deodorant, shower gels, soaps, perfume and cologne, towels and lotions
- Hairdressing items: gel, brushes, combs, hair ties, headbands
- Clothing: grey short-sleeved t-shirts, ankle socks, polo shirts with collars, athletic shoes
- Bedding: twin bed sheets, pillow cases and comforters
- Art Supplies: canvases, sketchbooks, watercolors, charcoal, colored pencils, construction paper, and paints
- School supplies: backpacks, notebooks, pencils, crayons, rulers, binders, white out, stick glue
- Tickets: movies, sport events, plays, amusement parks
- Sports Equipment: balls of all kinds – basketball, soccer, volleyball, soccer and volleyball nets, ping pong tables
- Electronics: Wii games, X Box games, and MP3's

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Baldwin Park • Covina • Fontana (2) • Pomona • Redlands



Support Ettie Lee Youth & Family Services—place a bumper sticker just like this on your car. Contact James and he'll send one (or more!) to you...
626-960-4861 or james_r@ettielee.org

Be A Foster Parent!
(626) 967-5082
Ettie Lee Youth & Family Services