



"Her memories will be happy. I thank Edgewood for that."

STOPPING THE CYCLE OF ABUSE Jenny won't remember that her mother and brother were desperate when they came to Edgewood a year ago. Or, that through counseling in Edgewood's Differential Response program, her mother escaped an abusive relationship. She won't recall the parenting classes her mom took or the help her big brother got to cope with the violence he witnessed. Baby Jenny's childhood memories will be of a loving family.

Our mission
The mission of Edgewood Center for Children and Families is to strengthen children, youth, families, and their communities through service, training, advocacy, and research.



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Coming Up

ODC'S THE VELVETEEN RABBIT: SPONSOR A CHILD



Thursday, December 4, 7pm
Yerba Buena Center
Go to Edgewood.org to sponsor a child's ticket or join us for a performance of ODC/Dance's holiday classic The Velveteen Rabbit benefiting Edgewood.

edgewood.org/events

SAVE-THE-DATE: THE 43RD ANNUAL EDGEWOOD FAIR

Tuesday and Wednesday, May 5 and 6
Golden Gate Club, Presidio
Don't miss The Party on the 5th and a day of shopping and The Lunch on the 6th.

edgewood.org/getinvolved/auxiliary

Brighter Futures

News from Edgewood Center for Children and Families



WWW.EDGEWOOD.ORG

FALL 2008 / WINTER 2009

Giants to Invite Edgewood Kids to Holiday Celebration

This holiday season, the San Francisco Giants have invited Edgewood's children, youth, and families to their annual holiday celebration at AT&T Park. Each year, the Giants host fun-filled festivities for children and youth served by various non-profit organizations throughout the San Francisco Bay Area. Our children will enjoy face-painting, as well as the entertainment of a magician!

This past season, Edgewood was awarded \$10,000 during a pre-game home plate ceremony at AT&T Park. AT&T and the Giants have teamed up to create the Community All-Star program, which honors non-profit organizations in Northern California, who best exemplify AT&T and the Giants' shared values of community service. As a Community All-Star honoree, Edgewood will invest this funding in *Second Step*, a school-based violence prevention curriculum designed to promote social competence and reduce children's social and emotional problems by educating students on empathy, impulse control, problem solving, and anger management.

edgewood.org/whatwedo/community



GIANT HEARTS: RANDY AND BLESSINGS WINN A group of Edgewood kids will have warm baseball memories to get them through the winter. Before the season wrapped up, Giants All-Star Randy Winn and wife Blessings welcomed them to batting practice at Giant's Stadium. The couple is passionate about helping Bay Area children. That's no surprise to us — Blessings Winn used to work in Edgewood's Residential Treatment Program.

Story of Hope Foster Care Champion Alexandar Sharp

Edgewood's Turning Point program and participant Alexandar Sharp, a former foster child, were among several programs and people honored in the State Capitol in May for being in the forefront of child welfare reforms.

The recognition, before an audience of more than 150 people, came on the opening day of the fourth annual National Foster Care Month,

a series of events to raise awareness of the state's 75,000 foster children and the difficulty many encounter when they move out of the system at age 18.

Edgewood's Turning Point program in San Mateo County empowers youths to succeed in their transition to adulthood. Sharp, who once lived in a downtown Redwood City motel, is now a freshman at Skyline College in San Bruno. "Turning Point helped me stabilize my life," he told the audience, explaining how workers at Edgewood helped him obtain his graduation equivalency diploma and become a psychology major.

Edgewood Turning Point participant Alexandar Sharp was singled out for his accomplishments during National Foster Care Month. Read his "Story of Hope" and get more information about Edgewood Turning Point on Edgewood.org.





LET IT SNOW! A trip to the mountains in Strawberry, California is becoming a winter tradition for children and caregivers participating in Edgewood's San Francisco Kinship program. Kinship helps family caregivers, quiet heroes who step up when a relative can no longer care for a child. Many caregivers are seniors, so recreation and respite is a critical part of the service mix. The bus to the Sierras embarks before sunrise from Edgewood's Family Center. As dawn breaks, many of the children see snow for the first time in their lives. The caregivers help raise money to fund the excursion, and Edgewood has donated hats, coats, and mittens on hand to make sure everyone stays warm.



SAN FRANCISCO BELIEVES IN CHILDREN After the Mayor restored funds for Edgewood's Residential program in the City budget, Edgewood CEO Nancy Rubin and Edgewood staff, Board and Auxiliary members gathered outside City Hall to publicly thank the Mayor, Supervisors, and the community at large for coming through for Edgewood's children.

Unconditional Love

Three therapy dogs work with children on Edgewood's San Francisco Campus. Therapist Patty Ryan who owns Sadie (pictured left), a standard poodle, says, "The kids all want to say 'hi' to Sadie in the morning when they arrive and 'bye' in the afternoon when they leave. When a kid is upset, Sadie often goes over the child and sits quietly next to them. I can put their hand on her and they automatically start petting her. They quiet down quickly and often hug Sadie. It helps them get in touch with their sadness that is underneath the anger and then they can use our help to talk and heal."

edgewood.org/whatwedo/intensive

Spreading Kinship

On December 4-5, 2008, Edgewood's Kinship Support Network will host a Bay Area Regional Training in San

Mateo. Edgewood is the national leader in the creation and adoption of family-centric approaches to child welfare. As an innovator, Edgewood continuously strives to share its expertise in order to improve services across California and beyond. In 1990, Edgewood Kinship became the first community-based program in the nation to offer support and resources to extended family members caring for their grandchildren, nieces, and nephews. Since then, KSN has provided technical assistance and coordinated advocacy efforts in 30 counties throughout California.

Healing Through Creativity

Edgewood ARTS (Afterschool Recreation and Therapeutic Services), a new pilot program, recently opened on our San Francisco Campus. Edgewood ARTS serves children ages 6-16 with special needs, who

cannot succeed in mainstream afterschool programs. "We recognize that children can do more healing using both sides of their brain," said Regional Director of Campus Services Heather Nelson Brame.

edgewood.org/whatwedo/intensive

Safe Start Summit

SAFE START SUMMIT Edgewood Safe Start is a pilot study looking at how the Safe Start intervention helps kinship families with children under the age of 8, who have been exposed to violence. In August, Edgewood Safe Start held a summit to share what we've learned with local and national partners.

Nationally, the goal of the Safe Start initiative is to increase the understanding of and promote community investment in preventing and reducing the impact of violence on children. New scientific research is uncovering the psychological impact of violence on the developing human brain and the long-term consequences of this exposure.

After exposure to violence, young children may exhibit behaviors, symptoms, and emotional difficulties relating to their trauma. This may affect the relationship between the child and their caregivers and their subsequent ability to live fulfilling lives.

edgewood.org/whatwedo/kinship/safestart

Edgewood Thanks Newsom

At the Edgewood Hope Ball Pre-party, Edgewood's Board thanked San Francisco

Mayor Gavin Newsom for adding funding to this year's budget for local children being served in our Residential

Treatment program. In one of the tightest budget year's ever, the Mayor said that he decided to make an exception for Edgewood because private funders supplement every dollar the City contributes. Newsom also shared a personal story about growing up with foster brothers and sisters and the struggles they have faced as adults.

A Legend Retires

After a lifetime of service, 36 years total, Harry Waller retired from Edgewood this Autumn. A manager in our maintenance department,

Harry was a trusted friend to his co-workers, members of the Edgewood Auxiliary who he assisted at the Edgewood Fair, and, of course, our kids. Good luck, Harry!

Welcome Tjiska Van Wyk

Edgewood is thrilled to welcome Tjiska Van Wyk as our new Director of Development. Tjiska brings more than 20 years of experience in professional fundraising and development. Prior to Edgewood, she worked at the American Diabetes Association, The Sierra Club, American Red Cross, Earthjustice Legal Defense Fund, and most recently, as Vice President of Development for The San Francisco Zoo. "She is a true development executive who has been credited with professionalizing development departments, setting and meeting concrete fundraising goals, and working extremely well with staff, senior management and Boards," said Edgewood CEO Nancy Rubin.

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2009 Chairs Take Fair "Around the World"



Introducing the co-chairs of the 43rd Annual Edgewood Fair: Danielle Harney and Janet Lautenberger. Danielle and Janet have selected "Around the World" as the theme

of this year's fair, which will take place on May 5 and 6, 2009. The Edgewood Auxiliary is a group of committed volunteers dedicated to raising money to benefit the Edgewood. The Auxiliary organizes and produces the Edgewood Fair as its primary fundraiser. The Edgewood Fair has raised more than \$6 million for Edgewood.

edgewood.org/getinvolved/auxiliary

Toy Drive

The holidays can be a particularly challenging time for those served by Edgewood. Almost all



of our clients are low-income – basic necessities are barely affordable and even the simplest of luxuries, such as a new pair of shoes, are out of the question. Help make this holiday season a time of warmth, excitement, and

laughter for those at Edgewood who need it the most by making a cash donation or making a contribution to the Holiday Toy Drive.

edgewood.org/getinvolved/wishlist

Fundraiser Photo Albums on Edgewood.org

Links to fantastic shots from Edgewood fundraisers are available on Edgewood.org. See pictures from the The Edgewood Fair, the Aqua Surf Fashion Show benefiting Edgewood, and the Edgewood Hope Ball.

edgewood.org/getinvolved/photos

2008 Edgewood Hope Ball



2008 Edgewood Fair

