

PROJECTS APPROVED IN NOVEMBER 2017

1. JUST IN TIME FOR FOSTER YOUTH \$2,590 Shopper: Cheryl Navalesi
www.jitfosteryouth.org

Just in Time for Foster Youth engages a caring community to help transitioning foster youth achieve self-sufficiency and well-being as they leave the child welfare system. It was realized that over 300 youth each year were exiting the SD Foster Care System and moving into transitional living options. This gave them a space to keep off the streets but most things that create a home were missing, like pots, pans and dishes to prepare a meal, furnishings and even a bed to sleep on.

They are requesting kitchen items, flatware and cookware sets for fifteen youth.

2. KID'S CORNER (Part of Burrito Boys) \$150 Shopper: Nanci Copley

Their mission is to nourish the spirit of the Street Homeless of SD County by providing food. We will purchase holiday bags and provide the children with a small holiday gift in addition to the food we already provide.

3. GENERATE HOPE \$4,600 Shopper: Fran Becker
www.generatehope.org

Generate Hope serves young girls as young as 14, who have survived the trauma and violence of sex trafficking and have opted into the program of healing and restoration so that they are able to reintegrate into society.

Generate Hope operates a Recovery Center in Bonita. It houses 6-7 girls. The center provides housing for 2 years with individual therapy and education.

Their request is for furniture for their newly renovated rooms.
Living room furniture: couch sets, lamps, coffee table and pillows.
Den: couch, lamps and a credenza.
Patio: wooden bench swing

4. CHRISTIE'S PLACE \$2,000 Shopper: Danni Fredricks
www.christiesplace.org

Christie's Place is an organization located in the Banker's Hill

neighborhood that serves women and children infected and affected by HIV/AIDS in San Diego. They have a Holiday Party for families in need.

Their request is to have FOCUS help them reach their toy drive goal of 150 gifts by purchasing new unwrapped gifts for children age newborn to 13 years old.

5. FAST (Fostering Academic Success Transitions) SCHOLARS PROGRAM \$8,000
Shoppers: Lisa Alves and Helen Kupka
www.sdmesa.edu/student-services/eops-care/fast-scholars.shtml

If you attended our last dinner meeting you had the pleasure of meeting Sade Burell, a former foster youth now working at Mesa College in charge of the FAST Scholars program. Their program is designed to serve current and former foster youth, guardianship and/or homeless youth who want to attend college. The FAST program is dedicated to serving and fulfilling the needs of foster youth at Mesa College. Five of the students are in need of laptops. They currently only have access to the campus library.

Their request is to have FOCUS purchase 5 laptops. They have provided specs for the types of laptops they need for their classes. We would like to provide them with quality laptops which will meet their specific needs (including Microsoft programs and antivirus software) and last them through their college years.

6. CHILDREN'S LEGAL SERVICES \$3,000 Shopper: Jean and Gene Bauer
www.clssandiego.org

Children's Legal Services of San Diego, Inc. is a non-profit benefit corporation that represents children and youth who have been abused and or neglected. They are a powerful voice for our clients pursuing family reunification, stability, and in need of health services.

Their request is:
30 backpacks
20 board games
baby supplies
toiletry bags for teens
young adult books (5 copies each)

7. TRAVELING STORIES \$2,000 Shopper: Lisa Alves
www.youtube.com/watch?v=zZWSBQv3b0&feature=youtu.be

Traveling Stories is a 501(c)3 nonprofit that aims to show the value in reading. They empower kids to outsmart poverty by providing the literacy and money management skills

they need to become productive members of society. They do this through their Story Tent programs where kids read out loud to volunteers, earning “book bucks” for each book read. These “book bucks” are used to purchased prizes. Kids range from ages 2-12. They have three weekly story tents located in El Cajon, Imperial Beach and City Heights.

Their request is to have FOCUS purchase various prize toys such as coloring books, legos, dolls, books, board games, science toys, etc.

8. FAMILIES FORWARD \$3,000 Shopper needed

Families Forward is a program within the Mental Health Systems. They provide mental health and supportive services with a team of caring professionals. They help children and youth remain in the home with their families.

Their Request is to have FOCUS purchase gifts for approximately 26 children. Make-up, art and craft supplies, balls, Legos, jeans, cameras, comics, blankets, boots, shoes, clothes.

9. URBAN STREET ANGELS \$2100 Shoppers: Sharyn Blongiewicz and Lorna Perez-Caster

We would like to provide a nice Christmas for many of the homeless youth aided by Urban Street Angels. This is to include the following:

Prepared sit down Christmas dinner for all those residing in their transitional homes.
Two decorated Christmas trees for their transitional homes (Members will decorate one of the trees at our upcoming Holiday Party on December 21st)
Shoes for youth who are currently living in the Urban Street transitional homes.