

# FOCUS on the FACTS

Friends of Children United Society Monthly Newsletter

Issue: November 2018



Editor: Carol Dobi

## 2018 BOARD MEMBERS

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### Corresponding Secretary

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619-857-6765

### Treasurer

Roger Clapp  
roger.clapp@sbglobal.net  
619-417-6811

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### GREETINGS EVERYONE:

First, I want to mention what a very nice General Membership meeting we had on October 18<sup>th</sup> at Calypso Café. Hanon had prepared delicious hors d'oeuvres, we had entertainment, covered many items and had a nice turn out. Our speaker was Barbara Chaves Director of Development from the Military Outreach Ministries. Be sure to make our next meeting!

Well members, it's November and FOCUS has a busy month ahead. This year, we are kicking off November and December as our Membership month. We have also made it easy for you to go online at [www.focus-sdkids.org](http://www.focus-sdkids.org) and pay by credit card or PayPal. You can still mail your check to our P.O. Box if you prefer. Either way, you are important to FOCUS with your membership and support, which enables us to help many children in need in San Diego County.

On this note, our Projects were approved by the Membership that was mailed out in October and the shoppers have started filling the requests. I have started shopping for Head Start – Episcopal Community Services. To me, this is so rewarding and fun to shop for children's clothing, school supplies and baby items. If you haven't been a shopper lately, be sure to give it a try, you will be helping to make needs and wishes come true!

Alexandra Polles and Sharon Blongiewicz have been working overtime to ensure that our FOCUS Holiday Boutique will be a big success! It will be on Saturday, November 17<sup>th</sup> with new vendors and fun things to purchase for your holiday gift giving. Your unwanted treasures are still needed for the FOCUS table. You can call Marjorie Logan and let her know and drop them off at her house. Sharon has more flyers, please pick some up and give to your friends and businesses outside of Coronado if possible. We need to get the word out to more people. I Hope you have signed up to help, and don't forget, our meeting is at 9:00am before the Boutique opens. At this meeting the Nominating Committee will present the slate of Officers for 2019.

Can you believe, next month is already December!! Well get ready for another busy month with the Chili Dinner and Boat Parade at CCYC on the 8<sup>th</sup> and our Christmas Party and last meeting of the year will be on December 20<sup>th</sup> at Bahama Clubhouse and Installation of your new Board of Directors for 2019!

Looking forward to seeing you, have fun, be safe and enjoy the Season,

Marianna Polles,  
FOCUS President

# TREASURY

ROGER CLAPP

## Treasurer's Report For October 2018:

Ending Balance on 10/31/2018:	\$ 56,359.58
Project Expenses:	\$ 11,289.80
Other Expenses:	\$ 2,025.27
Unobligated Money:	\$ 48,782.36

## Amazon Smile – another way to raise funds for focus

Most large companies support charities in one form or another and Amazon does it through Amazon Smile. People who use Amazon Smile can select the charity of their choice and Amazon contributes .5% percent of the cost of their qualifying order to their designated charity (not all purchases qualify). You pay the same price as you would on Amazon and Amazon Prime. Every quarter Amazon sends the total amount of contributions to the charity's account.

### Steps to shopping on Amazon Smile

Go to the website [www.Smile.Amazon.com](http://www.Smile.Amazon.com)

Log in just the same as you do with Amazon.com, using the same user name and password.

On your first visit to Amazon Smile, you will be prompted to select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. **Search for Friends of Children United Society Coronado and select it.**

Proceed with placing your order as you usually do.

Amazon Smile will remember your charity selection so that future eligible orders placed on Amazon Smile will result in a donation to FOCUS.

You might see if your friends and relatives would be interested in shopping on Amazon Smile with FOCUS as their designated charity. This is an easy way for FOCUS to get more money to help Children in Need.



# MEMBERSHIP

LISA ALVES & CAROL DOBI

## RENEW & WIN

**We need your support!** Your membership dues and support makes a big difference in the lives of children in San Diego. We've shortened our membership drive duration so we need you to act **NOW**. To make it easy to renew, we are now encouraging you to **go online** and pay your membership dues at [www.focus-sdkids.org](http://www.focus-sdkids.org).



**Bonus Offer:** Pay your membership dues now and receive **two free raffle tickets** for the **Holiday Boutique**. This is your chance to **win** wonderful gift baskets for yourself or to give this holiday season.

### Renew & Win it's as Easy as 1, 2, 3

1. Renew online at [www.focus-sdkids.org](http://www.focus-sdkids.org) and pay by credit card or PayPal.
2. Or send us a check. Print the Membership Form on the following page and mail in your renewal.
3. Go to the Holiday Boutique and claim your two FREE raffle tickets for renewal.

**Spread the word and encourage others to join FOCUS too!**



**For All New and Continuing Members  
Please Complete The Entire Form and Mail With Membership Dues**

**EACH member please complete:**

**MEMBER #1**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Check ONE:**

\_\_\_\_\_ **ACTIVE** (General Membership) \$75 per individual – are expected to participate in all organization activities, vote, hold office and propose new members.

\_\_\_\_\_ **PATRON** \$150 per individual – shall attend meetings and participate in all organization activities at their own option, vote, hold office and propose new members.

**MEMBER #2**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Check ONE:**

\_\_\_\_\_ **ACTIVE**(General Membership) \$75 per individual

\_\_\_\_\_ **PATRON** \$150 per individual

**Please indicate your INTERESTS:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Fundraising

\_\_\_\_\_ Decorations

\_\_\_\_\_ Newsletter

\_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Committee

\_\_\_\_\_ Hostess for Meetings

\_\_\_\_\_ Other

\_\_\_\_\_ Event Planning

\_\_\_\_\_ Invitations

\_\_\_\_\_ Assembly & Delivery

\_\_\_\_\_ Raffle Donations

\_\_\_\_\_ Shopping for Projects

\_\_\_\_\_ Use of Home for Special Occasions

**MAIL TO:**

FOCUS

PO Box 180023

Coronado, CA 92178

# PROJECTS

SHARON SHELTON AND BONNIE VAN VUGT

## PROJECTS FOR OCT 2018

### 1) URBAN STREET ANGELS

**Mission:** Founded in 2012, it began as a small group of volunteers hitting the streets of Ocean Beach several times a month with backpacks of supplies and home-cooked means. Mission is to end youth homelessness by providing supportive housing and job training to cultivate personal responsibility. Focuses on homeless youth and operates an emergency overnight shelter.

**Amount: \$2600**

**Purpose:** Purchase 4 Dell Computer stations (\$519.00 each) = 2076.00 plus a vacuum cleaner (\$500) for new living space.

### 2) TRAVELING STORIES

**Mission:** Founded in 2010, Traveling Stories wanted to provide a program for at-risk kids that would not only help them learn to read, but also help them fall in love with reading. In 2011, Traveling Stories created the StoryTent: a mobile literacy program that provides one-on-one reading support and motivational incentives to kids. For every book read, kids earn a Book Buck, which can be redeemed for prizes.

**Amount: \$2000**

**Purpose:** To purchase toys used as prizes to reward reading.

### 3) CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES, COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO, HHSA

**Mission:** The County of San Diego makes every effort to protect, serve and enrich the children in our region. They offer and an array of services dedicated to promoting healthy, happy and opportunity-filled lives for every child.

**Amount: \$2500**

**Purpose:** To purchase duffel bags for foster children so that when they move families/agencies they have more than a black trash bag for their belongings.

#### 4) HEAD START – EPISCOPAL COMMUNITY SERVICES

**Mission:** ECS Head Start and Early Head Start are comprehensive child development programs serving children from birth to age 5, pregnant women, and their families. These child-focused programs utilize research-based, developmentally appropriate curriculum and have the overall goal of increasing Kindergarten readiness for young children from low-income families.

**Amount:** \$2000

**Purpose:** To purchase a variety of items including: children's clothing, socks, shoes, school supplies, hygiene items, and baby items.

#### 5) FAMILIES FORWARD – MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEMS

**Mission:** Families Forward Wraparound provides mental health and supportive services with a team of caring professionals. Our program helps children and youth remain in the home with their families, and assists them in becoming more successful in other key areas of their lives.

**Amount:** \$2000

**Purpose:** To purchase Christmas presents for children ages (12-18 yrs old) who are ineligible, due to their age, to receive gifts from other agencies. Families in this program are low-income and are given support services to keep the family together as a unit.

**TOTAL AMOUNT OF OCT 2018 PROJECTS: \$11,100**



Staff at Reality Changers enthusiastically accepts a delivery of school and office supplies donated by FOCUS. Reality Changer transforms lives of disadvantaged children with academic, financial and leadership support to enable them to become college graduates.

**\* NOVEMBER 17TH HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE \***

For months, a lot goes on behind the scenes to make this popular event a big success every year, so a ***huge thank you*** to all the members who have volunteered to help.

40+ Vendors this year and lots of exciting new vendors ... be thinking about Your Christmas shopping list! Also lots of wonderful snacks are provided and a great lunch menu will be available for purchase.

WHAT A GREAT WAY TO KICK-OFF THE HOLIDAYS!!!

Be sure to invite guests and we'll see you there!

**PS:**

***Please be prepared to renew your membership that day by  
check or credit card.***

***(\$2 processing fee for credit card payment).***

**Happy  
Holidays!**





# HOLIDAY *Boutique*

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17th, 2018

10 A.M. to 3 P.M.

Coronado Cays Yacht Club  
30 Caribe Cay Blvd.

It's clothing, jewelry, handbags, home accessories and holiday décor, it's shopping galore, and so much more! Find something special for everyone on your list . . . plus a gift or two just for you!

*\$10 Admission includes refreshments, pastries, specialty coffees and entertainment. Lunch available for purchase.*



*All proceeds benefit San Diego County underprivileged, disabled and military children.*



For more information contact Alexandra Polles  
619-921-5812 or [focusholidayb@gmail.com](mailto:focusholidayb@gmail.com)

# THANK YOU

Dear Focus members,

This year I expanded the program a little more. I have about 30+ students participating in the sport. We had a boxing camp this past summer for three weeks. There was a good turn out with about 10-12 students participating. There has also been positive changes in students that had exhibited concerning behavior. Teachers are seeing the benefits at risk students gain from boxing. Without the generosity of FOCUS most of this wouldn't have happened. From the bottom of my heart I want to thank FOCUS for helping me make his vision into a reality!

With gratitude,  
Izai Castillo  
Counselor  
Mueller Elementary School

FOCUS,

My name is Jessica Sanchez, Family Services Coordinator at Christie's Place. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for generously supporting the opportunity for clients to access hygiene through our collaborative Hygiene Drive. Providing hygiene products and diapers to our families is more important than many realize; only when basic needs such as these are met can women begin to focus on medical care and treatment. Thanks to advocates such as yourself, we can continue to give hope to the families we serve. Our staff and clients deeply appreciate your ongoing support of our mission. With FOCUS' donation of \$2,500, Pat was able to buy us:

Baby Hygiene Product	Quantity	Hygiene Product	Quantity
Diapers -Size 1	2 boxes	Shampoo	300
Diapers- Size 2	2 boxes	Conditioner	300
Diapers- Size 3	2 boxes	Soap	100 (3 packs)
Diapers -Size 5	2 boxes	Razors	120 (5 packs)
Diapers -Size 6	2 boxes	Lotion	100
Pull Ups - Size 2t-3t	4 boxes	Maxi Pads	100 (16 Count)
Pull Ups- Size 3t-4t	4 boxes	Panty Liner	100 (24 count)
Pull Ups- Size 4t-5t	4 boxes	Tampons	80 (8 count)
Baby Wipes	72 packs	Tooth Paste	50

I really want to express how special this donation experience was for me. The communication between Pat and I was so easy and very transparent. She is very dedicated to children and the work that FOCUS does, making the experience even more personal to me as I dream of serving women and children through work and as a volunteer. Pat went above and beyond to help with our Hygiene Program- and for that, we so thankful!

As she was dropping off the donations, she and her husband were able to see Christie's Place transform into a spooky laboratory for our Halloween Party. I feel it is appropriate to send you a couple of photos from this event to show you all a couple of our clients who will be benefitting from your donation.

Thank you all so much for the work you do for the community,

Jessica Sanchez

Family Services Coordinator  
Christie's Place  
2440 Third Avenue  
San Diego, CA 92101  
619 702-4186 office  
619 702-5924 fax  
[www.christiesplace.org](http://www.christiesplace.org)

# EVENTS



*OCTOBER  
MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT  
CALYPSO CAFE*