



February 2022 Newsletter



Message from the President, Pat Robitaille

The board has been super busy during the month of January. We are so excited to be reunited in person this year and have decided on a format for regular meetings. We know how busy everyone is and are trying to set our calendar for events as early as possible. You will always find our events on our website, www.focus-sdkids.org. Just click on CALENDAR to see what is coming up. As we set dates, we will put it on the calendar. And as we work through details for the event, we will be updating them on the website. So, be sure to check back frequently. You will also be able to register to attend on the website.

As we still do not have a VP for Fundraising, the Board is stepping in to get events on the calendar. We will need volunteers to help us, so look for my “ask” and please do sign up to help with those events that interest you. It is a great way to get to know new members and reconnect.

Here are some of what we have going:

Quarterly “Meet & Greet” Happy Hours

We will be focusing on a single cause and introducing you to the agencies that we support. Our first that is coming up on March 23rd will introduce you to our Military agencies. Thanks to our Treasurer Sharon Shelton, we will be meeting at the Famous iBAR on North Island NAS. Watch for our upcoming invitation and be sure to invite friends to learn more about the great work FOCUS is doing to support the Military here in San Diego and possibly become a member of FOCUS.

“Hands On” Afternoon at the Yacht Club (mostly)

At these events, we will update you on FOCUS and ask you to assist. There is a broad range of activities that “many hands make light work”. Watch the CALENDAR on our upcoming events that will minimally include

- February: Valentines for Kids
- April: Succulents for the Coronado Flower Show
- July: 4th of July FOCUS Entry
- August: Backpack Project
- October: Halloween Candy Assembly for Coronado City Event

Social/Fundraising Events

These events will support two primary objectives: 1, raise funds for FOCUS to support San Diego's kids in need, and 2, create an environment for our members and friends to connect in person and help grow our membership. A few that are soon getting onto the calendar include:

- April 14: Craft Cocktail Party (FOCUS Signature Drink Voting!)
- May 15: 40th Anniversary Gala at Feast & Fareway

40th Anniversary Special Project

Earlier this week, I sent all members an opportunity to vote on this special project to commemorate our 40th anniversary and do something very, very special for a San Diego Agency who helps support the county's kids in need. As FOCUS is now 40 years old, we want to create some events throughout the year that will bring attention to our causes and to share the significant positive impact we make in our community. Our first proposal for the year is to fund a \$40,000 project. As you know, we have bought a couple of vans in the past that cost around \$25,000, but never something as big as \$40,000. We feel very fortunate to be in a financial position to allow for this and wanted to link the 40 years with the dollar amount, thus the \$40K. We will be promoting this project offer to all agencies that we have supported as well as any that meet our criteria.



Executive VP, Denise Donato-McConnell

It is a wonderful privilege and pleasure to be a part of FOCUS during this exciting time - our 40th anniversary! While it is a bit intimidating to be following in the footsteps of Lisa Storey, her fabulous job will be an inspiration!

At our Board Meeting, we discussed some wonderful plans to celebrate this amazing milestone in our history! We are looking forward to sharing these plans with you and getting your feedback at our meeting on Tuesday, February 8th!

I hope you can join us for some Valentine treats and a chance to create personal Valentine Cards to send love and happiness to children in three of our partner organizations! The flier below lists details on how to sign up in advance. Please be sure to sign-up so that we can ensure we can accommodate all those interested in attending.

At the meeting, we will learn about the work that these partners do to help children in need. We will also update you on upcoming meetings, as well as unique member gatherings and our special 40th Anniversary Gala plans!

I know you share with me the pride in FOCUS's mission and my excitement at the opportunities this upcoming year will bring!

March Military Month

Next month, we are celebrating the Military at FOCUS. As we did last year, our projects for the month will all benefit the military agencies that offer so much support to our enlisted, retired and their families. In addition to projects, we will be honoring these agencies at a very special event on March 23rd at the iBAR on NAS North Island. The military agencies that we support will all be there. This will be a great event to not only attend but to bring family and friends so they can learn more about the great work these agencies do. Details will be coming out soon. Watch for them and be sure to mark this on your calendar for 4-7pm.

Please be sure to register at <https://focus-sdkids.org/event/valentine-cards-for-kids/> if you are able to join us.

The poster has a light pink background. At the top, two dark brown, swirling branches frame the title. Each branch has several small pink hearts and a larger heart-shaped card hanging from it. The cards are decorated with pink roses and green leaves. The title "Valentine's Cards for Kids" is written in a large, elegant, cursive script in a dark pink color. Below the title, the event details are listed in a bold, sans-serif font. The text is centered and reads: "Focus First Member Meeting of 2022!", "February, 8th at 1:00 - 3:00pm", and "Coronado Cays Yacht Club". Below this, a paragraph in a smaller, sans-serif font says: "Join us to hear about some of our exciting upcoming events in celebration of our 40th anniversary! We will enjoy sweet treats and create valentines to send love to children in need!". Another line of text in the same font says: "Kindly RSVP and make payment of \$10 by February 4th". Below this is the registration link: "https://focus-sdkids.org/event/valentine-cards-for-kids/". At the bottom, there is an illustration of two rabbits sitting on a small, ornate table. The rabbit on the left is brown and the one on the right is grey. They are both looking at a small glass of pink liquid on the table. To the left of the rabbits, a small grey rabbit with white wings is flying, holding a pink heart on a string. The bottom of the poster is decorated with green grass and small pink hearts.

Valentine's Cards for Kids

Focus First Member Meeting of 2022!
February, 8th at 1:00 - 3:00pm
Coronado Cays Yacht Club

Join us to hear about some of our exciting
upcoming events in celebration of our
40th anniversary!
We will enjoy sweet treats and create
valentines to send love to children in need!

Kindly RSVP and make payment of \$10
by February 4th

<https://focus-sdkids.org/event/valentine-cards-for-kids/>

For alternative
reservations/payment
please contact
ddonato@focus-sdkids.org.



Financial Report from Treasurers, Sharon Shelton & Kathy Tyner

FOCUS Financial Report for Jan 2022

Balance as of 1 Jan 2021

Available for Projects	\$	77,100.18
Reserve (Savings Account)	\$	50,016.39
Total	\$	127,116.57

Income

Donations	\$	1,200.00
Membership	\$	1,125.00
Holiday Boutique	\$	260.00
Meeting Income (Feb 2022)	\$	60.00
Total	\$	2,645.00

Expenses

Projects	\$	35.00
Insurance	\$	116.90
Software, office supplies, fees	\$	636.45
Total	\$	788.35

Balance as of 25 Jan 2022

Available for Projects	\$	78,956.83
Reserve (Savings Account)	\$	50,016.39
Total	\$	128,973.22

A very sincere thank you to our many donors you so generously gave to FOCUS at the end of 2021. Thanks to your gifts, our total end of year donations were a whopping \$32,000! Great way to start 2022!



Fundraising Report from 1st VP, TBD

We are still looking for someone to fill this most important position. The board is filling in for now so that we can secure venues, but we will need chairpersons and committee members to help us out. Please consider helping us with our traditional events.

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|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. 40th Anniversary Gala | May 15th at Feast & Fareway |
| 2. Rummage Sale | Date TBD, Cays HOA Offices <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Roger Clapp, Chairperson |
| 3. Holiday Boutique | November 19th at CCYC |
| 4. Holiday Boat Parade | December 10th at CCYC <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lisa Storey, Chairperson |



Projects Report: 2nd VPs, Sharyn Blongiewicz & Carin Cross



January Funded Projects

We had more members volunteering to shop this month than ever before. Thank you all so much. If you haven't had the chance to shop please keep volunteering as we are trying to give everyone the opportunity. A thank you to this month's shoppers.

Please keep your eye out for more information about our upcoming Valentine making meeting in February. The valentines will spread some joy at three agencies that are supported by FOCUS.



KIDSTURN San Diego

To promote, support and secure the well-being of children who are experiencing family Separation. Programs include Family Workshops and Creating Brighter Futures for Children Counseling Program.

Request: Copy paper, crayons, stickers, craft materials & supplies for workshops

Amount: \$ 2,700

Shopper: Sharyn Blongiewicz



Vista Hill

To enhance and improve the quality of life for families and individuals by providing an array of mental/behavioral health, educational and social services.

Request: Supplies, motor skills equipment, educational items, art supplies and learning toys for the on-site specialized pre-school and childcare services in the Therapeutic Learning Centers (TLCs).

Amount: \$ 2,200

Shopper: Clarice Perkins

Public Library City of Coronado

To acquire and make available a collection of books, audio-visual, and other library and information resources to meet the informational, recreational, and cultural needs of the community and to actively promote reading, life-long learning, and the pursuit of knowledge. To enhance and improve the quality of life for families and individuals by providing an array of mental/behavioral health, educational and social services.

Request: Sponsorships of Parent Magazine and Chop-Chop Magazine

Amount: \$ 35

Shopper: Ethel Kallsen

Coronado Middle School

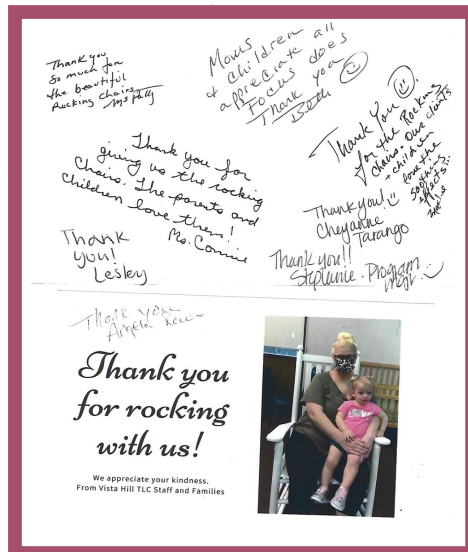
Through rigorous academic standards, high expectations, and a coordinated curriculum, Coronado Middle School and the Coronado Unified School District, in partnership with our small, involved community, will graduate students with the knowledge and skills necessary to excel in higher education, careers, society, and life with the confidence not only to dream, but to determine their futures.

Request: A donation to the Adopt a Camper fundraiser ensuring that every 6th grade student regardless of ability to pay has the opportunity to attend the SD County Outdoor Education Overnight Camp February 7-11.

Amount: \$ 350

Shopper: Carin Cross

SPECIAL RECOGNITION



Because Linda Dorn had a special place in her heart for infants, FOCUS members approved the purchase of rocking chairs to rock babies at Vista Hill and Father Joe's. Each chair has a small brass plate in her memory. FOCUS members all agreed ... it is a fitting use for some of the funds from her donated IRA.





Barbara Donahue & Therese Pallares

We are happy to be your new Membership Vice-Presidents for 2022. We thank all who have renewed so far and encourage all renewals to be completed in February. As you may know the renewal of your membership is one of the largest FOCUS fundraisers for the year. We depend upon your commitment and involvement. We will publish our new membership directory in March, so need your renewal in time to include you. Currently, our membership for 2022 is:

Active: 31

Corporate: 3

Patron: 21

So for those of you who have yet to renew (or to join), please do so soon. Our website makes it quick and easy. Please use the following link for online renewals.

<https://focus-sdkids.org/membership/>

We accept both credit and debit cards, as well as PayPal payments on our website.

If you prefer, renewals may also be made by mailing a check, payable to FOCUS, to:

FOCUS,

P.O. Box 180023,

Coronado, CA 92178.

If you have any friends, neighbors or colleagues who might be interested in FOCUS, please invite them to join us at our Valentine meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 8th, 1-3 P.M.



Wishing a very happy birthday to all of our members
celebrating their birthday this month!

2/2 - Walt Becker

2/9 - Pat Bowler

2/12 - Fred Eckert

2/13 - Leslie Angelino

2/22 - Lorna Perez-Caster

Many of you have not provided us with your birthday so we are unable to acknowledge you.
When you renew your membership, please provide your birthday so that we can update our
files.



Member Spotlight by Don Swanson

This past month was one of sadness for Don when he lost his wife. We are deeply saddened for your loss, Don, and are here with open arms when you are ready to return to your friends at FOCUS.



Corporate Sponsors

We thank you!



"I am very proud to be a part of FOCUS as it has consistently benefited so many children and persons in need for decades.

Wishing much success, health and happiness for a wonderful 2022."



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