

May 2022 Newsletter



Message from the President, Pat Robitaille

What a great month we just celebrated!

- Agency applications received and recipient of our 40th Anniversary Grant selected. (Read the Projects report for details.)
- Craft Cocktail Party at VP Carin Cross's lovely courtyard. Fun to see so many of our old and new members at this event where we enjoyed Raspberry Palomas, Gin Fizz, and a Bourbon Craft. Yum!
- FOCUS Booth at Coronado Flower Show where we shared our mission and signed up new FOCUS members.



We are just two weeks away from our 40th Anniversary Gala Celebration. Lisa Alves and her team have been doing an amazing job in putting together what is sure to be a great event that will raise lots of money to support SD kids.. You can even bid on a Craft Cocktail party of your own with our Poura Vida bartenders. Who wouldn't want that? Please read their report to learn more.

CRAFT COCKTAIL PARTY FUN

Celebrated April 22 at VP Carin Cross's Patio

By Expert mixologists, Kaylee Reynolds and Antonio Meza,

Owners of Poura Vida Craft Co.





Executive VP, Denise Donato-McConnell

Thank you to everyone who celebrated with fellow FOCUS members and friends at our Craft Cocktail Party on April 22nd!

A beautiful venue, the historic home of VP Carin Cross was the setting for a wonderful evening! Members and friends of FOCUS can always be counted on for their help and expert advice. So it was no wonder the lovely courtyard was filled with conversation and laughter as craft cocktails were evaluated for our 40th Anniversary choice. Expert mixologists Kaylee Reyholds and Antonio Mezu, the owners of Poura Vida Craft Company, created three amazing cocktails! Everyone who was there will be excited to know they can bid on a private party with the talented Kaylee and Antonio as a silent auction item at the Gala!

Coming up on May 15th, The Ruby Gala promises to be a memorable and magical evening in celebration of FOCUS 40th Anniversary! Lisa Alves and her amazing team have created an incredibly special event! Learn about the agency selection for FOCUS 40th Anniversary award. If you haven't already made plans to be a part of the fun, there are only a few days left to get a ticket to join us for an evening of dining and dancing!

Good news for FOCUS members and members of the community who have been asking about the Rummage Sale. It is scheduled for Saturday June 11th and promises to have even more treasures than ever. Check out the flier for information on time and place and how to donate gently used items.

So many have shared how much they enjoyed our event in March at the iBar where we shared the mission of our Military aid partners as we enjoyed drinks and a taco feast at this iconic bar. FOCUS is planning another special event you won't want to miss! Stay tuned to learn how you can be a part of a fun event celebrating the amazing work of our literacy aid partners!

As always, it is your generous participation in our events that contribute to FOCUS having the funds to expand our outreach and help even more children in need. Thank you so much and we look forward to seeing you soon!



RUMMAGE

SALE

Saturday, June 11

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Coronado Cays

HOA Parking Lot
505 Grand Caribe Causeway

Tools, Toys, Dishes,
Glassware, Linens,
Sporting Equipment,
Fishing Gear, Boating
Items, Jewelry, Bikes,
Baby Items, Patio
furniture, etc....!!!

TO DONATE:

We will gratefully accept your gently used items at the
Grand Caribe Room, CCHOA

Thursday June 9 *and* Friday June 10

Hours: 10 AM - 4 PM

Sorry ... No clothes, large furniture or old electronics will be accepted.

SHOP FOR GREAT BARGAINS:

June 11, Saturday 8 AM - 12:00 PM

Please put these dates on your calendar and remember...

ALL Proceeds Help San Diego Disadvantaged Kids.

FOCUS is an all volunteer 501(c)(3)

Donation receipts will be available upon request.

Info@focus-sdkids.org
roger.clapp@sbcglobal.net

**We reserve the right to decline unusable, broken and/or
un-saleable items.**



Financial Report from Treasurers, Sharon Shelton & Kathy Tyner

FOCUS Financial Report for May 2022

Balance as of 1 Apr 2022

Available for Projects	\$	103,609.54
Reserve (Savings Account)	\$	50,018.83
Total	\$	153,628.37

Income

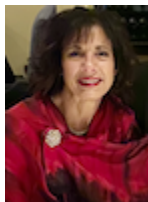
Donations	\$	50.00
Membership	\$	1,150.00
Gala Income	\$	30,185.00
Meeting Income	\$	2,215.00
Total	\$	33,600.00

Expenses

Projects	\$	12,469.26
Meeting costs	\$	15,979.76
Advertising, fees	\$	1,492.04
Office Supplies & Fees	\$	1,214.39
Total	\$	31,155.45

Balance as of 29 Apr 2022

Available for Projects	\$	106,054.09
Reserve (Savings Account)	\$	50,019.61
Total	\$	156,073.70



Ruby Gala, Chairperson Lisa Alves

I'm delighted so many of you will be able to join us at the Ruby Gala, celebrating our 40th anniversary. This is a celebration to honor our founders, presidents, donors, sponsors, members and the difference we made to thousands of children over the years. We will be announcing the winners of our special 40th Anniversary Grant to two partner agencies whose mission is to also help children in need. We thank everyone who has helped FOCUS thrive over the years, and look forward to a successful Ruby Gala where we will raise funds to continue supporting San Diego children in need.

Our Ruby Gala is a theme of elegance, community and charity where the bond of friendship unites in a fabulous evening as we enjoy hors d'oeuvres while sipping champagne, a plated dinner of beef tenderloin and shrimp scampi and closes with a delicious "almost too pretty eat" lemon and raspberry parfait.

You'll be sure to see people dancing in their finest cocktail attire to the rhythm of Pop Vinyl and mingling with new friends and familiar faces. We anticipate treasures to be had by all, as the bidding begins on-line with our silent auction and raffle on May 1st. Our live auction is filled with the opportunity to explore new adventures from exotic places like the Galapagos to favorites like Mazatlán. And yes, of course, we have rubies! What would a Ruby Gala be without the opportunity to bring home some rubies?

A special thanks to our committee chairs: Lesley Angelino, Carla Bacon, Ethel Kallsen, Carolyn Rogerson, Denise Donato-McConnell, Therese Pallares, Lorna Perez-Caster, Alexandra Polles, Sharon Shelton, Lisa Storey, their teams and our President Pat Robitaille for their creativity, time and dedication to making the Ruby Gala a memorable 40th anniversary. A heart-felt thank you goes out to all our donors and sponsors; your generosity is so greatly appreciated!

It's been a privilege and honor to chair the Ruby Gala, and I look forward to the impact and difference our fundraising efforts will bring to the children. See you on the 15th!

For tickets (until Wednesday, May 4th only): www.focus-sdkids.org/event/rubygala

To view and bid on Silent Auction items: www.rubygala.givesmart.com



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

Projects had a busy month as we had 26 agencies that applied for our Anniversary Grant. Many thanks to the committee members for all their time in reading and evaluating the

submissions and doing some onsite inspections. The agencies selected via Board and Membership voting will be formally announced at our Ruby Gala on May 15th. Just another reason to make sure you are there.

Some of the agencies we help are growing and becoming very successful in their mission and in their ability to fund raise. Projects is always searching for non-profit agencies that are just starting up and will benefit from FOCUS help. Please contact Sharyn or Carin if you are aware of any new agencies that meet our mission statement.

Membership approved the following Projects for April.

ECS / Episcopal Community Services

Mission: ECSis dedicated to providing free, bi-lingual behavioral health services to low-income / high potential children , ages 0 - 5 years old. 100% Of children served are low-income, more than 50% have experienced trama due to child abuse, neglect, accidents or serious illness and 25% have experienced or witnessed domestic violence.

Requested: 20 Chromebooks to connect families to trauma-focused therapy and support groups. The devices will also connect families with housing, healthcare, food assistance and additional services.

Amount: \$ 5,400

Traveling Stories

Mission: Traveling Stories works to change the idea of reading from being a chore to an indulgence, especially for reluctant readers, by creating a space where books and reading are fun. The main goal of Traveling stories is to provide literacy support, mentorship and goal setting. The current Virtual Story Tent program awards pretend "Book Bucks" for every book read during the program. With more than 80 kids registered in the program, getting ready to place their orders, Traveling stories is asking FOCUS to help provide "prizes".

Requested:

Stunt Cars, KidzRobotix, Popits, LOL OMG Dolls, Vtech KidiZoom Smartwatch (pink)

Amount: \$ 500

A special thank you to this month's shoppers: Lorna Perez-Caster and Roger Clapp.



Barbara Donahue & Therese Pallares

It was wonderful to see so many new faces at both the Cocktail Party and at the Coronado Flower Show. If your guests are considering becoming members, encourage them to join now.

Current membership is 124.

Active: 68

Corporate: 4

Patron: 52

We are so happy to welcome so many new members this month. We look forward to meeting you all soon. Please reach out and welcome our new members:

Doreen Acampora
Lucinda Swain

Myrna Brown
Jeremy Webster

Michelle Dickey

FOCUS members: Your dues are so important in supporting the work of FOCUS. Some long time members have not renewed yet. If you want to be sure you have renewed for 2022, call Barbara (619) 723-3026.

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



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

5/4 - Helen Kupka

Lesley Granger

5/7 - Harriet Benson

5/9 - Kelly Kindorf

5/10 - Don Swanson

5/11 - Pat Robitaille

5/15 - Lynda Pippenger

5/22 - Lynda Wilkie

5/24 - Stephanie Lay

5/26 - Kathy Tyner

5/28 - Kaye Sharp

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

Due to our high volume of content this month with the upcoming gala, we have decided to hold Don's article. He will be back with us next month.

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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1551 Fourth Avenue, #101, SD
Tasting Room Wed-Sat
4-8pm

We are importers of artisanal wines from sustainable, small production vineyards in Italy, France, Spain, Australia, and New Zealand. The families and winemakers behind every bottle of wine we offer are as charming and as interesting as the wines themselves. It is our goal to bridge the gap between the winemaker and the wine drinker – to keep the stories behind the wine alive until

	the cork is popped and the wine can speak for itself.
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AMAZON SMILE

ANOTHER WAY TO RAISE FUNDS FOR FOCUS!

Steps for shopping on Amazon Smile

1. Go to the website www.smile.amazon.com
2. Log in just the same as you do with Amazon.com, using the same username and password.
3. On your first visit to Amazon Smile, you'll be prompted to select a charitable organization to receive donations. Search for **Friends of Children United Society Coronado** and select it.
4. Proceed with placing your order as you usually do.
5. Amazon Smile will remember your charity selection so that future eligible orders will result in a donation to FOCUS.



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