



Founded in 1982 | 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charity | P.O. Box 180023, Coronado, CA 92178
 email: info@focus-sdkids.org | www.focus-sdkids.org | Facebook: @Focus92118

OUR MISSION

We raise funds for charitable purposes for the comfort and betterment of battered, abused, homeless, disabled, disadvantaged, military and foster children within San Diego County.



We Raise Money

From fundraisers, yearly membership dues, special events and contributions from corporations, members and concerned individuals.



We Help

By giving needed items to San Diego County disadvantaged, disabled and military children either directly or through accredited organizations that support them.



What's the Word?

A Few Spots Left

FROM PRESIDENT, SHARYN BLONGIEWICZ

Dear FOCUS Members and Friends of FOCUS,

Our meeting at the Beach Club at the Shores was very successful and fun. Thank you Michaelle Arkin for making that all happen! We were able to make a lot of new friends, tell a lot of new people about FOCUS and about the Light Up the Night Gala. The video was powerful ... Thank you, Denise.

Speaking of the gala, the committee meetings have been truly impressive. This event is going to be even more spectacular than last year! What a team of talented, creative and hard working people. You are going to be amazed by some of the unique and exciting auction items. Items will be online soon for preview and early bidding.

Of course FOCUS continues to fulfill great projects every month. Also, plans are underway for the July 4th Parade entry, September 7th Rummage Sale and the November 16th Holiday Boutique ...Mark your calendars!

See you at the IBar!



Salute to Military



Invites you

at the **Famous I Bar**
North Island

Will Sell Out Fast - Must Book By May 2
FocusIbar.givesmart.com





Honoring
MILITARY AGENCIES

May 16th
4:30 - 8:00 PM.
Open Bar
Taco Dinner
\$50

Come meet the Military Agencies that we support
Will be boarding buses in Coronado to go onto base - details to follow

Gala Update:

"Light Up the Night" Annual Gala on USS Midway - What's new! - from Pat Robitaille, Gala Chairperson


Thank you to the 210 of you who have already made your reservations for our July 13th event. We are thrilled. We have "Pre-sale" pricing on tickets through the end of May. Do not hesitate to get your tickets or put together a table with family and/or friends. Reserve now at FocusGala24.givesmart.com. Again, VIP tickets come with complimentary parking, open dedicated premium bars, and premium seating!

We are in high gear with preparations. Sharing a significant improvement over last year's registration out in front of the Midway. This year, you will be welcomed onto the Hanger Deck with a welcome cocktail to enjoy while getting registered out of the sun. Plus a couple other fun surprises. Very nice!

Last year, we had the most amazing auction items that allowed us to raise a record dollar amount. This was a very tough act to follow. The good news is we once again have the amazing leadership of Sharon Shelton with her partner Arie Van Vugt leading the way. Do you like to take a ski trip the week between Christmas and New Year's. We got you covered with a 2 bedroom accommodation. How about the fall colors in beautiful Whistler, British Columbia? How about an evening cruise on an 80' private yacht? Yes, we know that you will love to come and bid on some incredible experiences that are being put together.

We are hosting cocktail parties to share our FOCUS mission and message as well as inviting attendees to join us at our gala. On April 18th, we gathered at the Coronado Shores Beach Club for a lovely evening. We thank Michaelle Arkin for hosting the event and everyone who joined us that evening. Your generous Donations, Membership and making your reservations for the Gala are so appreciated. We are so happy that you will be joining us on our venture.

On May 8th, we are inviting all "singles" to join us for a Happy Hour to share ideas for developing our FOCUS events for our many single folks to come together as well as putting together "singles tables" for the gala. Please register to join us at FOCUSSinglesHH.givesmart.com.



FOCUS Singles
FRIENDS OF CHILDREN UNITED SOCIETY

HAPPY HOUR

May 8th | 5:00-7:00pm
Home of Diane Folsom
53 Aruba Bend ~ Coronado Cays



FOCUSSinglesHH.givesmart.com.



Secure your seats or table NOW!
FocusGala24.givesmart.com

FOCUS
FRIENDS OF CHILDREN UNITED SOCIETY

2024 Annual Gala
DON'T MISS THIS!



Light Up The NIGHT

SAT. JULY 13 | 6:00PM - 10:00PM | USS MIDWAY
With entertainment by the amazing Kicks Band!

Consider the "VIP Experience" which includes an Open Premium Bar.

Projects & grants

Greetings Fellow FOCUS members. Carla and I have been busy visiting several NEW agencies in our outreach to the community efforts. One is called "Outdoor Adventure" and they are provide wonderful outdoor activities, camping , hiking, etc..to San Diego youth who could not otherwise afford this type of recreation. The other is called, "Pro Kids" and they provide golf lessons at minimal or NO cost San Diego youth. Speaking of outreach - just a reminder that if you know a local nonprofit that supports children and think we could help - please contact us!

Also want to give a huge thanks and shout out to our FOCUS shoppers who volunteered to shop for our 9 agencies throughout the year who received grants. They are doing amazing work to in some cases meet urgent needs of these agencies. In particular, "Got Your Back" has been so appreciative of Carin Cross' help in purchasing lots of food for kids's weekend backpacks.

Want to encourage you to get your tickets to May event "Salute to the Military". The IBAR is such a fun venue, the taco bar is great and we will have reps from ASYMCA, STEP, Women Warriors, United Through Reading, Navy Marine Corp Relief Society, and San Diego Military Outreach Mission in attendance just dying to tell you about what they do and how it helps military families.

Last but certainly not least, what you to save the dates 22 and 23 July to come help us prepare an AMAZING 800 backpacks to give out to some very deserving kids. This is a huge undertaking - but its very manageable - when we have lots of volunteers. We might even buy you pizza - to tempt you.

Best regards,
Carla Bacon and Sharon Shelton

Projects this year:

- PR-0124-01 Vista Hill Jan \$ 2,000.00
- PR-0224-01 Chula Vista Community Collaborative Feb \$ 2,000.00
- PR-0224-02 United Through Reading Feb \$ 2,591.34
- PR-0224-03 Urban Street Angels Feb \$ 4,716.52
- PR-0224-04 Girls Rising Above Child Exploitation (GRACE) Feb \$ 1,533.92
- PR-0324-01 Reach Out and Read Mar \$3,000.00
- PR-0324-02 Armed Services YMCA Mar \$5,047.00
- PR-0324-03 Foundation for Women Warriors Mar \$5,000.00
- PR-0324-04 Perkins Elementary School (special project) Mar \$3,500.00
- PR-0324-05 Friends of Scott Mar \$2,000.00
- PR-0324-06 San Diego Youth Ballet Mar \$3,500.00
- PR-0424-01 Home Start Apr \$1,005.00
- PR-0424-02 Voices For Children Apr \$2,000.00
- PR-0424-03 Boys To Men Apr \$1,005.00
- PR-0424-04 Boys To Men Apr \$1,867.75
- PR-0424-05 Get On The Bus (GOTB) Apr \$3,000.00

Grants This Year:

GRANTS/Monthly TREASURER

- GR-0224-01 David's Harp Foundation (DHF) year \$ 6,000.00 \$998.85
- GR-0224-02 San Diego Military Outreach Ministry (MOM) year \$ 6,000.00 \$1,823.32
- GR-0224-03 Nativity Prep Academy (NPA) year \$ 6,000.00 \$285.57
- GR-0224-04 Birthline year \$ 6,000.00 \$772.11
- GR-0224-05 I CARE - SD Youth Services year \$ 6,000.00
- GR-0224-06 Perkins Elementary year \$ 6,000.00 \$801.98
- GR-0224-07 Got Your Back year \$ 10,000.00 \$3,444.60
- GR-0224-08 Storefront - SD Youth Services year \$ 12,000.00
- GR-0224-09 Youth Assistance Coalition (YAC) year \$ 12,000.00 \$1,563.16
- GR-0224-10 Solutions for Change year \$ 6,000.00 \$3,216.23

great
work!



Awesome NEWS

FOCUS arranged for MOM's to be the recipient of beautiful bikes that were built at a corporate charity bike-build event.

Barbara Chavez was delighted to have them to distribute to children of four local Jr. Enlisted families.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- May 4 - Helen Kupka
- May 5 - Connie Spitzer
- May 7 - Harriet Benson
- May 10 - Don Swanson
- May 11 - Pat Robitaille
- May 15 - Lynda Pippenger
- May 19 - Betty Lapore
- May 22 - Lynda Willkie
- May 24 - Stephanie Lay
- May 26 - Kathy Tyner
- May 28 - Kaye Sharp



Upcoming Events

Singles HAPPY HOUR

May 8th | 5:00-7:00pm

Home of Diane Folsom

53 Aruba Bend ~ Coronado Cays

FOCUSsinglesHH.givesmart.com



May 16th - Salute to the Military at the Ibar

For just \$50 join us to honor the Military and those agencies we support at the **FAMOUS I BAR** on North Island.

* Enjoy this iconic venue that many have only seen in "Top Gun" and "Maverick"!!

* Order a drink (on us) at the historic iBar surrounded by amazing naval aviation memorabilia!

* Sit at tables in the lovely courtyard or in the adjacent event space with a chips and salsa.

* Visit the excellent Taco Bar for a delicious dinner.

* Honor military veterans whose friends and families have helped make this event possible.

* Learn about the Military Agencies that FOCUS members support in their work to aid families in emotional or financial crisis.

If you don't have base access, you will be boarding FOCUS buses to be transported onto the base. To meet the coordination deadlines, **Reservations must be made by May 2.**

FocusIbar.givesmart.com

Rummage Sale / Saturday September 7th

Please find a corner in your garage or in a spare closet to start saving and setting things aside to donate to the annual FOCUS Rummage Sale.

All saleable items will be appreciated except old electronics, large furniture and clothing.

July 13th - FOCUS "Light Up The Night" Annual Gala on USS Midway

Reservations: FocusGala24.givesmart.com



FOCUS *Singles*
FRIENDS OF CHILDREN UNITED SOCIETY

HAPPY HOUR

May 8th | 5:00-7:00pm

Home of Diane Folsom

53 Aruba Bend ~ Coronado Cays



FOCUSsinglesHH.givesmart.com

FOCUS ... Bringing hope and help to San Diego County's most vulnerable children since 1982.



WE INVITE YOUR SUPPORT

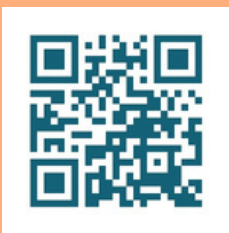
WE ARE AN ALL VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION COMPRISED OF MEN AND WOMEN FROM MANY WALKS OF LIFE. WE HAVE ONE GOAL: HELPING TO MAKE LIFE BETTER FOR SAN DIEGO COUNTY CHILDREN AND TEENS IN NEED.

LEARN MORE

- Foster Care**
- Homelessness**
- Schools**
- Literacy**
- Safe Housing**
- Rehabilitation**
- Military**
- Health & Well-Being**

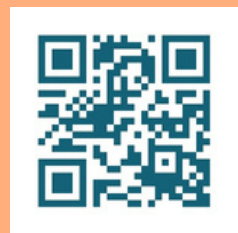
Volunteers Needed
Host a FOCUS Monthly Meeting
(room setup/check-in)

Serve Dinner at Youth Assistance
Coalition



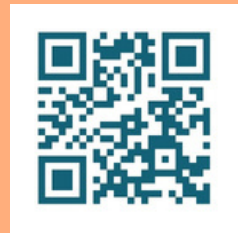
Join /Renew

Please join FOCUS (or renew your 2023 membership)
Good for January 1 to December 31
Your dues go directly to helping children in need
This QR code will take you directly to the website
renewal page. Please renew as soon as possible. To be
included in the 2024 Annual Membership directory we
must receive your payment not later than March 15th.
The join/renew page can also be reached via our website:
www.focus-sdkids.org
Any questions will be answered
by submitting to:
membership@focus-sdkids.org.



Donate

As always, donations are accepted
and greatly appreciated by using
this QR code.
Our website has a "Donations"
opportunity as well:
www.focus-sdkids.org



welcome New Members!

- Kathy Bryan**
- Mary Ann Carroll**
- Josee Couivinard-Cox**
- Kip Davis**
- Jennie Ellsworth**
- Sandi Henderson**
- Janice Howard**
- Heidi Iverson**
- Kathleen Nielsen**
- Laura Orozco**
- Parmela Sawhney**

