



# FOCUS

FRIENDS OF CHILDREN UNITED SOCIETY

Founded in 1982 | 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charity | P.O. Box 180023, Coronado, CA 92178  
email: [info@focus-sdkids.org](mailto:info@focus-sdkids.org) | [www.focus-sdkids.org](http://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?*

FROM PRESIDENT, PEGGY DUNCAN

Dear FOCUS Members and Friends of FOCUS,

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO JOINED US FOR OUR ANNUAL MEMBER MEETING IN JANUARY. CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS - A DEDICATED AND TALENTED GROUP OF VOLUNTEERS WHO ARE ALREADY WORKING HARD TO MAKE THIS A FUN AND SUCCESSFUL YEAR AT FOCUS. THERE ARE LOTS OF WAYS TO SUPPORT THEM - FEEL FREE TO REACH OUT TO ME OR ANY OF OUR BOARD MEMBERS TO LEARN ABOUT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AND COMMITTEES.

WE HAVE SEVERAL FUN EVENTS PLANNED IN FEBRUARY. CHECK OUT THE DETAILS IN THIS NEWSLETTER. IN PARTICULAR, PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY 25 - GRAB YOUR DINNER AT THE CORONADO CHIPOTLE AND 25% OF THE PROCEEDS WILL GO TO FOCUS INTERNS AS THEY RAISE MONEY TO SUPPORT LOCAL EFFORTS TO HELP KIDS IN NEED. ALSO - I AM HOSTING A WINE & CHEESE ON FEBRUARY 19 FOR ANY NEW (OR NOT SO NEW) MEMBERS WHO WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW TO ENGAGE WITH FOCUS. DETAILS BELOW.

FINALLY - BE SURE TO MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR OUR ANNUAL FUNDRAISING GALA ON AUGUST 2. OUR INCREDIBLE GALA TEAM IS ALREADY WORKING HARD AND THIS WILL BE AN INCREDIBLY FUN EVENT! YOU DO NOT WANT TO MISS IT! MOST OF OUR EVENTS ARE ON THE CALENDAR ON OUR WEBSITE, AND WE WILL CONTINUE TO UPDATE AND IMPROVE THE WEBSITE THROUGHOUT THIS YEAR.

THANK YOU FOR BEING A PART OF OUR JOURNEY AS WE BRING HOPE TO THOSE WHO NEED IT THE MOST.



# Congratulations!

## to the incoming 2025 Board of Directors

**President:** Peggy Duncan  
**Executive VP:** Heidi Iversen  
**Secretary:** Peggy Curtin  
**Treasurer:** Linda Plambeck/Carol Dobi  
**VP, Fundraising:** Kim Cimini  
**VP, Marketing:** Heather Canton  
**VP, Membership:** Michaelle Arkin/Arie Van Vugt  
**VP, Projects:** Carla Bacon/Rhonda Fleming  
**VP, Technology:** Jill McCormack/Pat Robitaille



Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Annual Member Meeting on January 14. Outgoing President Sharyn Blongiewicz was honored for her more than 25 years of service to FOCUS. Coronado Mayor John Duncan presented her with a City Proclamation, which designated January 14, 2025 as "Sharyn Blongiewicz Day." He then swore in our new President, Peggy Duncan, along with the amazing incoming FOCUS Board members. 2025 promises to be another wonderful year at FOCUS!  
(Thank you to Joel Ortiz for the photos.)





# FOCUS WINE & CHEESE

**FEBRUARY 19**  
**5:00-7:00**

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Hosted by:  
FOCUS President Peggy Duncan  
802 Adella Ave  
Coronado

RSVP:  
[president@FOCUS-SDkids.org](mailto:president@FOCUS-SDkids.org)



Did you recently join FOCUS? Thinking about joining?  
Drop in any time between 5-7 to learn more about our work,  
including how be a shopper or volunteer on committees.  
Open to current and prospective members.  
Bring a friend!



# DO GOOD WITH CHIPOTLE



## CHIPOTLE FUNDRAISER FOR FRIENDS OF CHILDREN UNITED SOCIETY- FOCUS INTERNS

25% OF EVENT SALES GET DONATED TO THE CAUSE

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH | 5-9PM**  
1360 ORANGE AVE, CORONADO, CA, 92118

ORDER ONLINE FOR PICKUP USING CODE **22NC2K9**  
OR SHOW THIS FLYER IN RESTAURANT



For online orders to count toward the fundraiser, they must be placed for pickup only from the restaurant location of, and during the hours of, the fundraiser. Delivery orders and gift cards do not qualify. \$150 minimum event sales required to receive any donation.



# Projects & grants

Projects is off to a running start. Rhonda Fleming and Becki Lock are a quick study, and we are setting new projects up for the upcoming year!

Please take the time to vote on projects and offer to shop. We are going to expand the need for shoppers by growing our agency base. We will also have more opportunities to get involved with hands on projects like food distribution.

Did you know that 100,000 children in San Diego County face hunger daily.

38% of all food produced goes unsold or uneaten each year. We can help reduce hunger in San Diego by rescuing this unsold food and getting it into the hands of children in need.

FOCUS is having an impact on San Diego County!

Carla Bacon  
Vice-President, Projects







# FOCUS Interns



Our FOCUS Internship Program is going strong. Several of our interns recently helped prepare and serve a homemade hot meal to fellow teens at the Youth Assistance Coalition downtown. They are working on an exciting new project this Spring, starting with the February 25th fundraiser at Chipotle. (Details in this newsletter!). Come grab a burrito and help these young men and women make a difference in our community!







## FOCUS SINGLES

Join us for a pre-Valentines Day Trivia event at Quigley Winery on February 11, Tuesday evening. happy Hour begins at 4 till 6 and Trivia starts at 6:30. Snacks will be provided along with a sweet treat for the holiday. There will be a cash bar.

WHEN: Tuesday, 2/11

WHERE: Quigley Fine Wines, 1551 Fourth Ave. San Diego

RSVP to Dianne: 925-984-3550 or [dianfolsom@aol.com](mailto:dianfolsom@aol.com)

We will try to arrange car pools.

## Save The Date

WE'D LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO

# A SPEAKEASY FOCUS GALA '25

**AUGUST 2 AT 6PM**

DINE, DRINK, AND DANCE!

ON THE USS MIDWAY

# Wine Tasting at Quigley (FOCUS Holiday Party Raffle Prize)

At the FOCUS Holiday Party, we raised over \$5,000 with our raffle. The Shapiros offered a wine tasting as one of the Raffle Prizes. In addition to the raffle, 3 more tastings were sold for \$1,000 each. When Jeff wanted to uplevel the offering, he contacted Pat Robitaille to have her partner with them and offer food pairings. Two events have been held thusfar, and all attendees were very pleased with the experience. You won't want to miss out if this comes up again



## Quigley Fine Wines

### *Wine Tasting Pairings*

#### **CODA Prosecco**

Paired with Lobster Bisque

#### **Friulano**

Paired with Stuffed Picante Peppers

#### **Napa Chardonnay**

Paired with Apple Brie Biscuit Bombs

#### **Roman Australian GSM**

Paired with Olive Fougasse Bruschetta

#### **Barbaresco**

Paired with Sauteed Meatballs

#### **Primitivo**

Paired with Mushroom Risotto

#### **“Special” Dessert Wine**

Paired with Lemon Cheesecake Mousse



**Thank you for supporting FOCUS**



(619)-795-7043



[www.quigleyfinewines.com](http://www.quigleyfinewines.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



## February Birthdays

Feb 4 - Bonnie Garrett  
Feb 9 - Pat Bowler  
Feb 10 - Allison Shapiro  
Feb 12 - Fred Eckert  
Feb 13 - Lesley Angelino  
Feb 16 - Karin Morris  
Feb 18 - Yoe Kusumoto  
Feb 20 - Douglas Chesler  
Feb 22 - Lorna Perez-Caster  
Feb 23 - KC Muscolino  
Feb 27 - Tami Dorr



### Join /Renew

Please join FOCUS (or renew your 2024 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](http://www.focus-sdkids.org)  
Any questions will be answered  
by submitting to:  
[membership@focus-sdkids.org](mailto:membership@focus-sdkids.org).



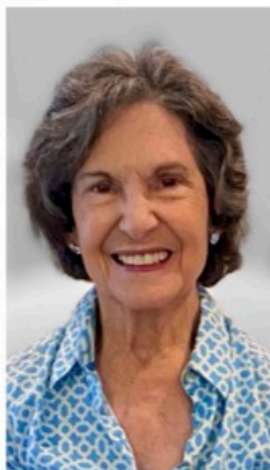
### Donate

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](http://www.focus-sdkids.org)



# Remembering...

## Lucile Fleming



Lucile Delchamps Fleming, age 88, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, December 18, 2024, at Matthews Glen Retirement Community in Matthews, NC.

Lucile was born on March 15, 1936, in Mobile, AL, the daughter of Alfred Frederick Delchamps and Sarah Lucile (Crowell) Delchamps. She graduated from Murphy High School in Mobile and attended Huntingdon College in Montgomery, AL. She later earned a degree in English literature from George Mason University in Fairfax, VA.

A lifelong and devoted volunteer, Lucile gave generously of her time and talents. She served for many years at Alexandria Hospital in Virginia and held leadership roles in several organizations, including FOCUS, a San Diego-based charity dedicated to improving the lives of children and teens in need, and Presbyterian Urban Ministries (PUM), which provides support for the urban poor and homeless in San Diego.

Lucile was preceded in death by her husband of 33 years, Dr. Robert Fleming; her parents; and her siblings, Alfred Delchamps, Jr., and Margaret Young.

She is survived by her children, Richard T. Nelson, Jr. (Tracy), Robert F. Nelson (Kathy), and Wayne S. Nelson (Kim); grandchildren Jordan Nelson Bass (Rette), Cory Nelson (Samantha), Matthew Nelson, Benjamin Nelson, Andrew Nelson, and Samantha Meekins; and great-grandchildren Beckett Nelson, Oakley Nelson, Ella Lucile Bass, Ashlynn Telli, Brynlee Wise, and Blake Wise. She is also survived by Dr. Robert Fleming's children, Robert Fleming, Jr. (Connie) and Susan Fleming (Kemo), along with their children and grandchildren.

Lucile touched the lives of all who knew her and will be dearly missed.

A memorial service will be held at Dauphin Way United Methodist Church in Mobile, AL on March 21, 2025 at 11am.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the charity of your choice in the name of Lucile D. Fleming.



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## New members



**Heather Canton**

**Leslie Del Prado**

**Jeff Dunigan**

**Aldin Esparza**

**Sebrinna Gavzie**

**Becky Lock**

**Bill McLeod**

**Sue McLeod**

**Rene Murphy**

**Maria Pease**

**Georgina Uda**

**Alyce Vessey**

**Christy Ward**

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