

NEWSLETTER Spring 2002

A Time Of Change At The Big Sister League

Change can be very frightening, but if we think of change as a garden where we see the repetition of the same pattern creating beauty with the arrival of each new season. We then can see the changes at the Big Sister League as Lydia Lewis becomes our new Executive Director.

Lydia's journey with Big Sisters began nine years ago as coordinator of Outpatient Services at Mesa Vista Hospital. Lydia referred many women in need to the League's housing program. In late 2000, Lydia joined the staff providing counseling, case management, staff training and administration. When our Board hired Lydia as the new Executive Director, she was well prepared



Lydia Lewis and Mary McAfee

to bring the League into a new season. Mary McAfee, our outgoing Executive Director is staying on part-time as grant administrator. Mary will enjoy spending time with her family and with Mother Nature, in her garden.

Lydia was born in Harlem, New York, attended St. John's University and Columbia

University School of Social Work and has a background in advertising and public relations. As a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, she has had a private practice in NYC and San Diego for the past 25 years. Lydia has taught at San Diego Community College and has a long standing interest in social justice, women's issues and healing practices. This year marks the League's 60th Anniversary. Lydia's vision for the League is to continue to build on the foundation of her predecessors; with a strong commitment to the creation of new resources to support our programs that have been successful for years. Lydia and husband Reggie, a painter and sculptor, live downtown.

A Holiday Walk In The Park



In an effort to keep our events new and exciting, the mentor program changed the venue for the Holiday Party in 2001. The celebration was held at Balboa Park. Several people expressed great pleasure at spending the day in the Park.

To increase the Big and Little Sisters' involvement in support of their program, we asked them to find sponsors

for a mile and a half walk through the park. A resounding, "Thank You" to Laura Stevens, Administrative Assistant and intern Stephanie Mauricio who planned the event. The entire affair was very successful! We had a great time with a group of 40 eager walkers, board members, volunteers, Big and Little Sisters. The event raised \$2000 for the mentor program. We sang holiday songs, distributed gifts and books to the Little Sisters and indulged everyone's appetite with sandwiches, chips and sodas.

A special thanks to Altrusa International, Inc. of San Diego who carefully selected and donated books. Also, thanks to all who found sponsors and collected donations. The mentor program will put that money to good use.

Please plan to join us Sunday, December 1, 2002 when we will hold the 2nd Annual Holiday Party and Walk in Balboa Park.

Annual Campaign Giving Contribution List 2001

The Big Sister League would like to thank all of the following people and organizations who responded to its request for support through the Annual Campaign 2001. These generous gifts help cover emergency situations that arise during the year. This year the money will also be used toward refurbishing the Frances Woods Home and the Mary McAfee Residence.

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| Coronado Playhouse (Trina Greenstreet) | Deborah Grady | Anne Pillsbury |
| Alarms Unlimited, Inc. | Herbert and Marlene Greenstein | Sharon Pugh |
| Laura Bailey | Issac and Becky Guttin | Qualcomm, Inc. |
| Bank of America Foundation | Nancy Hagan | Quint Contemporary Art |
| Mary Beebe | Elise Howell | J. Harley and Patricia Quint |
| Wendy Beerbower | Kary Jacobsen | Gail Deakins Raymond |
| Catherine Bell | Jewish Community Foundation-Jerald and | Dr. Michael and Theodora Reilly |
| Alida Van Der Lans Becker | Marge Katleman | Col. Francis and Esther Riney |
| Timothy and Lynn Brooks | Jana Kelley | Annette Ritchie-Buis |
| Barbara Bry | Debra Kerrigan | Candy Romine |
| Candace Carroll | Helmut Kiffmann | Mardi Montague Rosenberg |
| Janis Chadwick | Charles and Melody Kincade | Sophia Sangiorgio |
| Linda Charman | Vicki Krantz | Andrea and Joseph Schmidt |
| Christian Women's Fellowship, Group 2 | Sharon Labovitz | Reese Shaw |
| Janet Christy | Lois Lasry | Craig and Deborah Smith |
| Evelyn Cohen | Toni Lawrence | Patricia Smith |
| Florence Cohen | Jean Lowe | Francy Starr |
| Patricia Crawford | Mary MacConnel | Catherine Stiefel |
| Cubic Corporation | Millicent C. Machado | Michael and Jenny Stoff |
| Jean Curtis-Mahoney | McCarthy Family Foundation | Sungrubbies.com- Marta Phillips |
| Sharon Cutri | Ida Hays McPherren | Laura Tetlow |
| David and Sharon Desbien | Doris Mellman | Donna Thomas |
| Kathi Diamant | Frances and Patrick Merritt | Gough W. Thompson |
| Frank and Frances Dorsey | Liz Miramontes | Tierrasanta Woman's Club (D.Colosimo) |
| dwards Foundation, Charles C. and Sue K. | Philippe and Natalie Monet | Marilyn Turner |
| Judith Enns | Donna M. Moore | Lois and Rudolf Van Ewijk |
| Facility Solutions-Brean Fox | Pat Moore | Lynn Wight |
| Arnold and Esther Fischer | F. Maxine Muller-McIntosh | Julie Wilkinson |
| Lynda Forsha | Dorothy Murray | Patti Worthen |
| Kathleen Frost | Elvi Olesen | Marjorie and Gregg Wright |
| Joel and Mary Garcia | David and Sandra Owens | Steven Wutzke |
| Peggy Gates | Brooke Peterson | Carolyn Yortson |
| | Jean Phillips | |

Thank you to everyone. We raised \$ 18, 045.00. 2001 campaign was a grand success!

NOMINEES SOUGHT FOR 2002 BOARD

BSL's Nominating Committee seeks candidates to fill five board member-at-large positions for the year 2002. Nominees should possess qualities such as prior experience with community activities and non-profit involvement, or knowledge favorable to our mentoring,

residency and job training facilities. Nominees must be willing to assume responsibility of attending twelve meetings a year. Board members serve for a two-year term. For additional information contact Lydia Lewis, Executive Director (619-297-1172 x101) or visit the web site (www.bigsisterleague.org).

Notes From The Home...

by *Becky Madrid and Patricia Torres*
Program Coordinators

We want to take this opportunity to introduce the newest member of our staff, Patricia Aldrich. She was born in the Philippines and came to the United States in 1960 and has lived in San Diego since 1963. Patricia has eleven brothers and sisters, ten children, seventeen grand children and eight great grand children.

Patricia came to work for the League in November 2001 with many years of experience in the human services field. She has been a wonderful addition to the housing staff, going about her duties with a positive attitude and a laugh that is contagious! Sandy, one of our residents said, "Patricia is a kind and gentle spirit, a definite asset to our home." Kathleen says, "It's nice having her at Big Sister's, she truly brightens my day." We are all very lucky to have Patricia as part of the team.

Thanks to all of our housing staff – Deborah Esquer, Bryanna Humphrey, Patti Perez and Rosa Rocha.

A Wish List

The Big Sister League depends heavily on private donations and in kind contributions. Donations of office supplies, time, and services are greatly appreciated, and are tax deductible. All donations are gratefully accepted everyday at 115 Redwood Street in Hillcrest. **All items must be clean and in good repair. Please no soiled, torn, broken or rusted items. Kindly contact Michelle at (619) 297-1172 X 106, if you can provide any of the following items:**

- Donations of tickets to local events
- Ink cartridges for copy machine and printers/
HP51645A Black/HPC1823DColor
HP51629a and HP51649A
- Boxes of Ink Jet white address labels/Avery #5160
- Gift certificates for Borders Books or Barnes and Noble
- Copy Paper 20lb. white
- Desk chairs with support
- New Rolodex
- Travel size soaps, shampoos, lotions and conditioners
- Handyperson- donate 8 hours a month

CELEBRATE!

60 Years of Service...
to the San Diego Community!

Visit the Big Sister League's Resale Shop

Attic Treasures

3940 Fourth Avenue (downstairs)
between Washington & University in Hillcrest

Monday-Saturday 10-5
(619) 574-1060

BIG discounts everyday!!

men's, women's new and gently
used clothing, household items,
books and more!

*all sales and donations support the
League's Housing Program*

Thank You to all of you who have helped us
during the first quarter of this year!
We don't know what we would have done without you.

**Pat Moore, Alice Moore,
Kelly Kell,
James Tetlow, Denis McCubbin,
Ann Price, Federally Employee Women,
Beth Roseman, Morgan-Systems,
Alan Edwards, Peninsula Women's Group,
Betty Clarquist, Christian Women's Fellowship,
Women's Federation of Unitarian Church,
Clairemont Women's Group,
Metropolitan Community Church,
The Nice Guys,
Bettie Walsh, Doris Eisner,
Commercial Real Estate Women,
Tierrasanta Women's Club,
University Avenue Baptist Church-Women's Group,
Universalist Christian Church-Women's Federation,
Home Depot, McCarthy Family Foundation,
WalMart, Treasures Furniture.**

Save the date: Saturday May 11th, 1-4; Mansion Tour and Art Sale *see insert*
OUR MISSION: The Big Sister League assists women and girls in San Diego County by providing supervised transitional housing, volunteer mentor relationships and support services. The League programs are designed to encourage confidence, self-esteem and independence.



Board of Directors

President: Kathleen McIntosh, Esq.
Vice President: Judy Enns, Ph.D.
Vice President: Laura Tetlow
Chief Financial Officer: Cynthia Deigert, CPA
Secretary: Julie Wilkinson
Members: Ellen Cutler-Owens
Michelle Fabianes, Maril Hamilton
Alicia McLain, Anna Quint

Staff

Executive Director: Lydia Lewis, LCSW, BCD
Mentor Program Director: Marien Kissling, M.A.
Counseling Services: Richard P. Wooding, Ph.D.
Program Coordinators: Patricia Torres, Rebecca Madrid
Resource Development: Kellye Sobon
Grant Administrator: Mary S. McAfee
Accounting Services: Rozelle Washburn
Attic Treasures Resale Shop: Residents

We are an independent local charitable organization.

visit our website: www.bigsisterleague.org

