



April 2016

House Talk

The official newsletter of Kiwanis Family House

Vol. 16 Issue 10

WE NEED YOU on May 3rd - The BIG Day of Giving



www.bigdayofgiving.org/npo/kiwanis-family-house

The BIG Day of Giving is fast approaching! In just one week, we are excited to participate in the 3rd BIG Day of Giving to benefit our region's nonprofit sector. Building on the momentum generated over the past 2 years, in 2016 we aim to make an even BIGGER impact! This year, our region's collective goal for the nonprofit sector is \$6 million in 24 hours from 30,000 donors on May 3rd, and your support can help us get there!

What's remarkable about May 3rd? Under the leadership of local community foundations, we are coming together to celebrate the nonprofit sector for one 24-hour period. Our collective impact will help us exceed last year's goal and raise \$6 million to support important work throughout the region! This has been a strategic and coordinated effort among many key partners and funders, but the success of this day depends on YOU.

I am asking you to join me in supporting Kiwanis Family House, whose mission is to provide temporary housing and support to families of ill and injured children and adults at UC Davis Medical Center and Shriners Hospital of Northern California. Last year, we successfully raised \$32,760 with support of friends and supporters like you. With these funds, Kiwanis Family House was able to sponsor 655 guest nights for families unable to pay our modest nightly rent.

This year, our goal is to raise **\$40,000**. With your support we plan to provide 800 guest families with a safe and comfortable haven at our House during a time of medical crisis. Won't you join me in making a difference in our world by participating in this historic BIG Day of Giving on May 3rd? Your help is urgently needed in the following ways:

1. Mark your calendar for May 3rd! Starting at 12:00 am midnight, visit www.bigdayofgiving.org/npo/kiwanis-family-house. Make a tax-deductible gift of as little as \$25 to us or to any of the nearly 600 participating nonprofit organizations in our region. You will have 24 hours to make your donation; all giving will end at 11:59 pm on May 3rd.
2. Spread the word. Forward this email to your friends and club members, post and share our posts on Facebook, and retweet our tweets on Twitter.

Thank you in advance for your generosity to our community; together, we can make a BIG impact!

Warmest Regards,

Dan Germain
Executive Director

Join us for our 'Give BIG' Interclub Event!

HOLD YOUR WEEKLY CLUB MEETING AT KIWANIS FAMILY HOUSE ON THE BIG DAY OF GIVING!

WE'LL BE SERVING TRI-TIP SANDWICHES, CHIPS, AND A DRINK FOR LUNCH OR DINNER.

ENJOY FUN, FELLOWSHIP, AND ENTERTAINMENT!

WE'LL EVEN HELP YOU MAKE YOUR INDIVIDUAL OR CLUB DONATION!

**BIG DAY OF GIVING
'GIVE BIG'
INTERCLUB**

TUESDAY, MAY 3, 2016
11:30 A – 1:30 P & 5:30 P – 7:30 P
AT KIWANIS FAMILY HOUSE

INVITE A FRIEND TO JOIN YOU—TOURS WILL BE AVAILABLE!

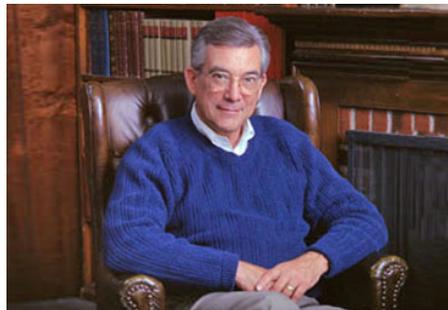
IS YOUR CLUB ATTENDING? RSVP TO DAN GERMAIN BY APRIL 27TH AT DGERMAIN@KIWANISFAMILYHOUSE.ORG

Kiwanis Clubs: Join us for lunch or dinner. Bring your whole club or an interclub. RSVP by April 27 to Dan Germain at dgermain@kiwanisfamilyhouse.org

Chaplain's Column | Reverend Ron Beams

As I approach my third anniversary as Chaplain at the Kiwanis Family House, I want to share some insights, experiences and perspectives that have become part of my journey.

However, before doing so I must give a huge "thank you" to Dan and Charlie for entrusting me to this position and having confidence in the process. I consider it an honor to carry the responsibility of meeting the families that come to Kiwanis Family House while facing, in some cases, life-changing moments.



Reverend Ron Beams is the volunteer chaplain at Kiwanis Family House. He is a member of the Kiwanis Club of Greater Sacramento.

One thing that stands out is the diversity of the families and individuals that have become momentary residents. We've seen families from India, Mexico, and Poland recently, with the majority of the families coming from the western region of the U.S. and mainly from California.

The other aspect is the diversity of illnesses and/or purposes of the need for a family member to be at UC Davis Medical Center. Some of the patient issues are very intense and the supporting family members have deep concern as to the outcomes of a surgery, process, treatment, etc. It is then that, when the opportunity is available to me, I am able to be a listening ear, sounding board or source of encouragement. To others it is a brief "check-up" stay and they are on their way in a day or two.

Most of the patients welcome a moment of prayer, irregardless of religion of spiritual connection. It has become fairly standard for me to visit the patients in UC Davis by invitation from the family members. Some may say that this takes real courage and strength. I guess that is part of it but what it really takes is the ability to be available when needed. Many times I'm silently praying within myself that my response will be appropriate and meaningful. I think that's all that God asks me to do.

I cannot anticipate what may or may not happen when I walk through the doors of the KFH. Each Tuesday or Thursday is a new adventure. I revisit some of the families I've already met and for others it's a first time connection. The majority of these gatherings take place in one of the two kitchens that I refer to as "my office."

In closing, I normally leave Kiwanis Family House after 3-4 hours with the feeling that I've been able to make a difference in someone's life. I believe that's all that is needed. With God's help and strength I look forward to my continued relationship with all the staff and families that will become part of my life in the future.

Attention Save Mart Shoppers - S.H.A.R.E.S. Cards Are No Longer Valid!

SAVE MART SUPERMARKETS

Save Mart Supermarkets recently announced that it has partnered with eScrip to manage its S.H.A.R.E.S. charitable giving program. The new ***Shares powered by eScrip Program*** continues the company's legacy of giving up to 3% of shoppers' eligible purchases to local, community-based organizations. What this means to you is that the S.H.A.R.E.S. card you now have in your wallet, which allows you to give money back from your purchases to Kiwanis Family House, are no longer valid.

But, it's simple to keep giving back to Kiwanis Family House through S.H.A.R.E.S. Just sign up on www.eScrip.com/shares and choose "Kiwanis Family House" as your charity in order to automatically continue

your donations every time you shop. You just need to provide your name, phone number, and email address to get started!

The new program will allow FoodMaxx, Lucky, and Save Mart shoppers like you to see online how much you're donating to Kiwanis Family House. The more you shop, the bigger the contribution we receive!

Please don't delay--remember, the old S.H.A.R.E.S. card program ended on April 1st! WE NEED YOUR CONTINUED DONATIONS, which have totaled over \$21,000 in the last four years!

Sponsor Club #105...WE NEED YOU!

We are ready to add sponsoring club number 105--will **your** club be the one?

Our club commits to...

If your home club is not already a sponsor, please champion our cause with your board of directors. The commitment is as follows:

Supporting families
at Kiwanis Family
House

#KidsNeedKiwanis



- A one-time sponsorship fee of \$500
- Annually, thereafter:
 - Dues of \$100 each October
 - At least one additional donation or fundraiser on our behalf

If you are a 2015/16 Lieutenant Governor, can you help us locate one club in your Division which is not already a KFH sponsor? Let us know!

KFH Annual Meeting Set For Saturday, June 11, 2016

The annual meeting of the Kiwanis Family House will be held on Saturday, June 11, 2016. The meeting will start at 11 a.m. with an update from Executive Director Dan Germain, Treasurer Matthew Wehner, and Board President George MacMurphey. This informational session will be followed by the election of three new board members to replace retiring Directors George MacMurphey, Rita Germain, and Bob Isaacs. Following the election, attendees are invited to stay for lunch and tours of the Kiwanis Family House.

All sponsoring clubs of the Kiwanis Family House are requested to send the Club President or representative to the meeting to hear the updates and vote on the new Directors for the 2016-17 term. If unable to attend, clubs may send a Proxy Form to Board Secretary Rita Germain, c/o Kiwanis Family House. A formal meeting announcement and Proxy Form will be sent to each sponsoring club in April.

Kiwanis Family House Board and Committee Schedule

The Kiwanis Family House Board of Directors has announced a new board meeting schedule for the 2015-2016 term. Until further notice, the board shall meet **every other month (odd months: January, March, May, July, September, and November)** as well as in the month of June following the Kiwanis Family House Annual Meeting. Except for June, all meetings are scheduled for the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at Kiwanis Family House, unless otherwise announced.

Board committee meeting schedules have been updated as well, as follows:

- **Development Committee:**
Every other month (even months) on the second Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.
- **Marketing Committee:**
Every other month (even months) on the second Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.
- **Governance Committee:**
Every other month (even months) on the fourth Monday at 5:00 p.m.
- **Operations Committee:**
Every other month (even months) on the fourth Monday at 6:00 p.m.
- **Human Resources Committee:**
as needed every other month (odd months), date and time TBD
- **Finance Committee:**
as needed every other month (odd months), date and time TBD

For more information, please contact Board Secretary Rita Germain at ritamgermain@gmail.com or 916-549-1354.

How YOU Can Make A Difference | Rita Germain

Donors and volunteers make all the difference in our ability to care for our guest families during times of medical crisis. Without these two key groups, our Kiwanis Family House could not continue to fulfill its mission of providing temporary housing and support to ill and injured patients being treated at UC Davis Medical Center and Shriners Hospitals of Northern California. So, beginning this month, we will use this column to remind you of ways YOU can make a difference by helping the families who stay in our Kiwanis Family House.



Do you shop at Amazon.com? If so, an easy way to give back to the Kiwanis Family House is through the [AmazonSmile](#) program. You can shop at [AmazonSmile](#) for the same items you purchase on Amazon.com everyday. When you do, .5% of the purchase price of all items you buy will be donated to the Kiwanis Family House.

Just go to www.smile.amazon.com and designate Kiwanis Family House as your charity, and start shopping today-it's that easy!

Volunteer opportunities are always available, and Operations Manager Charlie Bussey coordinates these efforts for individuals, clubs, and outside groups. To learn more, or to schedule a time to volunteer, contact Charlie at **(916) 736-0116** or cbussey@kiwanisfamilyhouse.org.

In addition, large K-Family workdays are scheduled at least two times a year, typically in April during Kiwanis One Day, and in early September. This is great opportunities for clubs to work side-by-side with their sponsored youth, friends, family members, and membership prospects.

Upcoming Events

Join us for the following upcoming events:

| | |
|------------------------|----------------|
| Big Day of Giving | <i>May 3</i> |
| KFH Board Meeting | <i>May 10</i> |
| KFH Annual Meeting | <i>June 11</i> |
| KFH Committee Meetings | <i>June 14</i> |



Kiwanis Family House Wish List

Click [here](#) for a printable version of this month's Wish List.

The Operations Manager always has a ready Wish List of items that are needed by Kiwanis Family House. These items are usually available at a convenience store or perhaps you might have them in your home. If you feel you can help out with an item, either bring it to Kiwanis Family House or give the Family House a call at **916-736-0116** to arrange a pick-up of the item(s).

PRIORITIES

- Toilet paper
- Bottled water
- Toilet bowl cleaner
- Multi-use copy paper

GUEST NEEDS

- Hotel size toiletries (shampoo, soap, etc.)
- Hand held electric hair dryers
- Alarm clocks
- Bath towels (White 30"x52"), Hand Towels (White 16"x30"), Wash Cloths (White)
- Fitted Twin Bed Sheet Sets (White Cotton only, please)

OTHER NEEDS

- Disinfectant Wipes (Clorox, Lysol or similar brand)
- Liquid Dish Soap (for hand-washing dishes)
- Powdered Laundry Detergent
- Bleach
- Unscented liquid Fabric Softener (NO DRYER SHEETS)
- Non-Latex Nitrile Disposable gloves, sizes S, M and L
- Paper Plates, Cups and Bowls

Who We Are



Dan Germain,
Executive Director
dgermain@kiwanisfamilyhouse.org

Charlie Bussey,
Operations Manager
cbussey@kiwanisfamilyhouse.org

To View our Board of Directors, click [here](#).



Our Mission

Our mission is to provide temporary housing and support to families of seriously ill or injured children and adults being treated at UC Davis Medical Center and Shriners Hospitals of Northern California.

Our Vision

Our Vision is to continually provide convenient, restful, secure, and low cost accommodations for the families of patients being treated at the UCD Medical Center or at Shriners Hospital.

Our Values

Our Values are guided by the KIWANIS Service Motto: "Serving the Children of the World".

The KIWANIS FAMILY HOUSE encourages the following core values:

- A sense of community
- Dedication to service
- Respect for families
- Augmentation of services provided by other organizations
- Collaboration with community partners
- Foster awareness for those in need
- Generosity

Ways to Help

You can help the Kiwanis Family House by donating or participating in the following programs:

- Sponsor A Family
- Become a Friend of the Kiwanis Family House
- Buy a Brick
- Purchase a Bright Award
- Donate a Vehicle
- Participate in the SaveMart S.H.A.R.E.S. Card Program
- Donate Wish List Items

- Become a Sponsor Club
- Sponsor a Room
- Volunteer at the Kiwanis Family House
- And much more!

For information on these opportunities, go to:
www.kiwanisfamilyhouse.org/how-you-can-help/donate/

Kiwanis Family House is a 501(c)3 charitable corporation

Print the House Talk

[Click here](#) for a printable version of this month's issue.

Current and past issues are always available at the Kiwanis Family House [website](#).

You must have Adobe Reader to open and save the file. If you need Reader, [please go here to download your free copy](#).

Stay Connected



Contact the Editor: Rita Germain | ritamgermain@gmail.com

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