The BIG Day is Coming on May 5th!

For the second year in a row, the Kiwanis Family House will participate in an exciting regional event involving nearly 500 local nonprofit organizations, the BIG Day of Giving. The BIG Day of Giving is an online networking and giving event that provides nonprofit organizations such as the Kiwanis Family House with the opportunity to gain exposure and start relationships with new donors, and for the people in the Sacramento region and beyond to come together to raise as much money as possible for participating organizations within a 24-hour period.

The Kiwanis Family House is excited to participate once again in this important day for the philanthropic community. "Last year, we raised nearly $17,000 in one day in our first BIG Day of Giving. This year, our goal is to reach $25,000 or more. These funds will be used to care for the 120 or more guest families who come to us each month from all over the United States and beyond to care for their loved ones being treated at our two partner hospitals", said Dan Germain, Executive Director of the Kiwanis Family House.

Beginning at midnight, May 5th, donors may contribute to the Kiwanis Family House by making a donation of $25 or more using a credit or debit card on the bigdayofgiving.org website. All funds donated to Kiwanis Family House on the Big Day of Giving will earn bonus dollars, contributed by local community partners. In addition, throughout the 24-hour period, numerous prize challenges will provide an opportunity for Kiwanis Family House to earn additional incentive dollars.

More information about this historic BIG Day of Giving may be found at the bigdayofgiving.org website, or on the Kiwanis Family House website at www.kiwanisfamilyhouse.org.

Beginning at midnight on May 5, 2015, donate online at:

https://www.bigdayofgiving.org/#npo/kiwanis-family-house
Why Give on BIG Day of Giving?

AND...use your Golden 1 Credit Union credit or debit card on the BIG Day of Giving, and Golden 1 will boost member's donations to local nonprofits you donate to, up to a maximum of $50,000!

Executive Director's Column | Dan Germain

This month, Executive Director Dan Germain is taking time to focus on the BIG Day of Giving. His column will return next month.

President's Message | George MacMurphey

"Every little bit helps" is a common phrase, stated with some variations, that we apply to many things. It certainly applies to the Kiwanis Family House. We are so very dependent on financial contributions from Kiwanians, Friends and Kiwanis Clubs. EVERY GIFT MAKES AN IMPACT.

The Kiwanis Family House budget for this current year is just shy of half a million dollars. About 40% of that amount comes from rental fees paid by our guests. Our sponsoring clubs, individuals and fund raising events account for the rest. (Grants make up a small percentage).

It is obvious that the need is great and constant. Every gift, large or small, is vital and valuable. You may think that the small contribution you might be able to make will not make much difference. In fact many small contributions from hundreds of individuals make a huge impact on our successful continuing operations. EVERY GIFT MAKES AN IMPACT.

This in no way discounts the value of the time and talent aspects of my favorite mantra: the giving of TIME, TALENT and TREASURE. The hundreds (thousands) of volunteer hours are, as the credit card commercial likes to say, priceless!

However, it is dollars that take care of the ongoing costs of salaries, utilities, repairs,
maintenance, and other costs of operations. Again, I emphasize, every financial contribution is so greatly appreciated and valued. EVERY GIFT MAKES AN IMPACT.

On May 5th, for 24 hours, we all have the opportunity to participate in the Big Day of Giving. Details appear elsewhere in this issue of House Talk. I might point out that contributions that day may be increased by some percentage with available matching funds, depending on our fundraising success.

I can't say THANK YOU enough for the wonderful, continuous, on-going giving of TIME, TALENT and TREASURE that we are so blessed to receive.

This little dissertation has emphasized the importance of the "treasure" aspect of giving. Your gifts are powerful statements that you appreciate and value the outstanding work and amazing contributions to the community of the Kiwanis Family House in the name of Kiwanis International.

Once again, THANKS, TO ALL. EVERY GIFT MAKES AN IMPACT.

**KFH Board of Directors Now Taking Applications**

The Kiwanis Family House Annual Meeting and Board Election will be held on **Saturday, June 13th, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.** at the Kiwanis Family House. All sponsor clubs are requested to send a representative to hear an update on the House, as well as to vote for three (3) open board of directors positions. The Annual Meeting Notice and Ballot Proxy were mailed to all sponsor clubs at the end April. If unable to send a representative, a club may designate a proxy.

We are looking for a few good men and women to join the KFH board and help us continue the great work already begun. If you are interested or just want to learn more, please contact Executive Director Dan Germain or any current board member.

Click [here](#) to download the Board of Directors Recruitment Flyer, Application, and the Annual Meeting Notice. **Board Applications are due to Secretary Rita Germain by June 1, 2015.**

**Kiwanis One Day at the Kiwanis Family House ROCKED!**
This year’s Kiwanis One Day at the Kiwanis Family House on Saturday, April 11th, was a great success! 190 Kiwanis family members worked on projects both inside and outside our House, cleaning, repairing, and organizing to benefit our guest families and staff. The day’s volunteers were from 37 different clubs within the Kiwanis Family, including 14 Kiwanis Clubs from 7 different Kiwanis divisions within the Cal-Nev-Ha District, 18 Key Clubs, 4 Circle K Clubs, and 2 Aktion Clubs.

The work done at our Kiwanis Family House on Kiwanis One Day totaled more than 900 volunteer hours. In dollars and cents, this is a value of more than $20,000 in ONE DAY. We are so grateful for the support of our Kiwanis family, on Kiwanis One Day and every day, year after year for the past 31 years!
Martha's Guest Story | Charlie Bussey

On April 23, 2015, Martha Anaya and her 2 year old son, Jason, arrived at Kiwanis Family House from Burney, California, a small town of approximately 3,000 people located about an hour Northeast of Redding. When Martha arrived, she was 38 weeks pregnant with her fourth child, a boy she will name Jaycob. Martha's two older children, Jacqueline, 7, and Johanna, 5, are still in Burney being taken care of
by Martha's mother.

Currently employed part time as an after school day care provider for 4 children, Martha would like to get back to full time work as a pre-school teacher, but the openings are few in Burney.

Martha is anxious about being separated from her two girls, but the unique circumstances surrounding her pregnancy left her no choice. Last year, Martha was pregnant with twins, and sadly, lost them both. The technology required to avoid another tragedy and give Martha the best chance for a safe delivery of Jaycob simply isn't available in Burney, or even an hour away in Redding.

So, Martha (and Jason) sit and wait, strangers in a strange place, four hours from home. Jason is a typical 2 year old with an engaging, but mischievous smile. Keeping up with an active 2 year old is difficult, at best, but when you're 38 weeks pregnant, it is a real challenge. Somehow, Martha manages to keep him occupied. It is clear when observing the two of them that there is a special bond between them.

It is also clear that Martha is worried. She is far from home, waiting and wondering. Will Jaycob be alright? How are the girls doing at home? "I miss them both so much", she says, with tears in her eyes.

The affordability of Kiwanis Family House has reduced one of Martha's worries. It is a relief to her to know that she will be able to stay so close to the hospital and not have to spend $100-$150 per night stay at a commercial hotel.

When I asked her if we could tell her story, Martha smiled and said "Of course. I hope it helps."

96...97...Countdown to 100 Sponsor Clubs!

In February, Kiwanis Family House was pleased to sign-up it's 97th Sponsor Club, Mountain View Kiwanis! This, along with the half a dozen new sponsors we have recently added, means 97 clubs in California and Nevada are now official sponsors of the Kiwanis Family House. We are flying on a wave of confidence that we will reach at least 100 Sponsor Clubs during Kiwanis' centennial birthday. If your home club is not already a sponsor, please champion our cause with your board of directors. The commitment is as follows:

- 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 2014/15 Lieutenant Governor, can you help us locate one club in your Division which is not already a KFH sponsor? Let us know!
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!

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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. These are great opportunities for clubs to work side-by-side with their sponsored youth, friends, family members, and membership prospects.
Members of our Kiwanis Family clean up during Kiwanis One Day.

Upcoming Events

Join us for the following upcoming events:

- BIG Day of Giving  May 5
- KFH Board Meeting  May 14
- KFH Annual Meeting  June 13
- Kiwanis International Convention  June 26-28

May 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).

MAY PRIORITIES

Disinfectant Wipes (Clorox, Lysol, etc.)
GUEST NEEDS

- Hotel size toiletries (shampoo, soap, etc.)
- Hairbrushes
- Liquid hand soap

OTHER NEEDS

- Bottled water
- AA, AAA, C, and D Batteries
- Furniture Polish
- Toilet Bowl Cleaner (we have 55 toilets in the building, we use a lot of this)
- Bleach

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

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