



The Crisis House Connector

March 2022 Newsletter

Crisis House Celebrates Women Every Day



A Time to Honor the Women in Our Lives

This month was International Women's Day! It is our joy to honor the women who are a part of our Crisis House community and the courageous and resilient survivors we love to serve.

According to the United States Census Bureau, National Women's History Month was established in order to draw attention to and improve the focus on women in historical studies. It began in New York City on March 8, 1857, when female textile workers marched in protest of unfair working conditions and unequal rights for women!

Beginning in 1910, March 8th became annually observed as International Women's Day. Women's History Week was instituted in 1978 in an effort to

begin adding women's history into educational curricula. In 1987, the National Women's History Project successfully petitioned Congress to include all of March as a celebration of the economic, political, and social contributions of women.

**Remember to take time to celebrate and honor the women in your life.
May we continue to uplift each other and elevate women
today and every day.**

A Desire for Change



From Under Bridges, to Crossing Them!

Crisis House helps individuals who are experiencing homelessness and are in need of our services every day, whether it be with an ID, a food bag, a birth certificate, a shower, a bike, or most importantly- a safe place to live. We aim to ensure that each and every individual who seeks help receives it.

Crisis House has been helping others for over 50 years and has been a respite source for many individuals who have encountered troubled times. This past November, our outreach team befriended an individual that was experiencing homelessness. Little did he know that this would be the start of a meaningful

and lasting relationship.

Thomas (pseudonym for privacy reasons) was living under a bridge in East County. He had been homeless for four years, due to the pain after the loss of a loved one. In his words, he had all but given up. He was drinking on a daily basis to cope with his worsening situation and he felt alone and isolated. To make matters worse, Thomas was bound to a wheelchair and had suffered several strokes, which hindered his ability to communicate verbally. For several weeks, our outreach team tried to build rapport with him, bringing him food, clothing, and blankets, while listening to his needs. As time passed, Thomas shared more with our outreach team. Thomas began to trust us and one day he expressed that he was finally ready to receive help.

As soon as he expressed a clear desire for change, our team stepped it up and hit the ground running! Crisis House did everything possible in order to assist Thomas with the tools he needed to rise above both his living situation and his pain.

We made countless calls to recuperative care facilities, hospitals, and programs. First, we connected him to a primary care doctor, while also calling many other providers and agencies in order to meet Thomas' needs. Initially, few were able to help him, but after three months of exploring all possibilities, Crisis House finally found a positive solution for Thomas.

He is now housed in a facility that has provided him with his own room and all of the mental, physical, and emotional support that he requires. Thomas will continue to have our support as he works towards his long-term goals of permanent housing and sobriety. Crisis House takes pride in leading others out of dark and difficult places and into a brighter, better future.

[Learn more about opportunities to support our homeless programs!](#)

Camp Hope at the New Children's Art Museum!



Books, Art, and Friends... What more could we ask for?!

This month, Camp HOPE focused on encouraging and inspiring creativity and ingenuity at the New Children's Art Museum. The museum generously provided our Camp HOPE kids and staff with free passes and a free class that involved making our very own books!

Our kids had the opportunity to build, design, and write any type of book they could possibly imagine! They then explored and interacted with the art within the museum and bonded with each other in meaningful conversation.

“ I really like Camp Hope. I get to do so many fun things that I don’t usually get to do.” – Sofia (Camp HOPE participant, age 7)

Crisis House prioritizes the needs of our community’s children through Camp HOPE. This program provides trauma-informed camperships, year-round mentorship, counseling, and other activities to 125 children each year. This cost-free programming provided to underserved children in San Diego has a reputation of accomplishment in healing children struggling with the effects of trauma as a result of domestic violence.

[Learn more about opportunities to support Camp HOPE!](#)



Fish Camp is Back!



Get your reels ready, we're going fishing!

Fish Camp is back! This wonderful fishing event on Sunday, July 31st for Crisis House families will take place at Lake Murray Mission Trails Regional Park.

Fish Camp is a one-day event where the San Diego Bassmasters clubs invite families at Crisis House to create new and healthy memories together while fishing, spending time outdoors, and learning a new activity. This event is specifically for families enrolled in our domestic violence programs, who have experienced trauma and disruption from domestic violence abuse.

The compassionate Bassmaster mentors provide one-on-one mentoring and are positive male role models that create a lasting impression on the lives of our young people. They devote attention and patience to each child at the event, many of whom have never been fishing before.

This event will be one of the highlights of the year! Everyone comes away with amazing memories, their very own fishing rod, and a trophy!

We look forward to making new memories with the Bassmasters at Fish Camp this summer at the 10th annual Fish Camp!

[Learn more about Fish Camp!](#)



Solidarity with Ukraine



PEACE

War in Ukraine: Protecting Women and Girls

After months of tension between Russia and Ukraine, attacks of war have put millions of innocent civilians at risk. With more than 2 million refugees crossing into neighboring countries, we face the somber fact that war is always associated with distinct forms of violence against women and girls.

“As we continue to witness the horrors of war in Ukraine, I urge an agreement on viable humanitarian corridors which are essential to allow the safe passage of thousands of displaced persons fleeing death and destruction - most of them women and children,” said Council of Europe Secretary-General Marija Pejčinović Burić.

As they try to escape conflicts, women and girls become even more vulnerable, threatened by violence, sexual assault, and rape. Crisis House stands in full solidarity with the Ukrainian people, including the women and girls, confronted with violence and suffering.

Ukrainians desperately need emergency aid. Click [here](#) to see a list of organizations you can support that are providing aid from the U.S. and abroad!

Mission Statement Update

The addition of three little words has made a world of difference at Crisis House and in our updated mission statement. Along with serving survivors of domestic violence and homeless populations, Crisis House is also invested in transforming the lives of our community's children. Our updated mission statement now better reflects the significant work we do for abused children that have experienced domestic violence.

Taking our new child-focused programming into consideration, our new mission statement highlights our recently added Camp HOPE year-round mentorship, monthly activities, and summer camp. Last year alone, Crisis House served 314 children, providing them with hope for the future.

It is our goal to elevate the voices, experiences, and healing of children and youth as a central component of our programming. By adding three simple words, Crisis House is able to better reflect the children we serve every day.

After collaboration with staff and board members, we are proud to announce our new mission statement:

We **respond** immediately to stop the cycle of domestic violence, child abuse and homelessness and **connect** families, children and individuals to crucial resources that empower them to **renew** their lives.

Remember to Follow us on Social Media!

Follow us!

Here's a reminder to **follow** and "**like**" us on social media! We are on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and Twitter. Click on the icons below to join in on the action online! We'd love to share our stories with you.

Please **share** our posts with your community, as well!



Crisis House remains committed to serving those experiencing homelessness and domestic violence abuse at:

**9550 Cuyamaca Street Suite 101
Santee, CA 92071**

[Donate](#)