



# *Crisis House Connector*

September 2018 Newsletter



## August is for Birthdays!



Crisis House has been a proud partner of the India Phillips Foundation for three

years. The Foundation was created to honor India Phillips, a 4-year-old little girl who was exceptionally giving. India's memory continues to inspire the Foundation to "spread the love" as she so often did. At Crisis House the India Phillips Foundation is helping to spread the love by hosting quarterly birthday celebrations for the children in our program.

Crisis House operates four housing programs for survivors of domestic violence with children. The domestic violence programs serve 125 households countywide, which includes 300 children. Historically, most of the children, 94%, are 12 years of age or younger. These are the silent victims of domestic violence. Studies have shown that this adverse childhood experience is directly associated with negative outcomes as adults, such as homelessness, poverty, unemployment, and chronic physical and mental health problems. Without effective intervention, the physical, mental and behavioral health issues will have a lasting consequence for the children in our programs and could continue the devastating cycle of abuse. For this reason, our organization not only puts an immediate end to the violence for these children, but it also responds to signs of trauma connecting children and mothers to appropriate services. The birthday parties are an important part of the healing process.

On Saturdays or Sundays every few months the India Phillips Foundation visits Crisis House and transforms the Kaboom Playground. They bring everything that a fabulous children's party would have - there is a bounce house, face painting, pizza, and cake. In August, under the Moana Luau theme, there was a Hawaiian ice truck, leis, and grass skirts. The Foundation creates individual gifts for the children that are having a birthday that quarter to make them feel special. Typically 60 children attend the parties, and 10-15 children receive birthday gifts. On top of that, in August, each child received a backpack to enter the school year ready for success.

The India Phillips Foundation is doing something for these kids that their moms would love to be able to do, after all, most of us have birthday memories that are dear to us. We are proud to be able to create some of those memories here at Crisis House. What's more, the moms in our programs get to use this time to mingle and provide support for each other.

We are so grateful to count the India Phillips Foundation among our friends. Thank you for spreading the love!

## Papa John's Fundraiser



Crisis House is happy to announce that we are part of a month-long fundraiser at all 24 Papa John's San Diego stores. The fundraiser started on August 27th and ends on September 24th. Customers can add on a \$1 donation to their phone/pick-up/in-store order. Papa John's San Diego pledges to match the donations collected during the duration of the drive. All funds will go towards buying supplies for hygiene items for the men, women, and children in our community experiencing homelessness. Papa John's team members will help organize the items into kits at Crisis House on Sept 27th.

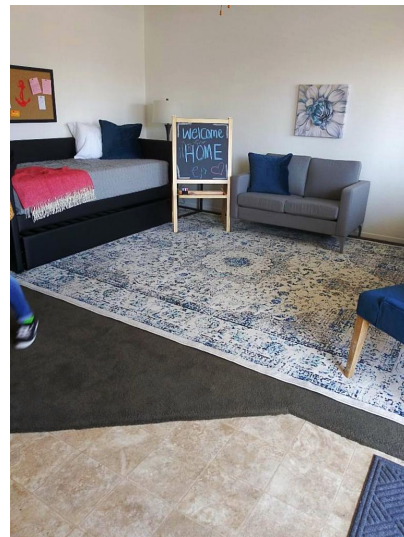
# Hope for the Future



For many of the mothers in our domestic violence programs, living on their own with their children can be incredibly daunting. In their former life with their partner, they may not have been able to have a job, pay the bills, or even choose what the family had for dinner. Part of our program, including the counseling that they receive while participating in the program, helps them to relearn this autonomy. When our mothers graduate, they are ready to create a permanent home of their own.

Although they are mentally prepared, there are so many considerations and financial strains that come with a new home. That is where [Furnishing Hope](#) comes in. Crisis House has been proud to partner with Furnishing Hope this year. Furnishing Hope is a nonprofit organization that transforms houses into homes. They work with high-quality furniture and professional interior designers, who volunteer their time, to transform spaces. The work that they have done with our clients has been life-changing. Part of their mission is that those families that they help get to keep all the furniture and accessories.

When our clients are ready for permanent housing, the design team from Furnishing Hope gives them a questionnaire to determine their style preferences, selects furniture from the Furnishing Hope warehouse and Living Spaces showrooms, uses their talents, friends and resources to fill the hopes and dreams of the family, completes the transformation within a day, and then meets the family as they are shown their furnished home. So far they have furnished over 15 homes for Crisis House clients. It is amazing! Check out the before and after pictures below to see some of the work that they do.



We are proud to shine a light on Furnishing Hope this month.  
Thank you for all that you do!

STAY CONNECTED



