



Circle of Care

grief and illness services for children and families

A program of East Bay Agency for Children



Volunteer Appreciation Night

Summer, 2006

On April 28th, the Circle of Care volunteers you see pictured below gathered for our annual appreciation event. We look forward to this special evening every year when we get the opportunity to personally thank all of our volunteers for their wonderful work at Circle of Care. Volunteers work as support group facilitators and counselors, and we simply could not exist without the skills and generosity they bring to the Circle of Care community and the families that we serve. Volunteers are the backbone and the heart of Circle of Care.

This year about 30 of our volunteers joined us for a relaxing evening of homemade

food, gifts, and ceremony. As volunteers kicked back on the pillows and ate the yummy food that staff cooked, they were invited to choose one of the many gifts donated by supportive local businesses. (see pg 4)

Volunteers tell us that they enjoy coming to the appreciation night to be recognized, and to connect with other volunteers. They enjoy helping children and families and also making lasting relationships with fellow facilitators who support each other in the challenging work we do. So much of the world is filled with the hustle and bustle of life and can lead to a sense of disconnection. Circle of Care

is a place where people can volunteer their time listening to the stories of children in their play, and witnessing the strength and courage of grieving families. Volunteering creates a sense of connection that is often hard to find.

All of our volunteers bring their unique personality and skill to the program. Some of our volunteers have their own personal experiences with loss and come to help a child through the process of grief remembering their own stories and wanting to make a difference. We salute and applaud all the great volunteers at Circle of Care.

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In order from left to right: Elisabeth Hopkins, Robert Plummer, Steve Belcher, Ana Cruz, Rick Banks, Melanie Isom, Sean Schoville, Alinya Charron, Yasmeen Vaughan, Tate Tunstall, Elana Guy, Melissa Anson, Melissa Jardin, Brook Cardenas, Melissa Cheung, Rich Chiovarelli, Julie Peoples, Luciana Montero, Taya Lahr, Jennifer Oberly, Dianne Breznikar, Judy Blumenfeld.

The following donations have been made to Circle of Care In Memory of or In Honor of a loved one. Circle of Care thanks you for your continued support of our program.

Barbara Cadwalader
In Memory of Burns Cadwalader

Ross Charney
In Memory of Rhonda Charney

Darsie Fisk
In Memory of Gregory Fisk

Eleanor Moore
In Memory of Francis E. Webber

Ruth Shorer
In Memory of Shalva Sorani

David Friedman Paulette Meyer
In Honor Of Natalie Sullivan

Jon Ostarello
In Honor of Caitlyn & Evanne Wilson

Gifts of any size are always welcome. Consider making a gift in memory or in honor of a loved one. Please use the enclosed envelope for donation and it will be listed in our next newsletter.

Anticipating Summer

Circle of Care has many fun activities planned for this summer and we would like to invite you to come and join.

SUMMER FUN DAY: Is for families that attend our support groups and will take place on July 15th. If you have not attended SFD before be ready for a day of incredibly fun activities like art work, drum circles, bead making, sidewalk chalk, and a huge play jumper! If you and your family are interested in attending please use the sign up form on the following page.

ART & DRAMA CAMP: Will take place July 17th-21st from 9:00am-12:00noon and is open to Circle of Care clients ages 5-12y. We will have activities for children who have experienced the illness or loss of a loved one. If you are interested contact Sara Marsh at 531-7551 x130 or sara@ebac.org.

LITTLES' CAMP: On August 5th we will have a camp designed specifically for grieving parents and their toddlers who attend our groups. Camp will focus on how to communicate with their toddler to help them through their grieving process. Invitations will be mailed out to families in July.



Our Wish List:

- ♥ DVD/VCR player for group room
- ♥ Stackable comfortable office chairs
- ♥ Gift Certificates to Michaels' Art Supply
- ♥ Foam shapes and letters
- ♥ Compact portable CD/Tape boom box
- ♥ Polaroid Film

Contact Alinya with any questions or to arrange a pick up time:

510-531-7551 x109 alinya@ebac.org



Come to Summer Fun Day!

Who: All families currently attending Circle of Care support groups are invited to a special day of fun & games.



When: July 15th, 10:00am to 3:00pm

Where: Circle of Care's Big Backyard

What to bring: 1 snack & 1 bag lunch with 2 beverages for each child.

Schedule:

10:00 Drop off & Welcome at Circle of Care

10:00 to 11:15 Family activity

11:15 Adults are free to go

11:15 to 2:30 Lots of fun activities for kids

2:30 Adults arrive for closing ritual ending at 3:00



How do I sign up?

Please return the sign-up slip below. You can fax it to: 510-531-3657.
If you have questions please contact Melissa at 531-7551 x195

Yes, please sign us up for Summer Fun Day!

I understand that adult attendance is required for the first hour and fifteen minutes (10:00 to 11:15) and last half hour (2:30 to 3:00pm) of our Summer Fun Day.

Adult(s) Attending (please print): _____

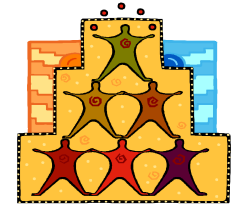
Children Attending (please print): _____

Return to: Summer Fun Day Attn: Melissa, Circle of Care, 2540 Charleston St, Oakland, CA 94602 or fax: 510-531-3657

Volunteer Party Supporters, We Thank You!

Not only do we appreciate our volunteers, but also the community for supporting our work. All of the fabulous gifts at our **Volunteer Appreciation Party** were made possible by generous donations from businesses and non-profits throughout the Bay Area & California. These businesses are truly dedicated to supporting our community and the work that we do with children and families here at Circle of Care. You may already patronize many of these businesses, but if you do find yourself in any one of these places, please let them know that you appreciate their donation to Circle of Care. We are sure that they will be happy to know that they are making a difference in the community..

Thank you to the following donors listed to the right for making our Volunteer Appreciation Party a huge success!!! →



- Aquarium of the Bay
- Azul Spa
- Bay Area Discovery Museum
- Bear Valley Mountain Resort
- Berkeley Repertory Theatre
- Best Western Dry Creek Inn
- Buttercup Grill & Bar
- Cato's Pub
- California Canoe and Kayak
- Children's Fairyland
- Chili's Restaurant
- Dryers Grand Ice Cream
- Exploratorium
- Great America
- Italian Colors
- La Mediterranee
- La Pena Cultural Center
- Lindsey Wildlife Museum
- Montclair Baking
- Mudd's Restaurant
- Oakland Athletics
- Oakland Museum of California
- Parkway Theatre
- Piedmont Springs
- Poppy Fabric
- Punch Line Comedy Club
- Renaissance Rialto
- San Francisco Giants
- See's Candies
- SF MOMA
- Six Flags Marine World
- Tahoe Biltmore
- The Homemade Café
- The Oakland Zoo
- The Stinking Rose
- Trader Joe's Market
- Venezia
- Willows Theatre Company

VOLUNTEER UPDATE

Circle of Care has an amazing team of volunteers. We truly value all the time that they give to Circle of Care.



Thank you to our current Volunteers: Anne Bodel, Martha Chase, Will Kim, Melanie Isom, Denice Haboush, Rob Hohmann, Melissa Jardin, Julie Peoples, Johnny Pham, Debbie Brown, Ron Chen, Cleavon Smith, Tate Tunstall, Amy Boxer, Melissa Cheung, Deborah Tong, Jade Wood, Kaili Moyer, Ana Cruz, Amanda Field, Suzanne Lapidus, Sean Schoville, Steve Belcher, Di-
anne Breznikar, Elisabeth Hopkins, Basia Lubicz, Luciana Monteiro, Gwendolyn Tzannes, Rick Banks, Kelly Erickson, Linda Huynh, Karine Kim, Kelly Kwok, Geraldine Lipscomb, Gail Marell, Robert Plummer, Carolina Qui-
puzco, and Tina Tseng.

This year we said goodbye to a few of our long time volunteers, Charlie Jonas (6 yrs), Sarah Moxon (5 yrs), Joanna Vaughn (4 yrs), Amber Richardson (2 yrs), & Jessica Sham-
bora (1 yr). We are so grateful for your dedication to the groups and our program.



Thank you for sharing your time and yourselves and we wish you the best!

Thank you and good luck to our volunteer student and interns leaving this summer: Judy Blumenfeld, Carmen Cook, Ha Le Cao, Ruth Davis Fyer, Taya Lahr, Rose Martinez, Jennifer Oberly, Richard Chiovarelli, Brook Cardenas, Ross Davidson, Yasmeen Vaughan, and Elana Guy.

We have enjoyed working with you and thank you for being a part of our program. You have made a huge impact on the lives of those who are grieving and for that we are grateful. We wish you the best in your future career paths. You will be missed!



Summer Calendar 2006

June 2006

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			31 Loss Group	1 Loss Group	2	3
4	5	6	7 Living w/Illness	8 Extended Fam. Loss	9	10
11	12	13	14 Loss Group	15 Loss Group	16	17
18	19	20	21 Living w/Illness	22 Extended Fam. Loss	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

July 2006

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 Summer Fun Day
16	17 Art & Drama Camp	18 Art & Drama Camp	19 Art & Drama Camp	20 Art & Drama Camp	21 Art & Drama Camp	22
23/30	24/31	25	26	27	28	29

August 2006

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5 Little's Camp
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Support Group Schedule

All groups meet from 6:30 to 8:00pm. Families need to be pre-registered to attend a support group.

Questions?

Call Melissa at 531-7551 x 195

- ♥ **Wednesday Living with Illness:**
June 7th & 21st, July No groups, August no groups
- ♥ **Wednesday Living with Loss:**
May 31st, June 14th & 28th, July no groups, August no groups
- ♥ **Thursday Living with Loss:**
June 1st & 15th & 29th, July no groups, August no groups
- ♥ **Thursday Extended Family Loss:**
June 8th & 22nd, July No groups, August no groups
- ♥ **Teen Support at WCRC:** This groups meets the second and fourth Tuesday of every month.

~ JULY & AUGUST ~

During the months of July and August support groups will not meet. Our office is not closed but staffing is limited.

See announcements re:

Summer Fun Day, Art & Drama Camp, & Little's Camp pg 2

Up-Coming Events

Fall Volunteer Training!

Our next training for new volunteers will be held in

November 2006

Request and application online at www.ebac.org or contact Alinya

at 531-7551 x109 or email alinya@ebac.org

Calendar Notes

Shaded Boxes indicate our offices are closed.

Circle of Care

2540 Charleston Street
Oakland, CA 94602

voice: 510-531-7551 fax: 510-531-3657
www.ebac.org/programs/circle

Circle of Care assists children and families coping with grief and illness through support groups, counseling and school-based programs. We collaborate with Children's Hospital Oakland, Women's Cancer Resource Center and Alta Bates Comprehensive Cancer Center. We are one of the very few programs in the county devoted exclusively to the needs of children and their families who are dealing with grief in their lives. We are supported entirely by donations from the community, foundations and the families we serve.

Requesting Services:

If you or someone you know could benefit from individual counseling or group services, please call 510-531-7551. We conduct a brief telephone interview and get you started in our program.

Our Staff:

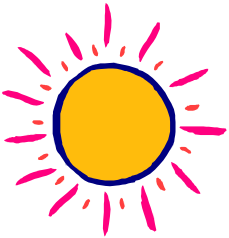
Sara Marsh, Program Director, ext. 130
Elisabeth Hopkins, Program Assistant & HIV Coordinator, ext. 165
Alinya Charron, Volunteer Coordinator, ext. 109
Nancy Landau, Clinical Program Coordinator, ext. 107
Melissa Anson, Support Group Coordinator, ext. 195

Newsletter Editor: Alinya Charron, alinya@ebac.org



Circle of Care is proud to be a program of East Bay Agency for Children (EBAC). EBAC improves health, offers hope, and provides opportunities to children and families. Our programs, located throughout Alameda County, prepare children to succeed in school; assist families through times of crisis; and provide therapeutic support to children who have suffered from abuse and/or neglect. Founded in 1952 by local parents, we have grown from a small program serving 18 children into a comprehensive regional agency making a lasting impact on more than 15,000 children and families every year.

Sara Says...



Another year gone by, another summer right around the corner. At Circle of Care we are saying good-bye to this year's wonderful group of students and interns who have worked in our groups and provided counseling. We are getting ready for a pause in the groups, summer fun day and a new week long, half day summer camp. This camp will offer activities designed to help children honor and share their memories and feelings about their family members who are ill

or have died. Three of our expressive arts therapists are designing the curriculum for this camp, and several children from the groups will be attending. We will let you know about how it goes in our next newsletter! With these new activities we look forward to the warmer weather and a more relaxed summer pace.

It has been a challenging year in our world and nation, with natural disasters and support responses that have not been reassuring. In this time of learning about how to survive disasters and support each other, the lessons we

practice every day at Circle of Care seem more timely than ever. Listening to each other, giving what we can, and what is needed, are the cornerstones of our peer support services. As so many struggle to find new homes, new faith, we are grateful for the strength and stability of this organization.

And as, always, we could not do the work we do, support the children and families that we serve, without the steadfast support of our volunteers and donors. Great thanks to all of you and may your summer be restful.

