



December 2, 2010

Issue 22

Editor: Dennis Doyel

TODAY:

Today we welcome Kathy Benton from Stepping Stones for Women. Stepping Stones for Women is a transformational program for single mothers and their children. It originally opened in 2002 as a transitional shelter for homeless single mother families, then over the last 2 years has expanded its services to include the "at-risk" single mother. It currently operates in Covina with a group home environment where a homeless mother and children can live for up to 2 years. The organization also provides support services (life skill classes, mentorship, counseling, education, job rehabilitation and resources for permanent housing) in Covina and in Azusa. Over 28 mothers and their children are currently enrolled and come for coaching, encouragement and education so that they can stabilize and find purpose and meaning for their life along with answering the critical life needs issues. Stepping Stones is unique in the way that it walks side the family long-term so that they are not just surviving, but also thriving, sustainable and have the ability to give back to their local community.

Kathy Benton has directed the organization since 2004. With a Masters in Organizational Leadership from Azusa Pacific University, she values the need for ethics and measureable outcomes in the non-profit world. Her husband, Greg Benton, is a family law attorney in Glendora

and also supports the organization through pro-bono hours. Together they have a passion to see these families not only move from welfare to work, but have a quality of life for the sake of the next generation.

Next Week:

A representative from Ettie Lee Youth and Family Services will be addressing our group. The Ettie Lee organization provides a continuum of services for abused, abandoned and emotionally troubled boys and girls and their families in Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino and Orange Counties

CALENDAR

December 7 (TUESDAY): Mariposa casual party for adults, 6:00PM, \$20pp. If you have not already signed up, you can contact Trisha to do so.

December 16: (THURSDAY): Christmas luncheon at **Hamilton's** 11:30 social, 12:00 - 1:30 lunch, entertainment, and Santa. \$25pp and free for the children 12 and under. Richard Morley will be sending formal invitations to your homes, but I thought it prudent to give you some details now. Please RSVP **to me** no later than Friday, December 10. I need to know:

- How many adults
- How many children
- Ages and names of children

RSVP via email or phone: 626-966-0075

COVINA CARES

We will need help to do the following:

Pick up the collected toys and food. This requires strength and a vehicle like a small truck.

Sort Food and toys. - CRITICAL Covina Valley is collecting for us also. The delivery for this collection is Monday, Dec 13 and Tues Dec 14. C21 Hanich is having their Christmas party on the 16th, and their toys and food will need to be picked up on the 17th and sorted.

Mapquest the driver's list to route the drivers.

Send postcards to recipients on Dec 13 so that we know they still reside at the location and they are aware that someone needs to be home on Dec 18 to receive the "goodies".

Drivers

Please check out each category - and let us know on Thursday what you would like to help with.

I HOPE YOU HEDGED YOUR FRENCH HEN COSTS.....

Buying all 364 items in the "12 Days of Christmas" verses would cost a whopping \$96,824 this year. That is an increase of 10.9% over last year. Key items leading to the increase were a 30% increase in the price of gold, 78.8% increase for turtledoves, and a 233% jump in the cost of French hens. Thank goodness the government tells me there is no inflation. Guess it's a gift card for Robin this year.