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A New Year for the Alliance: A Look at What's Ahead

Autumn 2015

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www.scmaa.org

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Email Address

alliance@scmaa.org

Please join us in
welcoming our 2015-2016
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contact [Joni Schmidt](#) if
you are interested in
learning more about this
position



Caring for our Neighbors: It's What We Do

As we approach the beginning of autumn here in Sonoma County, the hot days transition to cool evenings and the reality of fire comes upon us. As you know, many of our neighbors in Lake County have been evacuated and hundreds of homes destroyed. Thousands of families - who got out with nothing more than the clothes on their backs - are in shelters or have been taken in by friends and loved ones. They need our help.

If you are able to, your donation can help support those who need it most through the Lake County Fire Victims Fund set up at Redwood Credit Union. More than \$85,000 has been raised to-date. You can donate securely online at:
www.redwoodcu.org/lakecountyfirevictims

Thank you for lending your support to our neighbors. Our

Calendar of Events

Thursday,

September 24, 2015

PlayDate - RSVP to
Elizabeth Bauer at 585-490-
5051

Friday,

October 9, 2015

Safe Schools Program mini-
grant applications due

Wednesday,

October 14, 2015

SCMAAF Board Meeting

Thursday,

October 15, 2015

Your donor Reply card due for
Give-a-Gift Program

Friday,

October 16, 2015

Alliance After 5 at the home of
Alan and Patricia Hunstock

Wednesday,

November 4, 2015

Membership Luncheon at Wild
Oak Saddle Club

Friday,

November 6, 2015

Alliance After 5, Location TBD

Saturday,

December 6, 2015

Holiday Cocktail Party at the
home of Kathryn Koh and
Peter Chang-Sing.

thoughts and prayers are with our firefighters, fire victims, their families and all those impacted by this tragic fire.

In our Alliance, we are moving forward with building our membership through your renewals and welcoming new members. It's wonderful to see so many in our medical social circles want to get to know one another and even find the time to improve the lives of the underserved in our community.

In this newsletter you'll read about the Give-a-Gift fundraising campaign serving our foster youth along with the Safe Schools Program that is making students more aware of the harmful and long-lasting effects of bullying. We look forward to another fantastic year and hope that you'll take the time to join in on an activity as your schedule permits.

In Good Health,
Shawn Devlin

SCMAA & Foundation President



**Play Date set
for September!**

Thursday, September 24th, from 10am-1pm, is when we'll be having another Play Date at the home of Melissa Kushnaryov.

Please come with your young one (or without) and drop in anytime. Melissa has a great country property with lots of room for the kids to enjoy!

Please RSVP to Elizabeth Bauer 585-490-5051 (text or call)



**Word that best describes what we have in store for
this year:
FUN!**

by Sheela Hodes

I hope everyone had a wonderful summer! The Alliance usually takes some time off over this time of year, but this summer we were busy with the "buy-in" parties. These parties were sold at the Gala in which they raised thousands of dollars. The

experiences and events have been so much fun! Fun, community building and giving back is a win-win! Please take some time to check out the photos!! You may be inspired to offer one yourself in the future!

We also have several new folks signing up to our Alliance and I will be introducing some of them next month.

I look forward to a year full of building new friendships and giving back to our wonderful local community. That is always a win-win in my mind!!

Thanks to all those who've already renewed their memberships, in case you haven't yet, here's a convenient link for you:

[Just click here to renew your membership online.](#)





Get Ready for some Awesome Alliance Events!

by Sally Ebrahim

Our Sonoma County days are growing shorter and the shadows longer, so the time has come for us to reconvene for an exciting year of Alliance events. I'd like to encourage you to attend one of the many events coming up.

Our Alliance After Five events are very casual. Drop in on your way home from work for a nibble and a beverage. You won't want to miss our annual Membership luncheon this year. We have some great things to share with you and some even better ways to get involved with the Alliance in either a big way or a small way. We really do have a lot of fun! Our Holiday Cocktail party is a bit more festive, but yet still casual and it is great to catch up with old friends and colleagues.

Here are some of the details about our upcoming Events - please mark your calendars!!!



Alliance After 5: Oct 16th

Alan and Patricia Hunstock have graciously offered to host our first Alliance After Five cocktail party of the year. Mark your calendars for **Friday, October 16th**. Invitations will be sent in the next few days.

Membership Luncheon: Nov 4th

Wild Oak Saddle Club will be the location of our Membership Luncheon on **Wednesday, November 4th**. We will be creating a delicious lunch menu with the new general manager, Lori Darling and we will have an exciting program. It's also a great opportunity to meet and welcome our new members. The club has a new chef and has recently been remodeled as well. With our beautiful Sonoma weather, it should be a lovely location to have our Luncheon.





Alliance After 5: Nov 6th

We will also have an Alliance After Five on **Friday, November 6th**. Location is yet to be determined. Look for an e-vite in October.

Holiday Cocktail Party: Dec 5th



Our Holiday Cocktail Party will be at the lovely home of Kathryn Koh and Peter Chang-Sing on **Saturday, December 5th**. We will have some great food and wines to get us all in the Holiday spirit. Invitations will be sent in November.

We have many opportunities coming up in 2016. It's easy to host an event at your home or on your deck, as we provide all the food and beverages. If you are interested in hosting, please contact me at sasjo54@aol.com. I can give you details. It's also fun to help plan and create events. I would love to have your help. It's not a big commitment of time. Let me know if you are interested!

We look forward to seeing you and celebrating the continued success of the Alliance.

Give-a-Gift Program ready to reach even higher goals

by Laura Robertson & Carol Lynn Wood



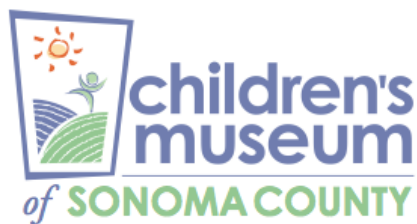
The Give-a-Gift committee has had a super successful summer! This was a milestone year for computer donations and marked the first ever computer training initiative for laptop recipients!

As we step into the holiday season, we are keeping the momentum going. Working with a new coordinator at Department of Human Services, we have refined the gift request process to have a deeper impact.

Keep an eye on your mailbox for this year's annual appeal. We are the only program in the County to offer this type of support for our local foster youth.

We cannot do this without the help of our generous and caring donors. Thank you for helping to make a difference!

Questions can be directed to: giveagift@scmaa.org



Check out the "Head to Toe" Health Clinic at the Children's Museum

The Children's Museum of Sonoma County is having their 6th Annual "Time to Wonder" Luncheon on Tuesday, September 22nd, from 11 am to 1 pm. This is a fundraiser that will be held on site and guests will have an opportunity to experience the Museum first hand - and **check out the SCMAAF-supported "Head to Toe" Health Clinic**. Just opened in June 2015, the Science and Imagination Gallery contains the Health Clinic along with other fantastic pretend play areas where children get a chance to be healthcare professionals! Tickets are on sale at www.cmosc.org and raffle tickets to win an exclusive blindfolded wine tasting for six guests at Francis Ford Coppola Winery followed by a 4-course dinner are also available. We wish the Museum much success with their fundraiser!

Announcing our Newest Program Chair

Promoting Healthy Behaviors and Activities



by Cindy Popovich, RN

Safe Schools Program Chair Announced: Thank you Linda!

The Alliance is proud to announce Linda Casey, MD, as our new Safe Schools Program Chair. Linda, who recently joined the Alliance, is a physician specializing in women's imaging and is practicing in Santa Rosa. She has two teenage children who go to Maria Carrillo High and Santa Rosa High, respectively, and has a keen interest in ensuring that our schools are a safe and nurturing environment for all students.



We're so excited to announce that our Safe Schools program has received interest from two organizations: Amaturio Sonoma Media and Bank of Marin. Plans are being put in place for the radio station to interview a few of our members along with a major donor to the program in an effort to raise awareness of bullying and our 13 year old Safe Schools Program. That's right - we've been providing mini-grants to schools throughout Sonoma County for 13 years. We will keep you posted should you want to tune in! Additionally, we are pursuing an opportunity to have financial support from the Bank of Marin. We hope to grow our Safe Schools anti-bullying program so that we can award even more mini-grants to our local schools for the purchase of anti-bullying and anti-violence curriculum.

SPEAKING OF MINI-GRANTS...

The deadline for teachers and counselors has been set for **Friday, October 9, 2015**, to get their Safe Schools Program mini-grant applications in. Check in with your school to ensure they are aware of this fantastic opportunity to make a difference in the lives of our children.

Breast Cancer Awareness activity for all members

As October approaches, Breast Cancer Awareness Month plans are underway. Keep a look out for activities by the Alliance to celebrate the month.



Bringing the JourneySafe message to High School students

Letters will be going out shortly to all local high schools to determine their interest in having JourneySafe, the distracted driving educational presentation, scheduled for the upcoming school year. So far, Sonoma Academy is scheduled to have their presentation on February 17, 2016, from 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm.

Santa Rosa, California 95402

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