

CAREline

FOSTERING HOPE, EMPOWERMENT, EDUCATION



GUILD'S GYM

Thank you Los Angeles Orphanage Guild!

A word wall of courage and inspiration, top of the line fitness equipment, and supportive trainers were on hand to help Maryvale guests and residents celebrate the grand opening of Guild's Gym on May 3rd.

The gym transitioned from an idea to reality thanks to the funding and dedication of the committed members of the Los Angeles Orphanage Guild. The guild helped build and outfit the gym with bikes, punching bags, medicine balls and more. Each week instructors work with small groups of Maryvale's children from the Residential Program and the Emergency Placement Center, teaching proper form and providing encouragement for wellness and strength, inside and out.



THE WRITE STUFF

Essay winner talks about a different kind of family - from inside the foster care system

A high school senior from Maryvale has been awarded a \$500 scholarship from the Sam and Jackie Wong – Alhambra Source Scholarship competition. The Maryvale resident, 16, was tasked with writing an essay about experiencing life growing up in two or more cultures. She approached the 2015 topic, "Exploring Your Roots ... as a minority," by discussing a more select group of minorities: that of children navigating through the foster care system.

I am 16 years old and am currently a senior at Century High School. I consider myself a part of a minority because I'm an adolescent Hispanic female, diagnosed with severe anxiety and chronic depression, living in foster care. I am part of a generation of children who have lost their parents to drugs.

In fact, we rely on staff, teachers, foster parents, attorneys and social workers to take the time to try and guide us through life when we're overwhelmed by the world we take on alone; learning basic things the hard way, because we don't have our parents to teach us that sometimes the world is cruel and bad things happen to good people.

That is our truth, because we are living it and have gone through so much, it would depress anyone. So what do we do about our rough childhoods?



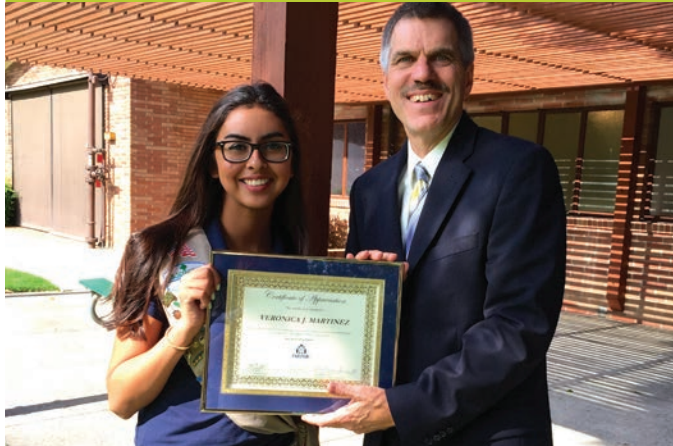
Continued on page 2



A ministry founded in 1856 by the Daughters of Charity

THE POWER OF COMMUNITY

BY STEVE GUNTHER, PRESIDENT & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



It truly takes a village – or, in our sense, a community – to engender profound change. And profound change brought about by a powerful community is what can be found at Maryvale; healing and empowerment made possible thanks to the contributions and passion of a diverse group of people and organizations committed to our mission.

Like a village, the members of Maryvale’s community come in many forms, from the Associates who work with our children and families every day, to the members of the Los Angeles Orphanage Guild who have been a vital fundraising resource developing major projects such as Guild’s Gym, to the caring foundations that believe in our lifework.

Maryvale’s community continues to grow ever larger, thanks also to the altruism of our donors and volunteers. Both small and large acts of humanity make a difference in a child’s life, whether it is the surprise arrival of 70 cupcakes on a Friday, or water park passes delivered on a scorching August afternoon, or the grit and determination of a single Girl Scout who decides to dedicate her Gold Award project to renovate an outdoor space for our Emergency Placement Center boys.

Acts like these bring happiness, healing and a sense of normalcy to lives that have been anything but normal. We are humbled by the generosity of our community, dedicated to supporting the courageous children we serve.

We are blessed by your kindness, but our work is never done. Our children are in need of your help and compassion. I hope you will continue to support the children of Maryvale. It takes a community; we are grateful you are part of ours!

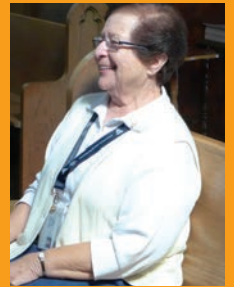
THE POWER OF HISTORY

BY SISTER MARTHA, VICE PRESIDENT OF MISSION INTEGRATION

Philanthropy and charitable giving have always been the foundation that supports Maryvale’s mission.

It began in 1856, when the Daughters of Charity opened the LA Orphanage Asylum, rescuing disenfranchised children from the streets of Los Angeles. It continued with the bequest of land by a donor that became the site of Maryvale’s Rosemead campus. The campus opened in 1953, thanks largely to the generosity of noted philanthropist Carrie Estelle Doherty, working through the Los Angeles Orphanage Guild – an organization she helped create – to provide much of the funding for construction on the Rosemead property.

Generosity such as this has helped inspire the generations of volunteers that have followed over the years, people from all walks of life and with diverse talents – people whose minds and hearts are dedicated to helping others.



Circa 1953, the Daughters of Charity, Maryvale.

WRITE STUFF

Continued from page 1

Well, we can overcome our past by not repeating the cycle set before us by our parents. We can do well in school so we have a shot at college and with that, a better future. I am in a way, lucky, because I was granted AB167 status, which will allow me to graduate with 130 credits instead of the 210 required credits that a regular high school student needs to complete. However, as easy as that may sound, it’s not always easy to choose the correct path towards a better life and most chose the familiar path of self-destruction. Once they’re told they can’t control a situation, that they can only control their perspectives, they’re tempted to alter their thoughts with drugs or alcohol, trying to erase the painful past, while destroying a promising future. We are a different type of minority, but what we have in common with other minorities is that we have different struggles than your average American citizen.

In fact, we are even more unique because most of us have gone through things so traumatic, that we are forced to live with anxiety for the rest of our lives. Most of us take medicine to balance the chemicals in our brains, in order to match the status of the average adolescent. In that aspect, we also struggle doing basic things simply because our bodies are still in shock from various life threatening situations. I speak for most of us, when I, as you, look past the labels society gives us and see the pain of every generation before us and after us, if we don’t try to make a difference for kids like me. Although we are a minority and a lot of people do look down on us, we will make it because some of us have hope bright enough to envision a brighter future than the dark flashbacks of our past.

A BRAND NEW WORLD

When it comes to educating young minds, the future is now.

To help us build that strong foundation, generous donors have funded the renovation, repair and transformation of Maryvale's Early Education Center in Rosemead.

These donations have provided our children with an optimal learning environment, and the upgrades and improvements have been met with enthusiasm by the children, staff and the families we serve.

Our generous donors include the Dan Murphy Foundation, the Margie & Robert Petersen Foundation, The Ahmanson Foundation, The Rose Hills Foundation, Ronald McDonald House Charities and the Sidney Stern Memorial Trust.

The funding has supported much-needed facility renovations, including the installation of three new bathrooms, a new air conditioning and heating system, and an Americans with Disabilities Act access ramp to the play yard. All seven EEC classrooms – three infant/toddler and four preschool rooms – have undergone extensive renovations, including new paint, hardwood and tile flooring, and window treatments. Outdated classroom

furniture has been replaced with new, developmentally appropriate furniture and accessories.

These dramatic improvements will provide a better teaching and learning atmosphere and give our children a running start to a brighter future.



All children need a place to play and create – in short, a time to break free and explore!

Maryvale's Early Education Center has created an exciting outdoor play and learning environment as an extension of its classroom setting to help our children embrace education in a fun and innovative way, thanks to a generous \$10,000 grant from the Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) of Southern California.

The RMHC Southern California grant provides an array of creative tools, including easels for art activities, tables for manipulative activities, playhouses and a treehouse for dramatic play, sensory tables and a sand box for science and experimentation, blocks for early math activities, and bikes, trikes and balls to improve gross motor skills.

The play yard is sheltered by a 90 percent UV-protected canopy, and includes full perimeter fencing and multiple safety barriers for a safe learning and play environment that is sure to challenge and empower the inquisitive young mind.



THE HORSE WHISPERER

In the words of Winston Churchill - "There is something about the outside of a horse that is good for the inside of a man," or in this case, great for the inside of a Maryvale girl, thanks to Horses in the Hood, Los Angeles' (HHLA) equestrian therapy summer camp.



Five "beyond excited" girls from Maryvale attended the camp this summer, said Rose White, Activities Coordinator for Maryvale's 70 children. White contacted HHLA, Los Angeles' founder Kathy Kusner more than five years ago, knowing that HHLA's equestrian therapy could be a perfect match to help heal and strengthen Maryvale's residents. Maryvale's Residential Treatment Program cares for girls who have been the victims of severe neglect, physical abuse, sexual molestation, and even sex trafficking. The program is designed to heal, through intensive therapy, treatment and care; empower, by giving a voice to the voiceless; and educate, including life skills training, to support each girl on a path to self-sufficiency and independence.

"We are so grateful for Kathy's support. Each summer our girls get to experience the healing power of horses and the compassionate instruction from HHLA's teachers," White said. "Over the course of one week we see our girls move from being terrified of horses on day one to riding with confidence and courage by day five. Facing fears and learning how to persevere and conquer those fears provides treasured lessons our girls take into daily life going forward."

Each resident's self-doubt was eventually banished and self-esteem discovered. Thank you, Horses in the Hood!

VOLUNTEER VISION

It takes a village



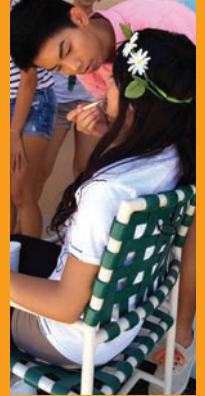
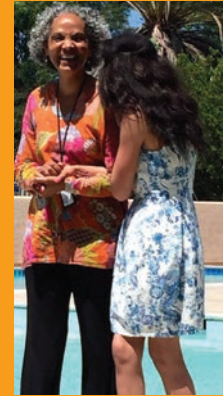
GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD PROJECT - VERONICA MARTINEZ

Veronica Martinez's Girl Scout Gold Award project, "Fun in the Sun," focused on improving Maryvale's Emergency Placement Center. Recruiting more than 30 volunteers, Veronica, from Troop 15491, directed the refurbishment of a massive awning at the center with extensive re-painting and sanding. She also helped raise funds to purchase a new barbecue and outdoor sports equipment and toys for Maryvale's 6 to 12 year old boys. Veronica's leadership excellence was defined by her commitment, organization, determination, grit and sweat.



SECOND ANNUAL FRIENDS & FAMILY PICNIC

The Second Annual Friends & Family Picnic was a rousing success, thanks to the dedication of Rosemead Associates and volunteers/partners. This important Residential Program event brought together hundreds of our residents' friends, family, and other critical supporters, creating a true community of caring.



RESIDENTIAL FASHION & TALENT SHOW

Gabrielino High School students transformed Maryvale into a fashion and talent show wonderland, enabling our residential girls to model and experience the runway and showcase their talents. The high school students worked several months preparing for the event, and also glamorized our girls with makeup and hair styling.

OUR MISSION

Maryvale's Mission, inspired by the compassionate service of our Vincentian Founders, faithful to Catholic Social Teaching rooted in the gospel of Jesus Christ and the charism of the Daughters of Charity, is to heal, empower and educate children and families in order to instill hope for a more fulfilling future. We do this by providing residential, educational, mental health and community-based services in an environment of dignity, love and respect.

Spread the News:

Free Preschool for Qualified Families!

Maryvale now offers preschool subsidy programs for families that qualify! Maryvale's Rosemead and Duarte Early Education Center campuses offer excellent preschool opportunities for 3 and 4 year olds, including a low child to adult ratio – 8:1; a nurturing and safe environment; a comprehensive and engaging academic and social curriculum; and kindergarten readiness. Share the news with anyone who might benefit! For more information, call 626/280-6510, ext. 315.



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7600 East Graves Avenue
Rosemead, California 91770
Main: (626) 280-6510
Early Education: (626) 537-3311



Family Resource &
Early Education Center
2502 East Huntington Drive
Duarte, California 91010
Family Resource: (626) 263-9133
Early Education: (626) 357-1514