



# RAINBOW MATTERS

SPRING 2014

Providing Help & Hope

## THANK YOU!

The holidays can be a difficult time for families fleeing domestic violence. Below is a list of the many organizations that gave caring support to our families this Holiday season. Sorry, we didn't have room to also list all the individuals who also gave. Please know we are very grateful for your support as well.

Azure Verdes Chapter of EGA  
Bath & Body Works  
Community Films  
Congregation Mishkon Tephilo  
Eric Kardovich, DMD  
Ernst & Haas Management Co  
Garrick Denny, DDS  
Geoffrey Groat, DDS  
Girl Scout Troop #16945  
Girl Scout Troop #257  
Good Night Mattress  
Handmade With Love Especially for You  
Harbor Lights 4-H  
Harbor Park Women's Golf Club  
Holy Trinity Pre-School  
Kaiser Permanente Retirees  
Kincaid's Redondo Beach  
Kiwanis Club of Rolling Hills Estates  
KPRA South Bay  
Macy's - Del Amo  
Mattel  
Miraleste Elementary School  
Muskawa Club  
Nat'l Charity League Peninsula Chapter  
Opus Bank  
Pacific Unitarian Church  
Peninsula Montessori School  
PV Juniors  
Rancho Del Mar High School  
Rolling Hills United Methodist Church  
Rolling Hills United Methodist Preschool  
Samuelson, Gonzalez, Valenzuela & Brown  
Sandpipers  
Sullen Clothing  
Team One Advertising  
Temple Beth El  
The Hertz Corporation  
The Torrance Woman's Club  
Victoria's Secret  
Vistas for Children  
Volunteer Center South Bay  
West Basin Municipal Water District  
Wilmington Boys & Girls Club  
Women In Lodging at Terranea  
Xi Xi Theta  
Zone 24 Landscaping



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 Executive Director

# Angels Come at the Right Time.



Just before the holidays, a family of five was leaving Rainbow's shelter to move into their own house and needed everything to set up their new life. A board member mentioned that *Good Night Mattress* in Rancho Palos Verdes might be willing to help our family. The timing was perfect. We contacted *Good Night* and they were pleased to contribute to this family.

They donated mattresses, mattress protectors and bedding—all the things needed to give the entire family a good night's sleep. They even delivered everything at no cost!

Rainbow Services can't thank *Good Night Mattress* enough for supporting this family.

Now we all believe in angels.



### Contact Information:

Mailing Address  
 453 West 7th Street  
 San Pedro CA 90731

Telephone  
 (310) 548-5450

24-Hour Hotline  
 (310) 547-9343

[www.rainbowservicesdv.org](http://www.rainbowservicesdv.org)



## Volunteer Corner.

This past December, because of the generosity of our wonderful community, we were able to provide gifts to **104 families with 242 kids** through our **Holiday Shop**. This program is a joint effort of donors, volunteers and staff and it takes several months to organize and coordinate this effort.

Rainbow began circulating our agency wish list to individuals and organizations in October. The wish list contained suggestions for items that are both needed and wanted for our clients.

An empty retail space (of about 1300 sq feet) was donated to us for the month of December by Eric Eisenberg of The Renaissance Group. On December 1<sup>st</sup> we brought in tables, chairs, plastic bags, signage and other supplies as well as donations that had come in earlier and were being saved for the holidays.

Arrangements were made with donors to drop off their items at our *Holiday Shop* between December 1<sup>st</sup> and December 15<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers came in on 3 consecutive Sundays to sort through the hundreds of donations, and arrange them by age and gender, as well as by type – clothing, toys, food, hygiene items, baby supplies, household items, etc. in preparation for distribution.

Staff brought the wish lists that they got from our participants to the *Holiday Shop* and thoughtfully matched what we had to what was requested. Each family's gifts were put together and readied for the participants

Gifts were distributed to our participants for themselves and their children between Friday, December 13th and Thursday, December 19th giving them time to wrap each gift and/or use gift cards to get something appropriate to fill in where necessary.

Our most heartfelt thanks to the many individuals and organizations that participated in our holiday gift giving program. You made the holidays happen for many, many families. You are the best!!!!

Judy Gordon  
 Director of Volunteers

# Executive Director's Message.

So many businesses saw demand for their services go down during the recession; not us. Unfortunately, the need for our services only continues to grow. As you may know, we have been working hard to find a way to expand to meet the need.

The expansion started by purchasing a building on 8<sup>th</sup> Street in San Pedro that will give us more room to see more clients. The building had sat virtually empty for 20 years so it needed a lot of help and I am thrilled to report that the renovation is almost done. We plan on having an open house to celebrate this remarkable milestone on May 1st.

Our additional space is going to allow us to provide more counseling, case management, children's services and especially more legal services. We are finally going to have room for legal interns and pro bono attorneys to help clients. We are all so excited.

But this is only half the story. Our next project will be to remodel our current 7<sup>th</sup> Street location to make it work better for our clients. Our goal is to have a larger lobby so that clients don't have to wait out on the sidewalk when they are waiting for their appointment. We also hope to have a larger, safer space for our children's program.

Thanks to **Supervisor Knabe, The Ahmanson Foundation, The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation, Rob and Terry Hall, and The John Gogian Family Foundation** we have raised the funds to renovate our new building on 8th Street. We are now working to raise the funds to renovate our 7<sup>th</sup> Street location. I will keep you posted on our progress.

I remain thankfully yours.



Ben Schirmer  
Executive Director



## Upcoming Events

### MAY

Help us celebrate our newest location:  
8th Street  
**OPEN HOUSE**  
Thursday, May 1, 2014  
Check our Website & Facebook for updated information on this event.

### JUNE

Our annual fundraiser:  
**SUNSET SERENADE**  
**I CAN, WE CAN**  
Saturday, June 21, 2014  
5:45 pm  
Norris Pavilion  
501 Indian Peak Road  
Rolling Hills Estates, CA  
90274

# Program Highlight: DART



Domestic Abuse Response Team (DART) is a vital program, offered by Rainbow Services' Department of Legal Services, that strengthens our partnership with local law enforcement and offers immediate support to victims of domestic abuse.

Officers with LAPD's Harbor Division are instructed to have victims contact our 24-hour emergency hotline at the scene of a domestic violence incident. Our hotline workers conduct a thorough safety assessment with the victim and determine whether the victim is in immediate need of shelter or other resources. Our DART advocate then follows up with the victim within 48 hours of the incident to determine whether the victim needs additional services, such as legal, counseling, support group, or

housing. This unique model of emergency response allows Rainbow to connect with victims as soon as domestic violence occurs without intruding on an officer's ability to investigate the crime.

During the last three months, Rainbow's hotline workers and DART advocate responded to 66 calls from victims and 18 calls from LAPD. In addition, our legal team has trained more than 160 officers and supervisors about DART protocols.

**Rainbow Services**  
453 W. 7th Street  
San Pedro, CA 90731

Telephone (310) 548-5450  
24-hour hotline (310) 547-9343

Non-profit  
Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Permit #28  
San Pedro, CA 90731

*Rainbow Services seeks to end the cycle of family violence.*

**\* Or Current Resident**

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## Optimiste

Optimiste is an exclusive year-long membership program for individual donations of \$1,000 or more.

**Your membership provides life-saving services to families escaping the cycle of violence.**

Membership benefits include:

- 2 tickets to our annual fundraiser, Sunset Serenade
- An invitation to our annual Optimiste Thank You Dinner
- Recognition on our website and printed materials (optional)

For more information or to join Optimiste please contact Eileen Mosler either by phone - (424) 264-0636; or by email - [EMosler@RainbowServicesDV.org](mailto:EMosler@RainbowServicesDV.org)

## SAVE THE DATE!

Rainbow Services presents

### **SUNSET SERENADE I CAN, WE CAN**

Saturday, June 21, 2014  
5:45 pm

Norris Pavilion  
501 Indian Peak Road  
Rolling Hills Estates, CA 90274

For tickets and sponsorship information call Eileen Mosler at 424.264.0636 or visit our website - [www.RainbowServicesDV.org](http://www.RainbowServicesDV.org)