



**HELP  
ONE CHILD**

# Dividends

Mission to Children at Risk

August 2004

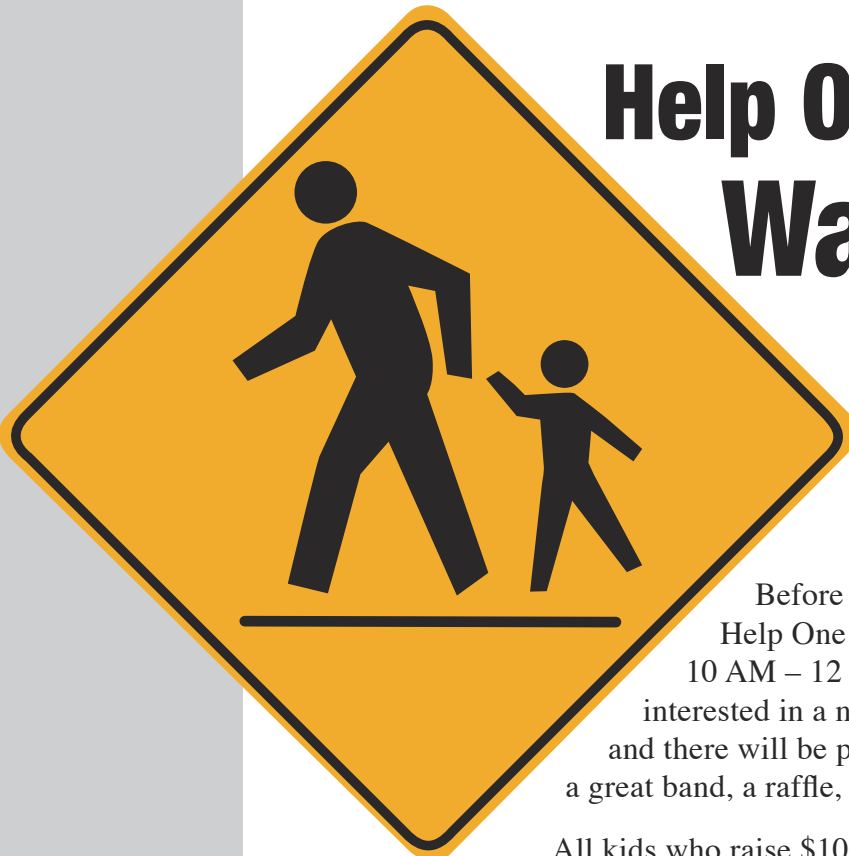
Issue 49

1-888-KID-HOPE

www.HelpOneChild.org

## Help One Child Walkathon / 5K

**Take a step...  
to help one child.**



Before you know it, the annual walkathon fundraiser for Help One Child will be here, Saturday, October 2nd from 10 AM – 12 PM. This year it will include a 5k run for those interested in a new challenge. All ages are welcome to participate and there will be prizes for everyone. It will be a fun day with food, a great band, a raffle, and a silent auction.

All kids who raise \$100 or more and all adults who raise \$150 or more will receive a commemorative tee shirt. Raffle prizes include: an \$80 massage, tickets to Bonfante Gardens, tickets to Great America, several \$55 haircuts, tickets to ski at Sugar Bowl, gourmet dog treats for 6 months, a \$100 pair of tennis shoes, and much more! You have a good chance at these great gifts if you participate.

The money you raise will help find homes and helpers for foster children and those at risk of entering the foster care system, as well as parent training and respite care for foster, adoptive, and kinship families. So, mark October 2nd on your calendar and start finding friends and relatives to sponsor you. For more information, or if you can help with the walkathon, contact **Stephanie** at Help One Child, **650-917-1210**, or email her at **sworkman@helponechild.org**. If you have items or can drum up items for the silent auction and raffle, that would be most appreciated, too!

# Special People:

**Cindy Crawford**, a Help One Child volunteer, was able to put her desire to help children and her skills as a signer for the deaf to work, by helping a young boy transition to a new home.

**Wendy Moore**, a Help One Child volunteer, purchased season tickets to Raging Waters so that she can take her grandchildren there every Wednesday this summer. Because she is a thoughtful person, Wendy also purchased season tickets for Sara and Jessica in the Mary Beth Orr home, so that the girls can be included in these outings.

**Cindy Thibodeau** celebrated her adoption of Kristina with a big house party. Dozens of people who have been touched by Cindy's extensive outreach to foster children were present, including Grandma **Linda Marken**. Over the past eight years, Linda has been a grandmother to numerous children in Cindy's home.

**Kellie and John Neighbors** were Help One Child foster parents several years ago. They became guardians of two young boys and then moved to Colorado. Recently, Kellie called to say they were back in town, finalizing the adoption of the boys. Congratulations!

**Mark Morris** just completed his annual marathon, the San Francisco Marathon, to raise money for Help One Child. This year **Julie Gannaway** and **Alicia Bueschen** went along and ran the half-marathon.

**Beth Maxwell** and **Stephanie Workman**, two young women with a desire to help children, are part of the Help One Child staff this summer.

**Dave and Lori DiRicco**, who have adopted three siblings, just said "welcome" to a new foster baby that is the sibling of their adopted children.

**Jeanie Eaton**, with the help of her husband **Kyle**, has volunteered to keep the monthly meetings of the RAD Support Group on track. Therapist **Linda Ikeda** and psychologist **Donald Williams** continue to be faithful contributors to the teaching time at the group meetings.



Kristina, Cindy, Lance and Judge McCarthy

## Nancy Verrier to Speak

Nancy Verrier, well known author of *The Primal Wound* and more recently, *Coming Home to Self: The Adopted Child Grows Up*, will be presenting an all-day workshop for Help One Child on November 6. Nancy is a mother by birth and by adoption. Her extensive career, as a therapist working with adopted children, adoptive parents, and birth parents that have relinquished children for adoption, makes her a tremendous resource for all those who compose the adoption triad.

The workshop will be from 9 AM until 4:30 PM at Union Presbyterian Church in Los Altos. The public will be invited to attend, as well as those participating in the Help One Child network and RAD Support Group.



## Parenting Special Needs Children Under 5 years of age

A series of parenting workshops for foster or adoptive and special needs children under 5 will be held on Tuesday nights from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM for six weeks beginning August 24<sup>th</sup>. Local child care experts will provide training at no charge. Experienced child care will be provided. Location: 3864 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto, CAR Fireside Room. The same series will be repeated on Thursday nights starting September 30<sup>th</sup>. Sign up on line: [www.php.com](http://www.php.com) and click on "Right From the Start." Free Transportation is available.

# Father's Day Weekend and Picnic at Mt Cross in the Redwoods



Families relax in the camp pool.

Help One Child foster families spent a weekend of camp fun with meals prepared for them on Father's Day weekend. 26 Adults and 44 children enjoyed swimming, hiking, creek-walking, games, crafts and campfires at Mt Cross near Felton. Nine families stayed overnight in cabins Friday & Saturday and other families came to camp for the Saturday afternoon picnic. College age camp counselors organized activities and supervised children. Families remarked that it was freeing to have the camp to themselves, to be able to relax and to let the children play with each other and the counselors. For some it is rare to have a family weekend away.



## Tech Volunteers Needed!

Computer systems are so essential to educational success. Our foster kids need this resource too. Help One child receives many computer donations but we need a volunteer to assemble systems for distribution. If you would be willing to donate your time and expertise please call 650-917-1210. You can make the future of foster children brighter.

## Be Prepared

It is more important than ever that you, the reader, be ready to lend a helping hand to children in need. Because of a reduction in funding, the foster care system is undergoing a huge shift. The shift is from foster families, that need to be funded, to relatives and friends who can function as parents without funding and court supervision.

In some ways, this shift is good, because it puts the job of caring for at-risk children on those the child already knows. On the other hand, there will be situations where children will continue to be at risk and not receive the services they need.



## Remembering Corey by Barbara Siler


My son David and I are both so grateful that Help One Child sent Corey Griffin our way, as a volunteer mentor, a few years ago. Corey and David could not have been better matched. He became David's "real" brother and we both loved him. He went along with us on vacation and we felt that we were family.

Sadly, this past year was difficult for him, as he realized the toll that alcohol and drugs were taking on family and close friends. He asked for my prayers and, of course, received them.

Corey was killed in a car accident this last May. David was devastated. We both feel so blessed for having known him and having him share in our family for the time he was with us. Corey was a very special person. No one could have been better for David during those years they had together. All of the boys on our street knew and loved Corey---he piled in as many kids as he had seat belts when he took David places. He brought joy to many people. Corey was truly sent from God!

# You Shop, Foster Kids Win!

It's Free... It's easy... Sign up today!

With  every time you use one of your registered cards to pay for merchandise at participating merchants **the merchant will contribute a percentage of the sale to Help One Child.** Just register any of your grocery loyalty cards, Debit, ATM or credit cards with the escrip program and the rest is automatic!

 merchants include:  
For a complete list see [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com)



Log on to: **[www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com)**

Click on "sign up" and designate Help One Child as the group to be supported.



## Happenings



Virginia Rivera, a former foster child, received a donated car through Help One Child.

Church of the Chimes volunteers spent a day doing major cleanup for foster mom Cindy Thibodeau. They filled a dumpster with leftovers from a kitchen remodel, cleaned up the backyard and planted some flowers.



## Upcoming events

### Orientations & CPR / 1st Aid

	Orientations		CPR & First Aid
	7 PM Wednesday	9 AM Saturday	8:30 AM Saturday
August	11	14	14
September	15	18	18
October	20	23	23
November	11	13	13
December	15	-	4
January	19	22	22

Orientations 2 hours • CPR & First Aid 5 hours  
Call for Childcare: 650-917-1210

### RAD Support Group

The support group meets the third Thursday of every month from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM - No meeting in August



**October 2**  
Walkathon  
10 AM - 12:00 PM

**October 30**  
Harvest Festival  
6 PM - 8 PM



**November 4**  
Parenting Class  
9 AM - 4:30 PM

**December 11**  
Christmas Party  
4 PM - 7 PM

