



**HELP
ONE CHILD**

Dividends

Mission to Children at Risk

November 2004

Issue 50

1-888-KID-HOPE

www.HelpOneChild.org

RAD Camp 2004 Mt. Cross Camp Blesses New Group of Families

The out-of-school routine can often be a definitive time for building relationships. That and a whole other world of issues is what drew 15 families to the fourth annual Help One Child family camp for chil-

children with Reactive Attachment Disorder (RAD) at Mt. Cross. RAD is a condition in which individuals have difficulty forming loving, lasting relationships. They typically fail to develop a conscience and do not learn to trust.

Many times parents are at their wit's end with how to deal with their hurting children before they come to camp, said Help One Child staff member Judy Holmes. RAD is often caused by the trauma of separation from the birth mother and is found to affect foster-adopt and adopted children in differing degrees. The camp is for families with the tougher cases.

A family came from as far as Las Vegas and a family who recently left California for Texas came back to experience the camp. The week's parent trainer, Nancy Thomas, raised several children with RAD and pioneered successful parenting techniques that have helped kids at risk grow into stable individuals. She always dreamed of offering a camp for RAD children and has been partnering with Help One Child to provide one since 2001. Help One Child co-founder Jo Anne Morris says that the RAD camp grew out of a need for extended time to work on trust issues.

"In a week, it can also speed up the ongoing weekly therapeutic interventions," she says. This camp has also been the model for similar camps in Florida and Canada. Surrounded by families with similar challenges, families ate meals, did chores, listened to Nancy Thomas share techniques for acting-out behavior and bonded through singing, games, skits and hikes.

It's not just a memorable time as a family, but the week provides the training and the hope that children can learn to bond that parents are desperate for.



RAD Camp 2004 continued...

Mary Macioce shares, "We were fortunate enough to find Help One Child in June when we weren't sure how to help our son succeed and find his way. We came away with the feeling that there is hope for his healing and healing for our family."

Not only the adults benefited. Thirteen-year-old Emmilee says that camp gave her "the answers to my problems. I never thought a family camp would be God's tool."

Through Nancy Thomas's lectures and methods, parent Mark Johnson said his family was profoundly touched. "It has truly been a lifeline extended," he says.

Parent Susan Calderon says the week at camp was "a step toward a new future of healing. When my son gets healed it means the generations that follow him will also get the nurturing and healthy start they need. The camp impacts a wide ripple of lives."

While the healing multiplies into future generations, volunteer and adoptive parent Sharon Langmead is grateful for the immediate and future impact in her children's lives.

"Our children have had their hearts broken at best and their spirits, bodies and self-esteem broken at worst. But with the structure, healing and support of Help One Child/Nancy Thomas camps, our broken eagles can not only learn to fly, they can soar to new heights and learn to love again."

Twelve-year-old John is on his way to becoming an eagle. In a letter to Nancy Thomas, he writes, "I liked learning about eagles and that is my new favorite animal. Thank you for spending time with us to help us learn. Thank you for letting me see the brain of a sick and a healthy person. Thank you for letting us be able to come to this camp and for many different experiences."

Judy Holmes says that it's powerful to "see kids for how God made them and not for the victims they have become."



**Family in training session
at Mt. Cross Camp**

Help Is Just A Prayer Away

Would you commit to lift up a foster child or family in prayer? Judy Holmes is compiling a list of people who want to receive prayer needs by email. We typically receive 1-5 requests per week and the more we bring these families before God the more He will work in lives. James 5:16 says, "The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much." Email Judy at jholmes@helponechild.org if you would like to join our new electronic prayer network. Just click and pray and you'll be making a difference.



New on the Block

Help One Child recently welcomed newcomer Beth Walker. Beth joined the team Oct. 18 after a year of media experience as a reporter for *The Willow Glen Resident* in San Jose. Born and raised in Sunnyvale, she graduated from UC Davis in 2003 with an English degree. Beth will be focusing on broadening community outreach through the media, public relations and recruiting.

"I'm so glad to be part of an organization that cares about kids with great needs," she says.



Christmas Party Planning Starts Now!

Can you help with the annual Help One Child Christmas party on Dec. 11? Help One Child is looking for volunteers and gift-givers who would like to be part of this happy celebration of Christ's birth. There are three ways you can help make the season special for a foster child.

1. Become a gift-giver by purchasing a modest gift for a foster child or family of foster children. (\$20 is the suggested gift cost.) To do this, call Judy at Help One Child 650-917-1210 for the name of a child or family and a list of items that would be appropriate.
2. Join the fun and help with the party by working with the set-up, the food, crafts, games, the nativity and music program, or the clean-up.
3. Send a party check to Help One Child to help underwrite the expenses of the Christmas party. Be sure to indicate on your check that the donation is for the party. (All donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.) Thank you!

Year End Report



Growing Together

Strengthening our family of families

Parent Trainings:

A Parent's Worst Nightmare - False Allegations of Abuse: Causes, Prevention, and Remedies

By Attorney Robert Powell

Helping Children Make Significant Attachments

By Dr. Don Williams

Addressing Your Child's Education Needs

By Steven Corelis, M.A.

Real Parents, Real Children

By Holly van Gulden

Regular Trainings:

13 CPR/1st Aid Classes

2 Water Safety Classes

Monthly Attachment/Adoption Support Group meetings

16 families attended the Help One Child Mt. Cross Camp, spending 5 morning sessions with trainer Nancy Thomas.



Foster kids enjoy the festivities at our annual Christmas Party.

Social Events:

Harvest Festival

Christmas Party - 153 children came!

Easter Eggstravaganza

Volunteer Dinner and Movie

Family Camp Weekend At Mount Cross

Annual Picnic At Mount Cross

Statistics and Finances 12 months ending October 2004

Foster and Adoptive Care

Families Currently in Network	136
Children Currently in Network	229
Children Adopted Last Year	11
Foster Families Connected with Help One Child	261
Families Served by Attachment Support Group	130

Income Comparison

Income Fiscal Year 2003	\$ 183,668
Income Fiscal Year 2004	\$ 187,952
Total Expenditures	\$ 186,065
Budget 2005	\$225,000

* Because the ministry's office space and administrative help are donated, 98% of each contributed dollar is expended in programs to recruit and support foster families.

Volunteers

Foster Care Support Network	2605
Active Volunteers and Donors	500+
Volunteer Hours	6000+

Church Recruitment

Individual Church Presentations	31
Offsite Orientations were held in:	
Redwood City, San Jose, Morgan Hill and Half Moon Bay	

Recruitment Results

Orientation and Screening Events	26
Orientation Workshop Attendees	134
Foster Homes that Completed Processing	15
Homes in Clearance Process	22

Year End Report



Walkathon/5K Runs Away With Success!

With months of planning, generous food donations and willing volunteers the 2004 Walkathon jumpstarted the fall with a family carnival theme. The Walkathon raised roughly \$17,000 to support Help One Child's services and mission to children at risk.

It was a cool fall morning, Oct. 2, as helpers descended early to set up for the event, which began at 10 a.m. But by the time the walkers/runners began the course, the day was warming up. Breakfast food, coffee, water and popcorn energized the participants and volunteers, while Clara's Acoustic Band offered sweet tunes that added to the festivities. A



bounce house and carnival games created excitement for the children who attended and adults scored great giveaways with the raffle prizes. The event's success would not have been possible without donations from the community, support from local churches and the hard work of our volunteers. Help One Child would like to especially thank Dave Hauck, Ciaran O'Donnell, the DiRicco family, Muffy Foster, Dave and Carol Gielow and Dale Workman. Our walkers/runners also deserve a round of applause with special recognition going to Clyde, Sue and Emma Cummings who raised \$1,655 in donations, Ryan Pierce who raised \$890 in pledges and donations and 9-year-old Tyler Morris who collected \$580.

Walkathon coordinator Stephanie Workman worked many hours to make the event happen. The completion of the Walkathon marked another type of closure for her. A week later, Stephanie moved to Virginia to live nearer to her boyfriend. We will miss her!

Hum, Rattle and Roll!

Saving up for a car would overwhelm any emancipated foster child's budget. Help One Child accepts donations of running vehicles to give to foster children 18 and over who are on their own and need transportation assistance. Since August, two cars have been donated for that purpose. Donations are always appreciated and are tax-deductible. Remember the excitement when you got your first car?

Upcoming events

Orientations & CPR / 1st Aid

	Orientations		CPR & First Aid
	7 PM Wednesday	9 AM Saturday	8:30 AM Saturday
January	19	22	22
February	16	19	19
March	16	19	19
April	20	23	23
May	18	21	21

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



December 11
Christmas Party
4 PM - 7 PM

January 26 & 29
Gilroy Orientation and CPR 1st
Aid Class at St. Mary Parish

March 4-5
Nancy Thomas Training



March 26
Easter Eggstravanza