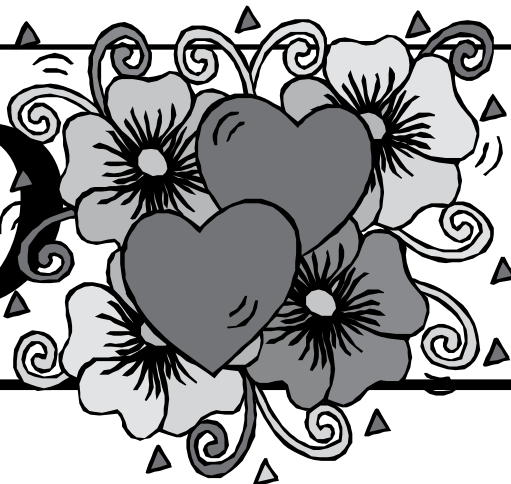


The SEED

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Encouraging Hearts With Hope

Every school year begins a new journey with students, staff and volunteer teachers. Staff and volunteer teachers usually spend some reflective time together before we fine tune schedules, curriculum and classroom procedures. This year we are all trying in all that we do to: *Encourage Hearts With Hope*. Our Center's Board of Trustees spent a retreat morning considering our role of encouragers. Greg Kepferle, Director of Catholic Charities, facilitated our discussion and helped us in our direction for this school year. Together we realized that hope is an act that builds and is sustained by community. For so many of our students, as the options and possibilities in their lives seem to decrease, hopelessness often increases. So we have committed ourselves to fostering hope. Hope is at the heart of life and may everyone who comes to our Center find the company of hopeful people.

Sister Pat Davis, Director



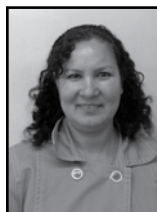
I get a feeling of hope when I see so many members of our community give their support to the women and children that come to this Center. It gives me hope that through such a caring community we can all benefit from the gifts that immigrants bring to our country.

~ Lynn Hasbany ~ Coordinator of Curriculum and ESL Teacher



I have hope in seeing the smiling faces of the ladies who come everyday to the Center to take classes and learn to be prepared to provide a better life for their loved ones. They find time in their busy schedules as housewives, working moms or even harder as single moms. It makes me realize that there is hope in each of their hearts looking for a better future.

~ Stella Acosta ~ Language Lab Director



The satisfaction I get from my job is seeing the children succeed in our classes and learn new things. I also feel satisfaction when I advise the mothers of resources available to help their children succeed when they have special needs.

~ Yolanda Perez ~ Pre-school teacher for Four and Five Year Olds



My hopes for the Center involve helping students learn English to be a helpful tool in shaping their children's education and also better themselves as women. As a staff member, I am happy to teach all that I know and hope the best for all the women who come to the Center.

~ Ernestina Atanacio ~ ESL Teacher, Pre-school Teacher & Sharing Room Coordinator



First of all, I know that I love my job and that every day it teaches me the things that enrich my life each and every day. Their little faces fill my heart with warmth every morning when I see them. I love to experience the joy and their reactions when they learn something new and to know that they are learning basic tools for their growth.

But overall the most important feeling for me is that I am part of the learning experience of their little lives.

~ Veronica Hernandez ~ Pre-school Teacher for Two and Three Year Olds

Continued on page 2



Volunteer teacher's gathering

THE SEED

Encouraging Hearts with Hope, continued from cover



Working at our Center gives me the chance to represent what our name stands for: LOVING. I am excited to see women walking in the door with the hope to better themselves. I have hope we will all bond together with our different cultures.

The Center is a family where we care and are cared for, teach and learn from each other.

~ Jackie Wake ~ Pre-school Teacher for Four and Five Year Olds



I am given hope by the dedication of all students and staff. It shows in their smiling faces and their positive attitude toward bettering themselves. We are all winners as we give and receive.

~ Hope Nunez ~ Counselor



Working as a Computer Instructor is very important for me because I can see and feel how moms develop confidence to manage and improve their computer skills.

I feel satisfaction when they share how proud their children are when they see them searching for information without asking for help and also being able to help them with homework. They have hope and excitement when they realize how their new knowledge can help them in their daily lives.

~ Barbara Estrada ~ Computer Instructor

Welcome Dolores Alvarado, MSW, MPH

The Board of Trustees is very happy to introduce to you our new Director of Development and Programs, Dolores Alvarado. Dolores is no stranger to our Center as she served on the Board of Trustees. She brings 30 years of experience in community health, 18 years in the field of public health and 15 years of experience developing, implementing, and managing health programs and their budgets. Assisting immigrant women in attaining an education and improving their lives is a value near and dear to her heart. Dolores is another sign of hope for our Center.



Moving Forward With New Dreams

For the past thirteen and a half years the telling of our story, explaining our mission to funders, foundations, companies and individual donors, has been the job of Janet Leach, our Development Director. Janet set up our Development Office and immediately was on the fast track of generating funds for our ESL curriculum,



our pre-school program, operations, and staff salaries. Janet retired this December to pursue new dreams and experiences.

We are immensely grateful for her gifts that built our financial foundation. Whatever her next endeavor is it will be met with her enthusiasm, dedication and a strong sense of justice that makes Janet the woman of hope that she is! We are grateful and applaud her place in our history.

Janet with sewing teachers Harriet Anderson and Virginia Rodriguez.



Cruisin' In The Vineyard

We are sending out the invitation to hither and yon to all friends of Learning and Loving Education Center to join us for our Fourth Annual Special Event on April 10th. For the past three years we have bussed our guests to neighboring, popular wineries and then back to a lovely setting for a dinner and silent auction. This year eight wineries are coming to us and there will be time for wine and olive oil tasting, followed by a buffet dinner and dancing. The money that was realized from the events was a tremendous boost to the support of our programs, salaries for staff, and a chance to save some funds in case the responses from grant requests are slim. Please consider this flyer below as a special invitation. We would love to have you as our guests!

Cruisin' In The Vineyard

Wine Tasting

Silent Auction

Dinner • Dancing

Saturday, April 10, 2010

4:00 PM to 10:30 PM

Gilroy Elks Lodge

2765 Hecker Pass Hwy.

Gilroy, CA 95020

Ticket: \$85

**For Ticket information, please contact
The Learning and Loving Education Center**

(408) 776-1196





August registration



Day of the dead altar



PowerPoint is fun



Stay healthy with Sister Rachela DC



Weekly nutrition classes



Eco-Care Professional Housecleaning

A Women's Cooperative Working to Protect the Environment

60W Main Avenue, Suite 11B
Morgan Hill, CA 95037
408/778-8445, fax 408/778-8433



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