

Age Doesn't Limit You...



From left to right: Cheryl Jennings (KGO News), May Nichols, and David Louie (KGO News) at the Women's Hall of Fame event on March 24th.

"Age is just a number." Two HIP Housing women, one young and one young at heart, prove that you can achieve anything at any age, all you need is the determination to make your dreams come true.

May Nichols, HIP Housing's Senior Service Coordinator at Edgewater Isle, was inducted into the San Mateo County's Women's Hall of Fame. May was honored for her endless work as a senior advocate. Determined to make a difference after a difficult battle with cancer, May adopted the mantra "Learning Never Ends". At age 69 May went back to school to earn her Masters Degree in Clinical Gerontology and received her degree at age 71. Since committing to giving back to the community, she has achieved many accomplishments including becoming a certified Grief Counselor, participating in over a dozen Community Committees, helping to compile and publish the *Help at Home* directory for seniors, meeting with state legislatures to gather support for the Elder Economic Dignity Act, and providing education, activities, and case management to seniors at Edgewater Isle. Today, May is 78 years young, still "learning," and improving life for seniors.

On the other end of the age spectrum, Ashley is 14 (pictured on page 3) but already has the determination and life plan of an adult. Ashley's family was in a shelter until they were accepted into the Self-Sufficiency Program. Ashley has dreams of becoming a doctor or nurse. Through her family's struggles she realizes the importance of education. As an 8th grader, she took the initiative to apply to several private schools, and as a result was awarded a full scholarship to Sacred Heart High School in Atherton! Ashley also volunteers at the Family Center at her school, which helps families in need, and is the Student Council Secretary. Recently, she was honored for her accomplishments by the Boys and Girls Club naming her the "Scholar of the Year", which enabled Ashley to meet Condoleezza Rice. Ashley is just beginning her journey but she already has a long list of accomplishments. Ashley credits her family for motivating her, particularly her mom who works three jobs to support them, and who is responsible for getting her family in HIP Housing's Self-Sufficiency Program, which provides them with housing and case management. "Because of my family I am a warrior." Ashley is a warrior who is sure to end the cycle of poverty for her family.

Two amazing women, who do not allow their age to define them, are limitless in the difference they make in their own lives and for the people around them.



A Message from the Executive Director

Bruce Hamilton

Where are America's priorities? Our federal, state, county and local governments are facing reality – budget deficits are soaring and are unsustainable. Something has got to give. So, while there is little support for increasing revenues, massive cuts in programs are soon to be reality. Health care, pensions, all human and social services will be slashed. Who will be hurt by these cuts? – The neediest, the powerless, those with little or no political clout.


Governments at all levels provide significant support to nonprofit agencies. This is long standing policy, based on the fact that dedicated staff members of the nonprofit sector provide cost effective services. But government support for HIP Housing and other nonprofit programs is soon to be reduced.

No doubt there is waste in government expenditures, and some cuts are appropriate. But to have a strong country we need to also look at increasing revenues, which can mean increasing taxes in an equitable manner. According to the IRS, the richest 400 individuals in America have as much wealth as 150 million Americans, and those 400 pay only

17% of their income in federal taxes. Tax cuts to the wealthy, instituted several years ago, and recently extended, cost the United States \$42 billion per year. Restoring taxes to their former level would be an equitable way to raise funds for important social programs, while not unduly burdening citizens.

While these can be discouraging times, I remain optimistic. I am optimistic that we at HIP Housing and others will "do more with less" and I am confident that individual, foundation and private sector charitable giving will increase.

We don't have a budget crisis in America. We have a moral crisis. But I am confident because I believe that our shared values and priorities are based on recognition that fate can be cruel. To quote John F. Kennedy, "here on earth God's work must truly be our own."

So this is a plea for you to dig deeper, to give more. Your generosity will enable us to continue to serve those in need. We believe in you and we need you now more than ever. 

Mission Statement

HIP Housing's mission is to invest in human potential by improving the housing and lives of people in our community.

Human Investment Project

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Thank You from Clients

Below are quotes from a Home Sharing client:

"As a working and studying individual living in Redwood City, I needed to find an affordable place to live. I spent a few weeks trying to find an affordable apartment or studio that fit my budget, but that was impossible. I was very fortunate however, when I heard about HIP Housing's Home Sharing program. They not only helped me find an excellent place to live, but they also helped me find healthy friends and a nice living environment.

The Counselors at HIP Housing helped me step-by-step to find a compatible living arrangement. The Counselors were very professional and good listeners. My contact with them did not end in the meeting; they continued contacting me to see how I felt about my living situation.

I have lived in this house for three years now, I feel deeply thankful to the program. .. HIP Housing is not only a program that requires more funding, but it also is a program that requires more growing to continue assisting the array of people who are constantly seeking affordable and healthy living environments."

Antonio, Senior at SFSU 



Ashley (story on page 1), is carving out her own destiny. The Self-Sufficiency Program is breaking the cycle of poverty and opening the road of opportunity for the next generation.

Home Sharing

The Home Sharing Program is a one-on-one service linking people who have a home to share with those seeking a home. Each person has a private room and shares common living areas.



Self-Sufficiency

The Self-Sufficiency Program enables low-income families to transition from government assistance. Participants receive subsidized rents or a housing scholarship while they complete an education or job training program and find employment with an adequate income to support their families.

Property Development

Through Property Development, HIP Housing expands the pool of affordable housing for low-income persons and families in San Mateo County by developing new and acquiring and rehabilitating existing housing.



Self-Sufficiency Participant, Frisco Leaea, volunteers to give seniors at Edgewater Isle a complimentary haircut. Pictured above: Frisco and resident.

Community Support



Pacific Gas and Electric Company Liason and HIP Housing Board Member, Kathy Lavezzo was awarded the Mielke Award for her outstanding service to the community. As the award recipient, she selected HIP Housing to receive the \$2,500 prize to her non-profit of choice to further HIP Housing's work in San Mateo County. Pictured from left to right: Development Director, Lois Marshall-Ward, Board Members: Kathy Lavezzo, David Gonzalez and John de Russy.

Making a Difference

Central Peninsula Church provides ► HIP Housing's Cedar House in San Carlos with a spring make-over. Volunteers revitalized Cedar House with fresh paint inside of the home and carport area, landscaping, and a new play structure. Pictured left is JR Arreola, Painting Project Leader.



Congratulations Self-Sufficiency Client, Chelsea K.! Through hard work and straight A's, Chelsea was accepted into SFSU/Canada's College Nursing Program. Chelsea also qualified to purchase a below market rate condo by working part-time, saving money and maintaining excellent credit! She stuck with her goals and now she and her 5 year old daughter are on their way to success!



◀ 2011 Girl's Night Out fundraiser brought over 100 women for an evening of pampering and shopping. Thanks to the many spas, salons, vendors and Events Committee who helped make this event a success. Pictured left to right, Margie Ford and Jane Jensen from Healing Touch Energy Therapy.



Community Support



Wilson Sonsini Goodrich and Rosati (WSGR) spread good cheer to HIP Housing's Self-Sufficiency families and seniors through the holiday Adopt-a-Family program. The employees of WSGR adopted 29 adults, 47 children, and 107 seniors, providing gifts and groceries to brighten their holidays. WSGR Foundation provided a \$4,000 grant which provided 10 adults, 16 children, and 8 seniors with gifts, and will provide support to the Self-Sufficiency program. WSGR employees present gifts to the seniors at Edgewater Isle. From left to right, Gail McFall, Vivian Shreve, May Nichols (Edgewater Isle Senior Service Coordinator), and Cristina Suarez.

Making a Difference

Comedian, Dan St. Paul brought together supporters for A Night of Laughter at Rooster T. Feathers Comedy Club, benefitting HIP Housing. The club was packed with current and new friends who laughed the night away! You can laugh with Dan at HIP Housing's Luncheon on June 10th. Pictured center Dan St. Paul; far left and far right, new friends, Valerie Low and Andrew Cheang.



Monica C., Self-Sufficiency Graduate has made it to self-sufficiency! Monica, a single mom, completed her Nursing Program and on March 1st passed her nursing exam and is now a Registered Nurse. Monica also landed full time job at UCSF in the Pediatric Oncology Unit. With perseverance and hard work, Monica created a better life for her and her son. Pictured below.



Borel Private Bank & Trust was named Outstanding Corporate Grandmaker by the Association of Fundraising Professionals on Nov. 5, 2010 for their commitment to philanthropy. In turn, Borel recognized HIP Housing as a special Honoree for its history of providing stable and affordable housing. Pictured left to right: Diana Landi (Borel), Lois Marshall-Ward (HIP Housing) and Barbara Evers (Borel).



Thank you...

...for Investing in HIP Housing's Programs (Includes Luncheon Sponsors to date)

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Thanks to Doerr Studios in Burlingame, Self-Sufficiency Graduate families received a free portrait session to have a special family photo.



Central Peninsula Church volunteers, Father and Son team, Samer Halteh (left) and Daniel Halteh (right), building a garden box.



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Come early to the Luncheon to take your chances at winning great prizes! Donate \$10 and receive a balloon with a surprise inside! Possible prizes include wine, gift certificates, lottery tickets and much more!

Balloons will be sold during the Social (11:30 a.m.).



Don't Miss

HIP Housing's Annual Luncheon

Friday, June 10th
Annual Luncheon

11:30 Social

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Hotel Sofitel, Redwood City

\$75 per person.

Proceeds benefit

HIP Housing's affordable
housing programs.

To register visit

www.HIPhousing.org or see
insert enclosed.

For more information, call Judy
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