

## Casa de Vida Board of Trustees

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### Executive Director

Valerie Luevano, 329-3211

### Social Worker

Paula Crandell, 329-1070



## Mission Statement

Casa de Vida provides care for pregnant young women in need of help, in the belief that each pregnant woman and her unborn child are unique and valuable gifts of God.

**Casa de Vida**  
1290 Mill Street  
Reno, Nevada 89502

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ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT #198  
RENO, NV  
89510

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## Casa de Vida Communicator *Summer 2006*

### Groundbreaking News!

We are pleased to share some truly exciting news! Thanks to support from the EL Cord, Hawkins, Nell J Redfield, and John Ben Snow Foundations, we now have our very own classroom on-site at Casa de Vida! Here, current and former residents, as well as other at-risk young women in the community, will work toward obtaining their high school diplomas or GED's. And, they will do so under the careful guidance of experienced, licensed teachers supplied by the Washoe County School District.

School starts this Fall, and we think you'll agree that this new educational program is a wonderful and critical addition to the range of quality services already offered by Casa de Vida.

### An "Evening Under the Stars"

It's that time of year again! Our annual dinner and auction, An "Evening Under the Stars" will take place on September 23<sup>rd</sup> at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Michael Dermody. Keep an eye out for your invitation. You don't want to miss it!!

### Mother's Day Thanks

Thank you to everyone who supported our Mother's Day Luncheon! The diaper drive was a huge success - filling our closets to the brim for those in need.

## Helping Those Who Need It Most

Valerie Luevano, Executive Director

Casa de Vida has recently been offered an opportunity to enter a new arena of helping. We have been asked, and have agreed, to provide housing and social service assistance to pregnant or parenting young women who can no longer live at home due to abuse and/or neglect. Although this is a step in a new direction for Casa de Vida, it takes us along a path that fits well within our mission. We are extremely grateful to be able to help these young women at a time when they clearly need our help the most!

## Meet our Newest Scholarship Recipient:

### Tammy: In Her Own Words

"My name is Tammy and my son Elijah and I currently live at Casa de Vida's House of Hope. I was five months pregnant, unstable, and living in the wrong environment when I found out about Casa de Vida. The program helped me get ready for my son physically and mentally. I also learned responsibility and parenting skills."

"I have overcome a lot of obstacles in my lifetime. I dropped out of school when I was 14. I've been to jail and have overcome drug addiction. I have completely turned my life around and everyday I thank God for helping me get where I am."

"I understand Casa de Vida would like to give away a scholarship, and I would be so grateful for an opportunity like that. I would like to be a substance abuse counselor. I feel that I can help people with their problems and give them advice because I can relate to them. Also, I can prevent my son from living the life that I had."

*Tammy was selected by the Board of Trustees as our first scholarship recipient. She was awarded \$1000 to use for tuition and books at TMCC this semester. Congratulations Tammy!*

## Casa's Wish List

- **Laundry Detergent & Cleaning Products**— Powder or liquid detergent, 409, Windex, Simple Green and other household cleansers.
- **Cribs**— We have a great need for gently used cribs, with or without mattresses.
- **Lotion, Shampoo, & Bath Soap**— We have bunches for babies but need some for new mom's too.
- **Grocery Sacks**— Paper or plastic. For use in our Baby's Closet.
- **Bus Passes**— Are always in need to help with transportation to school, work, and doctor's appointments.
- **Photo Albums & Disposable Cameras**— To make the most of baby's birth.
- **Bath Towels and Pillowcases**— We could really use large-size towels and twin pillow cases.

Remember we take donations for all baby items and small household items Monday through Friday 10:00 to 4:00. Please do not bring items on the weekends.

All donations are tax deductible!

## Thank You ~ Thank You ~ Thank You

- Greg Gilmore & Jerry VanFoeken of Q&D Construction for continually going above and beyond the "call of duty" in helping with our construction & maintenance needs.
- David Barnes for showing us that painters can be both good and affordable ☺
- St. Rose of Lima for donating over \$6,000 in new baby items

## Building our Future...Brick by Brick

*We thank all of you who have donated to our Endowment Fund by purchasing one of these special bricks. We have already engraved more than 150 bricks and have begun a lovely pathway on our new grounds—please feel to come by and see YOUR brick. Remember that this is a wonderful way to remember or honor a loved one, as well as to support the ongoing work of Casa de Vida and all that it does for our community. Detach and return the form below, and we'll take care of the rest.*

**For the Holidays, Birthdays, Any Day, this year give a truly loving and lasting gift that helps young girls in need.**

### Bricks for the Future--\$100 each

**Inscription Information:** Maximum of 14 characters per line, including spaces, up to two lines. Please print in capital letters, one letter per space.

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### Additional Brick:

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Name

Address

Phone

Method of Payment

Check, enclosed  Visa  MasterCard

Credit Card Number

Expiration date

Signature

Return to: Casa de Vida, 1290 Mill Street,  
Reno, Nevada, 89502