

# Chief Executive Officer's Report



November 2005

A Monthly Report for our Board, Staff and Friends

Tanya Hoxsie

## When YOU Help One...YOU Help Many! Thanksgiving project unites the community.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Huntington Valley, Huntington Beach Sunrise Rotary, Kiwanis Club of Huntington Beach Surf City Breakfast and Fountain Valley Kiwanis Club worked together to make boxes full of Thanksgiving treats for 64 families. On November 21, 2005 at the Boys & Girls Club's Kid Connection Branch more than 25 volunteers gathered to sort food and fill boxes with food for the holidays.

The Thanksgiving project started in 2003 when 20 baskets were distributed to deserving families. In 2004, the number grew to 40. This year, 64 boxes were filled! Families were identified by the Family Resource Center, Huntington Beach Head Start and the Boys & Girls Clubs. The Family Resource Center took the lead in helping all these groups make this holiday a special one for families in need by bringing together the community's volunteer groups and service agencies and by asking the community for support. By Wednesday, November 23rd all boxes were distributed to identified families. Our special thanks to participating service groups, Staples, U-Haul, Second Harvest, parents of all of the Boys & Girls Club sites and local merchants for their generous donations to the project. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



## CLUB Updates

**LEARNING CENTER Chelo Loshak** — In October the children learned about the new season and the fall colors, they took walks around the neighborhood to see the different colored leaves on the trees. On October 31<sup>st</sup> the day was full of fun activities; our Annual Fall Festival was celebrated with a Pumpkin Patch and pajama day. The children came to school in their pajamas and had a potluck breakfast; at the end of the day every child went home with a pumpkin they chose out of our pumpkin patch thanks to a wonderful pumpkin donation from one of our parent's.

In November, John Borack from Time Warner donated 40 tickets for the play Dora the Explorer at the Performing Arts Center in Costa Mesa. Two of our pre-k classrooms attended and the children were so excited to ride on a school bus for the first time. Children also talked about and celebrated the things that they are thankful for at our Annual Multi Cultural Pot Luck which included main dishes, fruit, vegetables and desserts from different cultures. The FRC is doing great Irma is always on the go, she hosted a Dental Screening, a Health Fair, and distributed 64 food baskets.

**KID CONNECTION Sara de Boom** — This fall has been full of exciting events! October ended with two big activities - the Fall Festival at our Club and the Halloween Bash at the Hyatt for all three clubs. All of our members were able to participate in at least one of these events. The cake walk was the most popular at our Fall Festival and the Haunted House and Costume Contest topped the list at the Hyatt. Out of the six kids that won in the Costume Contest, three were from Kid Connection! Our members are already talking about attending next year's Hyatt Halloween Bash. Club Tech is into its second project, Music Making. This year our members are thrilled to add lyrics to their music to incorporate the Digital Arts Festival Theme, "100 Years of the Boys & Girls Club".

The Pacific Region Keystone Conference is in Bellevue, Washington this year. The goal of the conference is for our teens to better understand the six "keys of Keystoning" which includes Leadership, Service to Club and Community, Free Enterprise, Education and Career Exploration, Unity and Social Recreation.

**KINGSTON Shannon Voigt** — Kingston Branch has continued to build up membership and reach out to the children in our community. The kids are busy with homework as well as the many programs we have to offer such as Money matters, which teach the kids how to handle their money. We have also recently started "Girl's Day" in the gym which gives girls and opportunity to play in an area that is usually ruled by the boys. Each day that this is offered we have approximately 60 girls that meet to play sharks and minnows, capture the flag, or a less aggressive version of dodge ball. We have started working on the digital arts suite, which includes photo tech, music makers, web design, and graphic design. We hope to add to last year's wins which included two regional and one national winner .

## CLUB Updates Continued...

**HB BRANCH Tim Nolan** — The Huntington Beach Branch is pleased to announce the "Operation Hope, Banking on Our Future" program. This is a unique program to teach the youth of our clubs the importance of budgeting their money at a young age. Members of the local bank community donated over 20 hours of their time and resources to give our kids a great knowledge of banking. The Huntington Beach Branch hosted all three clubs and sixty members received hands on banking and finance experience. This was a great experience for the youth as well as our branch and we will continue to it in the future. The second phase of Club Tech, Music Making, is complete. Music Making gave the kids opportunities to explore their creativity while making music. The kids had a wonderful time and created some very interesting projects.

**ATHLETICS & PERFORMING ARTS Tynisha King** — We started this month with exciting news for our Athletic Department, we were one of the recipients for the 2005-6 NFL Youth Football Fund Grant from the Boys and Girls Clubs of America. We are looking to start a co-ed Flag Football League which will be open to youth ages 6 to 15 years old. We are very excited about this new opportunity that will take off in mid-January. Our current sports leagues are currently doing well. The kids are having fun and showing great strides of improvement.

Our Performing Arts program is quite busy as well. The ClubHouse Theatre had auditions for their next production "The Musical Adventures of Oliver Twist," which will be showcased in early February. Dance and Gymnastics are preparing for their annual winter recitals which will be in the month of December. It is great that the kids are able to join the different programs we offer and find something to their liking in which they can excel. We encourage everyone to come out and experience first hand the success of the kids.

**GWC CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER Susan Bixler** — The child development center has had a fun filled month. On November 10<sup>th</sup> the students from the nursing program on campus came over and performed an interactive puppet show for the children, teaching them health tips like proper hand washing and proper teeth brushing. The children thoroughly enjoyed singing the songs that will help remind them how to incorporate these health tips.

On November 17<sup>th</sup> our center put on our very first "Multi-Cultural Potluck." This special event allows us to celebrate the many cultures displayed here at our center by having the families bring in a dish that represents their child's culture. Parent's joined in on the fun and invites went out to campus professionals.

Staff continues to work hard on daily curriculum and problem solving with the children. Observations on each child will help staff put together assessment tools that will be presented at our first Parent/Teacher conference set up for the beginning of December.