

Dear Mendocino Coast  
Children's Fund,

My name is D'Ann Garcia. I am a Mendocino County Youth Worker here on the Mendocino Coast, a position that allows me to directly see the children in our community benefit from the assistance of the Mendocino Coast Children's Fund.

I am someone that helps these children shop at local thrift stores for much needed clothing using a voucher that MCCF provides. I have brought many children to Feet First in Fort Bragg during the rainy season: some literally wearing shoes that have no soles left. The Mendocino Coast Children's Fund provided gift certificates so I could buy them shoes.

The MCCF provide sleeping bags to keep kids warm. I have children living at the local campgrounds in tents as well as children in families that cannot afford to run or operate any source of heat at night.

Right now I am working with a teen who ran away from her homeless parent and wound up placed in a home in Fort Bragg. She immediately received MCCF shoes, clothes and a sleeping bag. This child is so grateful for all of the help. Whenever I see her, she mentions that the sleeping bag is her security item that she gets to take when she is "put" somewhere new.

MCCF funds "runaway kits" which include basic necessities like a toothbrush and a comb and important hygiene items.

Kits help kids that are suddenly displaced into alternate housing due to things such as a parent arrest or car accident.

I am the distributor of many of the holiday presents the Mendocino Coast Children's Fund both collects and provides. These gifts are given to children whose lives we have



come to know very well. For many of the children chosen, kids tell me that this is their only Christmas gift. Kids tell me this year after year not too complain but in complete gratitude.

MCCF provides bus MTA passes for kids who have no safe way to get to school. So they don't have to hitch rides with strangers or worry about how they will get to school and back. Thanks to the Mendocino Coast Children's Fund efforts these students' attendance has greatly benefited as well as their self-esteem.

The real reason I am writing is to communicate that I have a continual feeling of guilt. You see, MCCF volunteers all put in the work to change things for the better, you all collect the

donations that benefit all of these area kids, you seek out the people in our community that give so much that they literally are changing children's lives.

But, I get to be the person that gets all the glory. I get to see the tears well up mixed with a smile when they receive their gift. I get the huge, genuine bear hugs full of gratefulness. I get to watch them prance and dance in their new shoes. I get to hear the voices of these beautiful kids gushing "thank you."

MCCF is a phenomenal program that makes a tremendous difference in the lives of our local kids. Speaking on behalf of myself and for the children of the Mendocino Coast, I am grateful everyday for your presence.

My only wish is that I could box it all up and bring that part of it back to you. I am absolutely blessed to be in a position to see the results of what your donations do to help children.

Sincerely,

*D'Ann Garcia*

Mendocino County Youth  
Project Worker

Dear Community,

A generation ago, I asked my neighbors and friends to help local children whose lives were miserable because they lived in poverty. The wonderful response from our local people was terrific and the MCCF was born. Today as then, we pay no salaries or rent. We are a non-profit 501(3) (c) organization of all volunteers.

Through good times and bad, we respond to the needs of newborns and children from Rockport to Gualala and inland to Comptche. One hundred percent of your donations goes directly to the kids.

We listen with our hearts and deliver comfort and essentials to at risk infants and children. Thanks to you, we provide solutions when no one else can. We partner with public agencies, local organizations and schools so that community assets are invested wisely and more children can benefit.

Join us today in making a difference. The holidays are coming and hundreds of our kids need a helping hand. We want these children to know that they are not alone and their community cares about them.

*Bobby Markels*

Founder

*Rosi Acker, Judith Bayer, Arlene Fuller, Holly Kuchar, Gloria Liner, Ahulani McAdam, Christie Olson Day, Sally Welty*

2009 MCCF Board Members

## ***Winter Warmth Sleeping Bag Project***

We are very concerned about the H1N1 flu. Children are most at risk of dying of this flu. We are not alone in our concern. While there is a debate about vaccines and a lack of supply, sleeping bags are something we as a community can make happen.

Children from poor families here as elsewhere often suffer from untreated asthma and other underlying and untreated conditions that make them more vulnerable to dying from this flu.

Sleeping bags help keep children's immune systems healthy. They provide

essential warmth on the coldest of nights in cars, tents and unheated homes.

Local agencies, schools, health clinics, churches and community groups are joining with us to distribute MCCF sleeping bags to warm 400+ low-income children from Rockport to Gualala.



MCCF Winter Warmth Sleeping Bags can literally save poor children's lives by keeping their immune systems stronger. The good folks at Coast-to-Coast Hardware in Fort Bragg buy our sleeping bags at their cost for us.

Please send \$25 to pay for a sleeping bag today. All 400 bags are spoken for and we are still getting requests daily. The best gift we can give children on the coast this holiday is good health.

### ***Your Donations Make Our Wish List Come True!***

- ♥ *Warm Sleeping Bags*
- ♥ *Holiday Toys*
- ♥ *Winter Jackets*
- ♥ *Raincoats & Boots*
- ♥ *New Shoes*
- ♥ *Underwear & Socks*
- ♥ *Clean Clothes*
- ♥ *Toothbrushes & Toothpaste*
- ♥ *Combs & Brushes & Shampoo*
- ♥ *Medical Expenses*
- ♥ *Transportation*
- ♥ *Vision & Occupational Therapy*
- ♥ *Diapers*

Visit us at [www.mccf.info](http://www.mccf.info) to Donate Online - All Major Credit Cards Are Accepted.

- ♥ *Board Games*
- ♥ *Sports Fees*
- ♥ *MTA Bus Fees*
- ♥ *Emergency Food Certificates*
- ♥ *Water filters*
- ♥ *Field Trips*
- ♥ *Children's Library Books*
- ♥ *Prom Dresses & Yearbooks*
- ♥ *School Photos*
- ♥ *Textbooks for CR*
- ♥ *Utility Deposits*
- ♥ *Security Deposits for Rent*
- ♥ *Birthday Gifts*
- ♥ *Stuffed Animals*
- ♥ *Summer Camp*
- ♥ *Hygiene Kits*
- ♥ *Pillows & Pillowcases*
- ♥ *Emergency Duffle Bags*
- ♥ *Park and Rec Fees*
- ♥ *Swim Lessons & Passes*
- ♥ *Ballet Lessons*
- ♥ *Instrument Rentals*
- ♥ *After School Programs*
- ♥ *Athletic Equipment*
- ♥ *Newborn Needs*
- ... *And So Much More*

### **Here's How You Can Help!**

Our holiday form is on the back of this newsletter. Please return list by 12/15/2009 to us so MCCF elves can get your acknowledgement cards mailed on time for the holidays.

Donations may be made by check, cash or credit card (by phone at 707-937-6111) or on our website at [www.mccf.info](http://www.mccf.info) Lists may also be emailed to [mccf@mcn.org](mailto:mccf@mcn.org) .

*Send us a list of your holiday honorees along with your MCCF donation and we will do the rest.*

### **Mac Callum House Inn & Restaurant Mendocino Coast Children's Fund Benefit Dine-Out 5 - 9 pm Wednesday Evening December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

Join us for a drink, libations, a light meal or dinner. All proceeds from the Mac House Dine-Out Benefit Mendocino Coast Infants and Children in Need.

### **MCCF Giving Trees Will Be Available on December 1st.**

- ♥ Harvest at Mendosa's
- ♥ Harvest at the Boatyard
- ♥ MacCallum House Inn
- ♥ Living Light - Mendo Bistro

Gift return deadline is Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> at any tree location.



**Gifts must be unwrapped and please affix MCCF giving tree tag.** Look for local store discounts. Gifts may be returned to any MCCF Giving Tree location.

You can Donate by Cash, Check or Credit Card. Please Call Us if You Need Assistance at 707-937-6111 or Email us questions, instructions or preferences at [mccf@mcn.org](mailto:mccf@mcn.org) for donating. We are always glad to send you extra envelopes for donations.

## Mendocino Coast Children's Fund Holiday List.

I am donating to the MCCF in honor of the following people for the holidays and would like them to receive a MCCF holiday acknowledgement e-card, written note or call. Please mail your list to us or e-mail to [mccf@mcn.org](mailto:mccf@mcn.org) by December 15th and MCCF elves will do the rest.

My Name \_\_\_\_\_

My Address \_\_\_\_\_

My Phone \_\_\_\_\_ My E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

### My MCCF Holiday E-Card List

♥ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

♥ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

♥ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

♥ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Special Instructions \_\_\_\_\_

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Please send my MCCF receipt by \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_ written note \_\_\_\_\_ phone.

Send MCCF cards to names above by \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_ written note \_\_\_\_\_ phone.

Mail your list in the enclosed envelope with your check or credit card information. You can also donate online at [www.mccf.info](http://www.mccf.info) or email us at [mccf@mcn.org](mailto:mccf@mcn.org) with your list and instructions. Happy Holidays.

Please return Holiday Gift List in our enclosed envelope with donation to:  
Mendocino Coast Children's Fund P O Box 1616, Mendocino, CA 95460