



MENDOCINO COAST CHILDREN'S FUND

Back to School, 2010

Dear Friends, Neighbors and Community Members,

On August 19 and 20 two hundred coastal children will shop for brand new school clothes at the magical Children's Fund Back to School Store. A local school district conference room will be transformed into a store full of joy and possibility. Thanks to you, children will select clean socks, fresh underwear, school clothes that fit, sturdy backpacks, needed school supplies and last but not least a gift certificate for new shoes of their very own at a local shoe store.

We want children who struggle with poverty on a daily basis to be able to walk into school the first day feeling like they belong and that they can be successful students in the classroom and on the playing field. But as each day passes, our waiting list grows! Please join us by sending whatever help you can afford in the enclosed envelope so that all these wonderful children can begin school equipped with essential basics. It's heart breaking when a child is left out.

As always 100% of your charitable tax deductible donations go directly to the children. We thank you for standing up for local children as we face the most challenging of times.

The Children's Fund was started in 1992 by caring community members as the coastal community's response to children in need. Congressman Thompson recognized us in June for our creative leadership. For a generation we have been there for children who need a helping hand thanks to your compassion and generosity.

Teachers, child protection social workers, coaches, therapists, pre-school instructors, and health professionals refer children to us. These unsung community heroes count on us to find a way when every other door has closed and in turn we count on you so we can say yes.

The Mendocino Coast Children's Fund is all of us joining our hearts, heads and hands together to serve the unmet needs of low-income children from Rockport to Gualala. The impact on vulnerable children is staggering as funds disappear from social, medical and educational programs. Staffing is down and the need for services for children is higher than ever. The safety net has huge holes that are getting bigger every day. Please help to make the impossible, possible. Some day is not an option. Please join us now in making a difference!

Our gratitude and thanks,

The Mendocino Coast Children's Fund Board and Volunteers

Shawn Abell, Judith Bayer, Myra Beal, Kelly Brodetsky, Lorraine Davis, Holly Kuchar, Gloria Liner, Christie Olsen Day, Lisa Rambo, and Chela Ruano

On the back of this letter is a list of how your donations help local children.

P.O. Box 1616, Mendocino, CA 95460 ♥ (707) 937-6111 ♥ www.mccf.info

Your generosity touches infants, toddlers and children in need in so many important ways:

Weekend & Vacation Nutrition Project: A collaborative committed to feeding children impacted by hunger when schools are closed on weekends and vacations. Since May we have provided groceries for over nine thousand meals.

Your Special: Swim passes for over 150 children who are in special education summer school or taking classes so they can advance to the next grade.

Summer Fun: Scholarships to local camp, athletic, art and recreation opportunities.

Back to School: An MCCF Store created in a school conference room providing shoes, school clothes, backpack and school supplies for 200+ coastal children in need.

Winter Warmth: Several hundred sleeping bags distributed annually so children can sleep warm on cold rainy, windy nights.

Rain or Shine: Flannel lined raincoats with hoods for Headstart preschoolers so they can play outside when the weather is rainy or cold.

Giving Trees: Giving Trees throughout the community to make sure that Santa finds every little boy and girl.

Kudos for Kids: Scholarships for children for after school activities and nutritious snacks for the entire school year so they don't come home hungry to empty homes.

School SOS: Emergency money for school counselors for all the important things big and little that children need to be successful at school.

Agency SOS: Individual support for children in highly distressed situations due to a family illness, disability or death or other dire circumstances.

Food SOS: Emergency food and clothing vouchers for infants and children impacted by domestic violence and family disruption.

Welcome to the World: Newborn baby support ranging from car seats to cribs to clothing and other needed items. We funded over 30 car seats so babies could travel safe. We also collect and distribute gently used infant items.

Home Sweet Home: Help with utility and rent deposits to help children from becoming homeless.

We Care: Rolling duffle bags, sleeping bags, pillows, pillowcases, stuffed animals, and hygiene items are provided by us to children taken into protective custody by Child Protective Services social workers.

Safe Passage Garden: Funding for a new garden at Safe Passages and seven summer teen interns who will teach younger kids about good nutrition in the Fall.

Let's Smile: Toothbrushes and toothpaste to support good dental hygiene and mileage to emergency out of the area pediatric dental services for surgery and dental extractions.

You can learn and share more about the Children's Fund at www.mccf.info. Follow us on Facebook by clicking on our Facebook page! Please share this extra envelope with a friend! Thanks for being an MCCF ambassador. We couldn't do it without you