

A.C.E.S. IN ACTION NEWSLETTER

Association for
Counseling, Education & Support
(A. C. E. S.)

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WOW — What a Success Story for A.C.E.S. during its First Year in Action!

As you all know, A.C.E.S. launched its private non-profit agency as of March 16, 2004. Since our inception date of January 26, 2005, we have expanded our staff to include Dr. Mark Saunders, Ph.D., Rita Groszmann, Ph.D./M.F.T., Marlene Cepeda, M.F.T., and George Scripture, M.S.W. Achievements have been many, and include: Formation of our youth group, F.A.C.E.S.; Receipt of grant funding from Redding Rancheria Community Fund in the amount of \$7,000 for the purpose of expanding Camp A.C.E.S.; Receipt of grant funding from Trinity First Five Commission in the amount of \$2,000 for the purpose of expanding our professional and community resource library; Receipt of \$2,000 from Shasta Mental Health for the purpose of sending six members of F.A.C.E.S., to the annual California Mental Health Advocates for Children and Youth (CMHACY) annual conference at Asilomar; Expansion of our Emergency Assistance Committee; Receipt of monies from a number of fundraisers, Initiation of a bi-monthly newsletter, Receipt of endorsement letters from Mercy Medical Center, Shasta County Mental Health, Trinity County Probation, and the National Alliance of the Mentally Ill (Shasta Chapter), with the promise of more to follow; Completion of the ninth annual Camp A.C.E.S. and eighth annual Welcome to Winter camp. In addition, A.C.E.S. has been approached by a number of entities to collaborate services, all of which are the start of some exciting new programs. Several of the committees have been hard at work to develop new projects, and we now have the first building plans on paper.

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*Wishing you the happiest and
brightest of holiday seasons!*

HAPPY HOLIDAYS





A.C.E.S. Giving Tree
(Emergency Assistance Committee)

Christmas Giving Program Underway!

A.C.E.S. is now accepting donations for the following Christmas Giving Programs:

- Donations for presents and food baskets for three deserving families for the Christmas Holiday.
- Donations for Christmas boxes for several seniors, without families, housed in local convalescent hospitals.

If you are interested in helping or being part of the A.C.E.S. Giving Tree, please talk to Linda at the office or call (530) 241-9276.

A WORD FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, JAMIE BAUDIZZON, L.C.S.W.

I sit here in the midst of the hustle and bustle of our holiday giving programs — and, of course, I have a tear(s) in my eye. Seeing what was once the glimmer of a dream in only my mind now a flame held high by many, fills me with overwhelming joy and excitement. I am so proud of our hard-working members and what we have accomplished. Seeing this vision come alive makes me realize how important it is that we formalize our commitment to A.C.E.S.

As each of you know, A.C.E.S. is designed to be a family organization and, as such, we want to develop a system by which families can choose to formally become members of the A.C.E.S. family. Since so many of you have shown such support and had so much faith in A.C.E.S., we plan to offer a lifetime charter membership for a limited period of time as a statement of our commitment to you.

Our goal is to not only provide recognition for those who have been with us from the very beginning, but to also provide some additional incentives and rewards for charter members as A.C.E.S. resources and activities continue to expand. In the future, members will be able to be involved in the many activities and resources offered by A.C.E.S., as well as being able to partake of the many amenities that will be available upon completion of the A.C.E.S. campus.

Applying to be a founding charter member of the A.C.E.S. family will be an endorsement of our vision and goals, as well as a statement of belief in the values that we are striving to promote for families everywhere. Each of our families is being sent a letter of invitation to take advantage of a free founding lifetime charter membership. Please, join our family!!!

Merry Christmas to each and every one of you, and may your new year be both a healthy and prosperous one.

A Message from Brad Coulter, Chairman of the Strategic Planning Committee

I am very excited to be a part of an organization that is accelerating changes. We are always looking for the exceptional and accurate way to accomplish each opportunity!

At the last meeting of the Strategic Planning Committee, it was agreed that a letter would be sent to various organizations and agencies to determine what areas they feel A.C.E.S. can best satisfy their needs and wants, and what benefits they would like to receive for their support and participation in the A.C.E.S. program. A draft copy of the questionnaire and letter is now being prepared and will be sent out in January of 2006. The committee was, also, in full agreement with Mr. Baudizzon's plan to send a letter to all families inviting them to become charter members of A.C.E.S.

Because this was the last meeting before Christmas, I want everyone to know how much I appreciate their diligence and action-oriented commitment to improving the well-being of others at this time of year. It is very important to stop, find a quiet place, and count our blessings.

In closing, I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



**A Message from
Joe Baudizzon,
Chairman of The
Board of Directors**

Here we are at the end of another year. Where has the time gone? What an exciting year for A.C.E.S. with families helping families! We have seen many firsts this year with grants, the formation of our youth group, F.A.C.E.S., fundraisers, and committee efforts. We have seen "The Best" as well, with an outstanding Camp A.C.E.S. in August, truly the best of any year I can remember. It brings such pleasure to see smiles on the faces of so many kids which, undoubtedly, makes all the hard work well worth it. What I really admire and appreciate most is the wonderful group of volunteers who so freely give of their time and resources, not expecting anything in return, to help someone in need. What can be better? Only next year and the many years to follow as A.C.E.S. continues to grow will be better.

I want to personally thank each and every one of you for your generosity and commitment, and extend to you my best wishes for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

An Update from Robert Evans, Chairman of the Professional Steering Committee

The Professional Steering Committee has not held a meeting since the last newsletter was published, and is waiting to see in what specific areas they can assist the Strategic Planning Committee as the plan is developed.

In other areas, a new website for A.C.E.S. is coming at the end of the year, with a variety of very exciting features. These features include a Family Support Center - a place where families can post support topics that other families and people can post specific ideas and support on that topic, a new digitally designed logo that will be ready to post on the website and on all promotional material, the A.C.E.S. blog that Jamie will use each day to post his thoughts and where people from all over will be able to interact with him and others on what is posted in the blog, a media section that we can use in our PR efforts, and a new look and flow of the site allowing us to really promote A.C.E.S. through the web—a tool much needed and used by all large non-profits. Look for this new website at the first of the year!

The committee has also been discussing the need for release of weekly to bi-weekly press releases on the many activities of A.C.E.S., in an effort to get much needed media exposure. The new website and media area of the site will support this effort.

Look for many exciting new efforts from the Professional Steering Committee as we move into the new year.

Happy Holidays to everyone!

An Update from Leann Williams, Chairman of the Community Advisory Board

The Community Advisory Board held its last meeting on November 15, 2005. Though the purpose of this meeting was to review the committee priority lists, Chairman Leann Williams asked the members in attendance to focus on a presentation by Steven and Karen Strand of the A.C.E.S. Building Committee. At this time they presented the first draft of the proposed A.C.E.S. campus, based on the wish list of our Executive Director and Chairman of the Board. The simple building plan generated so much interest and enthusiasm, that those in attendance spent most of the evening offering suggestions, ideas and changes that they felt would benefit the overall plan. It truly was a most productive meeting, because everyone present was able to offer comments and suggestions that were specific to the needs of their respective committees.

The Advisory Board members were advised that A.C.E.S. and F.A.C.E.S. are scheduled to participate in the Barnes & Noble Gift Wrap Program beginning Sunday, December 11, 2005, and concluding on Saturday, December 17, 2005.

The Community Advisory Board has been instrumental in designing a very nice polo shirt with the A.C.E.S. logo, and has been able to formalize an agreement with Logo U.S.A. to provide the shirts for \$20. If you are interested in purchasing a shirt, or would like to see a sample, please contact Linda at the office.

On behalf of the entire Community Advisory Board, I would like to wish everyone a most joyous holiday season!

A. C. E. S.

ASSOCIATION FOR COUNSELING, EDUCATION & SUPPORT

(A Private Non-Profit Agency)

1933 Market Street, Suite "C"

Redding, CA 96001

Telephone: (530) 241-9276

Fax: (530) 241-0114

E-Mail: jamie@acesassociation.com

linda@acesassociation.com

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Barbara Miranda, Vice Chairman

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Jamie Baudizzon, L.C.S.W.

Executive Director

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Jamie Baudizzon, L.C.S.W., Executive Director

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Rita Groszmann, Ph.D., M.F.T./Therapist

Linda Maderios, Office Manager and
Administrative Assistant to Board of Directors

Mark Saunders, Ph.D./Psychologist

Leann Williams, Community Advisory Board Chairman

Community Advisory Board

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Jordan Taylor

Lisa Vestal

Robert Evans, Chairman



*"Dedicated to a true revival
of the Sanctity of Family"*

A.C.E.S. MISSION STATEMENT

The Association for Counseling, Education and Support is committed to providing a safe and supportive environment in which a comprehensive range of therapeutic and empowering services are made available to the families of our community, while making ongoing diligent efforts to assess, identify and remove any barriers to access. These programs are designed to allow individuals and families to grow in a positive and wholesome way, and allow them to celebrate the importance and sanctity of family.

We're on the Web!

Visit us at acesassociation.com