



**CENTER FOR CHILDREN**

EL PASO

# “A Chance for Every Child”

## *Message from the Executive Director*

**2015-16  
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**The Center for Children’s mission is to ensure that every child has a safe home, a stable family, and a chance to grow to a healthy and productive adulthood.**

In the closing months of 2014, the Center for Children continued to make new strides to meet the diverse needs of youth and families in our community. In September, the Department of Justice approved the Center’s \$389,932 grant request to support a Safe Haven and support services for youth and adult victims of human trafficking in El Paso County.

We submitted that grant request on behalf of the Paso Del Norte Center of Hope, a newly chartered non-profit agency that was specifically established in 2013 to serve trafficking victims. Their current Board President is Laurie Paternoster and their Executive Director is John Martin. At the start of 2014, the Center for Children Board agreed to provide fiscal and administrative support for this agency, pending IRS approval of their application for tax-exempt status. They developed the above-referenced grant request, and we submitted it to DOJ on their behalf in May of 2014. On Dec. 1, 2014, we began administering the DOJ grant agreement by adopting the Center of Hope as one of our direct-service programs. The Center of Hope Board will continue to provide policy guidance for the new program and lead efforts to develop broad-based community support. Our intent is to continue to support this agency until they are able to establish a firm base of operation, at which time they will operate independently.

In the coming weeks and months, you will see and hear more about human trafficking and the work of the Center of Hope. We are proud to be a part of this model program that links the efforts of regional law enforcement agencies and victim service providers to bring an end to modern day slavery.

*Sandy Rioux*

## ***Chance for Every Child Celebration Dinner***

The first annual “Chance for Every Child” Celebration Dinner, honoring **Victor Moore and Jane and Bob Snow**, was held October 9th at 150 Sunset Event Center. The evening was sponsored by MIMCO, Stewart Title Company and the El Paso Electric Company.

**Victor Moore** has been a part of the Center since he was child. His parents served as the Executive Directors of the Southwestern Children’s Home which eventually merged with St. Margaret’s Orphanage to become the Center for Children. He served on the board of the Southwestern Children’s Home, is a life member of the Center for Children’s Board of Directors and is chairman of the Endowment Fund Board. **Jane and Bob Snow** have been long time supporters and tireless advocates for the Center for Children.. Bob and Jane have served on many community boards and foundations. Jane has served on the Center for Children Board of Directors for several terms dating back to 1988.

The evening’s festivities were hosted by Master of Ceremonies John Dodson. The event will become an annual affair to raise community awareness and financial support for the Center.



2014  
Honorees  
**Jane & Bob Snow**  
**Victor Moore**  
Congratulations!





## Healthy Outcomes through Prevention and Early Support

Beginning October 1st, families have utilized and started to benefit from the newest program of The El Paso Center for Children, El Paso HOPES. The program is dedicated to enriching parents and children's lives with proactive strategies by collaborating with top local programs. The partnering programs are Child Crisis Center, United Way of El Paso, Paso Del Norte Children's Development Center, and Avance. With these partnerships El Paso HOPES will decrease the number of cases in child abuse and neglect, enhance many parent/child relationships, which will work to positively impact El Paso. There are many other families that can benefit from the free programs offered. El Paso HOPES is actively seeking health fairs, events, and presentation opportunities. For more information about El Paso HOPES please contact Sarah Torres at (915)565-8361 or visit the website at [www.elpasohopes.org](http://www.elpasohopes.org).



### H.O.M.E. Update

With the holidays behind us the H.O.M.E. Program is looking forward to the great year ahead! The Valentine season was the perfect time for couples, looking to improve their relationship, to join our program. As always, we are gearing up for our next class and are looking for more couples interested in participating. An English workshop began February 2<sup>nd</sup> and a workshop in Spanish began on the 11<sup>th</sup> - just in time for Valentine's Day! Classes are held once a week for 9 weeks with free childcare provided. Please help spread the word to any interested couples!



### Foster Family Christmas Party

Anna, Elsa, Olaf and Santa Claus were guests at the Foster Family Christmas party. Families enjoyed a festive evening filled with face painting, nail art, music, presents, video games, food, homemade cookies and door prizes.



### Special Thanks to our Donors!

- Carrol and Jack Maxon**
- El Paso Electric Company**
- MIMCO**
- Stewart Title Company**
- Wells Fargo**
- Best Buy**
- Border Demolition and Environmental**
- Border Patrol**
- Harvey Moreno Family**
- Three Nations Trading, LLC**

### Birthday Celebration

Cuca Reyes celebrated her birthday in a very special way this year by asking family and friends to make a donation to the Teen Runaway Shelter in lieu of birthday presents. Thanks to all who joined the party and donated!

Happy Birthday Cuca

**WELCOME NEW FOSTER PARENT**  
**Alma Vargas**

Would You like to make a Difference in a Child's Life?  
Informational Meeting 4th Wednesday each month

6:00 PM  
2108 N. Stevens