

# St. John's Church 2010 Grant Recipients

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## **A Home Away from Homelessness**

has a track record of having served thousands of children and youth living below the radar in the otherwise affluent counties of San Francisco and Marin. Its programs include a respite from the ravages of abuse, neglect and poverty; an intensive after-school tutoring, enrichment and support program for middle-school children; a mentoring program; a program to maintain continuity with the kids as they grow into high school; and an advocacy program to ensure homeless children get what they deserve from the city's educational system.

## **Canal Alliance**

develops self-sufficiency and leadership in Marin's low-income, immigrant community. Our strategy is to provide coordinated wrap-around support (education, legal, social services) in a single setting, so clients have the resources necessary for self-sufficiency. We foster leadership skills, so as families achieve their goals they help strengthen the entire community – improving the quality of life for all.

## **Ecumenical Convalescent Hospital Ministry**

is a 100% volunteer Christian ministry whose mission is to enhance the spiritual lives of residents in long-term health care facilities in Marin, as well as to educate and support relatives and professionals giving care to nursing home residents. Every Sunday, worship services are provided in 14 Marin County nursing homes.

## **Family Service Agency of Marin**

is focused on the needs, recovery, vision and dreams of youth who have suffered physical, sexual, and emotional abuse, or who have been victims of domestic violence.

In addition, this program takes a proactive approach in reaching out to teens who may be at risk and/or suffering from abuse, trauma, depression and suicidal thinking through TeenScreen.

## **GAIA Global AIDS Interfaith Alliance**

provides basic health services, targeting prevention, care, and support in communities affected by HIV, AIDS, TB and malaria in Malawi, Africa, where 80,000 people die of AIDS-related illnesses each year and over 550,000 children have been orphaned.

Gilead House provides a respite in the chaotic lives of the moms and children who come there to work towards realizing life-changing goals. In many cases, Gilead House is the only safe and nurturing environment they have ever known. The staff assists the moms in assessing their needs, then identifying and outlining realistic goals that to move them towards independence. We at Gilead House believe that unconditional love is the most powerful tool in helping these families create a stronger, more sustainable future.

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**Homeward Bound of Marin**

has a mission of "opening doors to safety, dignity, hope and independence" is coupled with a vision that "everyone deserves a place to call home." Homeward Bound is Marin County's chief provider of shelter and residential services for homeless families and individuals, serving approximately 1,400 people annually in 12 inter-related residential programs. In 2008-2009, 84% of families served, and 79% of adults graduating from transitional housing programs moved to stable housing.

**Image for Success**

believes that Self Esteem begins with Self Image. Our mission as a volunteer based non-profit organization, is to provide wardrobes to economically disadvantaged men, women and children residing in Marin County who are attempting to transition to a life of self-reliance. Image for Success has served more than 1,100 individuals year to date, an 11% increase over last year.

**Marin Food Bank**

provides food to seven food pantries located throughout Marin County serving nutritionally balanced food for almost 50,000 meals on average per month. The Food Pantry Program serves residents working to overcome the devastating effects of unemployment, economic hardships, sickness and disability. Other programs include: Brown Bag Program for Low-income Seniors; Compassion in Action, nutrition support for families suffering from long-term severe crisis; and Holiday food boxes.

**Marin General Hospital Chaplaincy Program**

provides emotional/spiritual support to patients, their families and friends. Chaplain support is available at the hospital 24/7. Chaplains provide support for hospital staff. The program provides training and experience for clergy, theological students and future caregivers in hospital ministry.

**Northern Light School**

is a pre-eminent private pre-school through 8th grade academic institution serving underprivileged children throughout the Bay Area. A majority of Northern Light School's children come from single-parent households and troubled families. By providing a nurturing and supportive educational environment, as well as implementing the highest standards for scholastic excellence, Northern Light School has succeeded with students facing the most severe emotional and personal challenges.

**Project Amigo**

focuses on helping deserving poor rural students achieve the education they need to lift themselves out of poverty. The students come from remote rural villages around the state of Colima, Mexico. They range in age from 18 to 23 and are students who excel in school, maintaining B or better grade averages.

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### **RVEHA Ross Valley Ecumenical Housing Association**

is celebrating its 30th year as the non-profit owner/operator of two beautiful Tam Houses. Independent seniors enjoy the security and social benefits of living in an affordable group home within walking distance of downtown San Anselmo, plus a nightly home cooked meal and continental breakfast for under \$1,000/month.

### **Seeds of Learning**

is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving educational opportunities in rural Latin America. We work with North Americans and Central Americans to build and equip schools in Nicaragua and El Salvador, educate children and adults, and promote cross-cultural understanding.

### **St. Dorothy's Episcopal Camp & Retreat**

is an institution of the Diocese of California. Since 1901, St. Dorothy's has provided two weeks of camp to children who have spent the majority of their young lives in hospitals with a safe environment to try new activities, growing in self confidence as they discover that they are able to swim, kayak, and even hike to the beach. Additionally, camp allows these children to spend time with peers who share their medical experience, further benefiting from experiencing a sense of fitting in and from discussing their unique challenges with people who understand.