

Exciting News: Rebekah's Named CA Nonprofit of the Year 2024!



"I am proud to recognize Rebekah Children's Services as the 2024 Nonprofit of the Year for Assembly District 29 for their dedication and commitment to providing essential family services needed by children and families throughout our community"

-Robert Rivas, CA Speaker of the Assembly

Discover Our Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) Program: Supporting Mental Health Across Our Community

Our Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) program is dedicated to recognizing early signs of mental illness and enhancing access to vital services. By focusing on prevention and reducing stigma, PEI strives to prevent mental health issues from worsening, especially among underserved populations. The key services are tailored to support families and children, including family workshops, parenting sessions, crisis management, and more.

What sets us apart? PEI integrates evidence-based strategies such as parent workshops and classroom social-emotional groups, ensuring comprehensive mental health support reaches every corner of our community. We actively engage with schools and local organizations to promote awareness and connect families with crucial resources. Through extensive outreach and partnerships with schools and community agencies, PEI ensures our services are accessible and responsive to diverse community needs. Join us in building a healthier community—learn more about how you can support our efforts today!



continued >

Summer Newsletter

Exciting Future Initiatives for PEI Program

Looking ahead, our PEI program is gearing up for transformative initiatives to enhance our services and outreach further. A significant upcoming project involves a collaborative effort with the Behavioral Health Service Department (BHSD) and Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) to expand early screening and detection of anxiety in children. This initiative responds to the U.S. Preventative Services Task Force's recommendation to screen children ages 8 and older for anxiety.

How can you support or get involved with PEI?

Readers can support the program by lobbying and voting for preventive mental health services in schools funded by BHSD and MHSA, making donations to engage youth in programming (e.g. art supplies, fidgets, notebooks, gift cards), and getting involved with local schools.

[Click Here to Donate to PEI](#)

Heating up the Summer with Exciting Group Activities!

This summer, we offered a series of soccer sessions through our prevention programs designed for the kids in our community. Over six exciting weeks, kids enjoyed a fantastic activity to stay active and engaged while school was out. These sessions provided a wonderful opportunity for them to learn new skills, develop teamwork, and have fun in a supportive and energetic environment.



RCS also offered children in our community an opportunity to participate in our summer activity groups: Calm Minds Active Bodies, Exploring Emotions Group, and many more. These summer groups were designed to offer kids a meaningful way to spend their summer, focusing on mindfulness-centered activities that nurtured both their physical and emotional well-being.



Thank You for Supporting our 9th Annual AlumNight by Cal-SOAP

The 9th Annual AlumNight, hosted by Cal-SOAP, was a memorable evening filled with wine, pizza, and music! Attendees had the unique opportunity to contribute to a special fundraiser dedicated to raising scholarship dollars for first-generation students from low-income backgrounds, helping them pursue their dreams of higher education. The event featured fine wines generously provided by Little Uvas Winery, adding an elegant touch to the night. The musical ambiance was beautifully set by the enchanting performances of Mariachi México, making the evening truly special.



Celebrating Integrity: Isabel Olvera is Presented with the Work Ethic Award at Cal-SOAP's AlumNight!

Upcoming Events



Save the Date: Trunk or Treat Halloween Event

Get ready for a spooktacular time at our Trunk or Treat Halloween event! Join us Wednesday, October 30th, 2024 from 3 PM - 5 PM at our Gilroy campus. Come dressed up in your favorite costumes and collect some yummy candy. It's going to be a fun-filled afternoon for kids and families alike! If you're interested in having a decorated car at the event, please contact bgabuat@rcskids.org. Don't miss out on the Halloween fun—mark your calendars and join us for a frightfully good time!



Save the Date 21st Annual Festival of Trees!

Our 21st Annual Festival of Trees Gala is on Saturday, November 23, 2024, at the beautiful Cinnabar Hills Golf Club. Mark your calendars for a night filled with exciting live auctions, silent auctions, lucky draws, and exciting entertainment. Stay tuned for more details, and save the date for an evening of glamour, high stakes, excitement, and fun!

[More Info](#)



Save the Date Night Of Lights

We are delighted to invite you to our yearly holiday lights display on December 6th - 8th, 2024! Join us for a magical evening as our campus transforms into a winter wonderland filled with festive lights and decorations. Bring your family and friends to celebrate the holiday season with us. Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more details. We can't wait to see you there!

Philanthropy Corner



Join us for the 6th Annual National Coming Out Day Celebration! We will be hosting a flag-raising ceremony at RCS on Wednesday, October 9th, 2024, from 4:30 PM to 7 PM. This event features an LGBTQ-friendly career and resource fair, offering a supportive environment for everyone. If you're interested in participating in the resource and career fair, please email info@rcskids.org.



At RCS, we partnered with the Girl Scouts to bring enriching programs to the girls we serve, from kindergarten through 12th grade. and form lasting connections. This collaboration is designed to inspire and empower young girls by providing them with opportunities to develop skills, build confidence, and form lasting connections. This collaboration is designed to inspire and empower young girls by providing them with opportunities to develop skills, build confidence, and form lasting connections. Throughout the program, each participant will work towards earning two badges. Each badge involves five 90-minute sessions filled with engaging and educational activities. The journey for each badge is designed to be both fun and challenging, ensuring that every girl can discover her strengths and interests. To complement the badge work, field trips and guest speaker activities will be incorporated that are relevant to the badges being earned. Together with the Girl Scouts, we're committed to making a lasting impact on the lives of the young girls in our community.



Empowering Families: Financial Literacy Workshops, Backpack Donations, and More from Chase Bank!



RCS has partnered with Josh Kampa, the Community Manager for Chase Bank, to offer comprehensive financial literacy workshops to our agency's clients, youth, and staff. This collaboration aims to empower our community with essential financial knowledge and skills. These workshops will provide a fantastic opportunity for the families we serve to enhance their financial understanding and stability. Families attending the workshops will be provided with food, making it even easier to participate and benefit from this initiative!

In addition to these invaluable workshops, Chase Bank will also be donating backpacks for the kids returning to school through our Family Resource Center. This generous contribution will ensure that our young students are well-prepared and equipped for the new school year



Josh Kampa, MBA

Philanthropy Corner (cont.)

Movie Night: Sponsored by Benefits Simplified, LLC.



We want to give a big shoutout to Benefits Simplified, LLC, for sponsoring a Movie Night at RCS in July, where kids came together to watch Luca! Benefits Simplified LLC's incredible kindness and commitment to giving back to our community made this event possible. Each participant at Movie Night also received a gift card to enjoy a sweet summer treat. The afternoon was filled with popcorn, pizza, snacks, and drinks for 20 families, ensuring a fun-filled evening for all!



Check out these exciting articles about RCS!

Rebekah Children's Services (RCS) offers a full continuum of family-centered services including prevention, mental health, foster care and adoption, job training, a monthly food bank program, educational services (and now, transitional housing) to promote the healthy development of children and families.

Led by our Corporate Champion, **Prometheus Real Estate Group** and supported by our great vendors including **Advanced Restoration**, **ProFloors**, **Fashion Furnace**, **GD Painting**, **Medallion Landscapes**, **A&D**, and so many generous supporters (see the complete list below) HIF renovated five housing units that will support at-risk families as they rebuild their lives and move toward independence. **This project leveraged over \$250,000 of in-kind support for a full market value of over \$300,000!**

Thanks to the leadership of Prometheus's **Luis Monteen** and **Tony Deshaw** we also received over 530,000 in cash donations from vendors throughout the Bay Area to help complete this project.

- Fully renovated units including kitchen countertops, cabinets, appliances, over 5,000 square feet of new flooring, new light fixtures and security cameras, new hardware and safety equipment, and televisions for each unit
- New living room and bedroom furniture
- Replaced and stained over 1,000 linear feet of fencing
- Painting on all five units, inside and out as well as administrative buildings
- Beautiful new landscaping for each unit including new plants, trees, irrigation and mulch

See the complete gallery of photos [\[icon\]](#)
 Read the Gilroy Dispatch Article [\[icon\]](#)

Check out these exciting news articles highlighting our recent achievements:

1. Amazing Renovation Work: Learn about the incredible collaboration with HIF, Prometheus, Advanced Restoration, and 30+ other vendors that helped renovate the Rebekah Children's Services Chamberlain Campus in Hollister!

[Read More Here](#)

More Exciting Articles! (cont)

2. Kneaded Culinary Academy: Read the fantastic article from The Mercury News about the Kneaded Culinary Academy, showcasing the remarkable work they do and the positive influence we have on the young participants.



[Read More Here](#)

LOCAL NEWS • News

Kneaded culinary academy cooks up solutions for struggling South Bay youth

The Gilroy-based program has helped 3000 students — struggling with homelessness, mental illness, gain job and life skills



Ways to Support: Partner with Us for Our Annual Toy Drive!

The holidays are around the corner we are gearing up for this year's toy drive and are looking for partners to collaborate with us! We would love to team up with organizations or individuals to help make this holiday season special for children in our community. We serve over 1,200 children and youth through this initiative every year!

There are three great ways you can get involved:

1. **Toy Bin Placement:** Host one of our toy collection bins at your location to gather donations from your staff, customers, or community.
2. **Organize a Toy Drive Event:** Host a toy drive event, bringing people together to collect toys and spread holiday cheer.
3. **Donate:** Donate funds to our toy drive so we can purchase toys or donate toys that will go directly to the clients we serve.

It's never too early to start planning, and your partnership can make a significant difference. If you're interested in joining us in this joyful endeavor, please contact rvasconcelos@rcskids.org or call 408.846.2108.

[Donate to Our Toy Drive](#)

Rebekah CHILDREN'S SERVICES

HOLIDAY Toy Drive

RCS SERVES OVER 1200 LOCAL CHILDREN AND YOUTH THROUGH OUR ANNUAL TOY DRIVE.

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

- Be A Toy Collection Site
- Sponsor a Toy Drive
- Donate Funds or Toys

CONTACT
FD@RCSKIDS.ORG
TO GET INVOLVED

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