

May 2010
CityTeam Women's Program
Quarterly Newsletter

- **House of Grace Gets Bathroom Make-Over's**

Thanks to the Housing Industry Foundation (HIF) and its wonderful partners, the bathrooms for each apartment at the House of Grace look brand new! House of Grace facilities are over 20 years old and really needed upgrading. When HIF and their

partners saw the bathrooms, they committed to help by providing material, labor and project management to make sure the fixture replacements were done without any interruption in the ladies' recovery program. A special thank you to HIF partners Fred Kriebel & Associates, Draeger Construction, Richard Avelar & Associates, Regency General Contractors, CJS Plumbing, Ferguson, Inc., and Wells Fargo for their financial and in-kind donations to make this project a success.



- **Save the Date for Heritage Home 25th Silver Anniversary Gala & Auction – Tables go on sale Tuesday, May 11, 2010. (<http://www.cityteam.org/heritagehome/>)**

WHAT: Heritage Home 25th Anniversary Gala
Benefit Dinner & Auction*

WHEN: Friday, September 24, 2010

WHERE: Hyatt Regency, Grand Ballroom—Santa Clara, CA

DRESS: Formal, Black Tie

RETURNING GUEST
COMEDIAN: Robert G. Lee

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
CONTACT: Nellie Lee
408.316.3053
nlee@cityteam.org

*Special live band and dancing following the event

SAVE THE DATE



cityTeam
MINISTRIES

2304 Zanker Road
San Jose, CA 95131
408.232.5600
www.cityteam.org

Heritage Home is a CityTeam Ministries residential program for women in crisis pregnancy. Heritage Home offers a safe, secure, and loving environment for women who are pregnant and in need of help.

Thank you for your support and prayers for the Women's Programs of CityTeam. We couldn't serve the needs of the women and children in our programs without partners like you. For those who are interested in taking a tour or becoming more involved with House of Grace or Heritage Home, please feel free to contact me at nlee@cityteam.org or (408) 316-3053.

A Testimony of Transformation *A Long Way to Preschool...*



Daughter of a House of Grace Resident



*Carol Patterson, VP of Marketing
CityTeam Ministries*

Today, I started my day by visiting the **CityTeam House of Grace** program in San Jose for women in recovery. We started at the early hour of 7 am. I was scheduled to walk with the mothers as they exercised. To my surprise I ended up walking with 4 children under the age of 5 to their pre-school that was several miles away. For some reason God wanted me to see what their journey was like.

If you're not familiar with CityTeam House of Grace it is one of the only low-income women and children residential recovery programs in Silicon Valley. If you want to read more about the program, check out the web page at www.cityteam.org/sanjose/houseofgrace/. Also, House of Grace has a nursery where Ms. Sheila takes care of the younger children and babies each day while the mothers go to class.

But back to the kid's journey. These four children that we walked with today have been given a special grant to attend a private preschool. It was a blessing for them to attend but they really didn't have any transportation to get there. In a car, it would have only taken 15 minutes but because we walked and took one bus – it was more like an hour and 20 minutes. I just couldn't image what it's like for these young kids if it was raining or they weren't feeling well. Plus one of the mothers had to be at work by 9 am, so she was nervous that she was going to be late.

I will tell you that these kids were real troopers. They raced and jumped ahead of us. They thought it was fun to have Lem, our CityTeam Media Specialist, walking with them and taking pictures/video as we listened to their mom's journey. She was so thankful for being at House of Grace and really achieving her goals of recovery for the past 9 months. She explained how important it is that her two boys get the proper education and sports activities. She really wants a different life for them than what she had. She is determined to prevent them from falling into a life of drugs.

As we got everyone on the bus, she also explained that it costs \$75 for a monthly bus pass and how she has been walking and taking the bus for the past 6 years. Now that two of the children have turned 5 years old, they will also need a bus pass. Bus passes can be very expensive when you are living on a limited budget. After we dropped the kids off, we walked to her job. Nothing glamorous but she loves it. The part she really likes is that she is responsible and feels proud of herself that she is getting up every morning and working. So, you're probably wondering where she works, well we walked passed the cemetery and she turned into the office and said – "here we are". Yes, she works in a cemetery and loves it. It's the longest job she has ever had in her young life. She smiled as she waved to the camera and said "good bye".

Part of my job at CityTeam is to share the testimonies of people that come to our door in their time of need. And who do I share that with? You and tens of thousands of donors and volunteers just like you who make this possible. Without you, this young mom wouldn't have had the chance to be free of her addiction while making her boys a priority in her life. Also these boys wouldn't have a safe place to live if it wasn't for donors.

We also have other programs that help such as:

- 1) Moms going to our CityTeam Camp MayMac this summer with their kids
- 2) Backpack supplies – important that these kids have the right tools for school
- 3) Clothing donations for the moms and the kids (gently used)
- 4) Food donations

If you would like to know more about CityTeam House of Grace, there is a wonderful Breakfast Tea Event coming up on Saturday, June 5th in the San Jose area – <http://www.cityteam.org/houseofgracetea/index.php> . I'm planning to attend and would love to meet you there so that I can say "**Thank You**" to everyone that makes this very special program possible in San Jose.

Carol Patterson,
VP. of Marketing, CityTeam Ministries

*Many Blessings,
Nellie*