

Inspiration



It Takes a Whole City to Raise a Youth Center

Heidi Kilgore, Program Director

On February 10th, 2004, ROCK had the long-anticipated Grand Opening of its Middle School Youth Center at 590 Leland!!! The opening coincided with ROCK's one-year anniversary in its new home in Visitacion Valley. While ROCK had hoped to open the Youth Center in the fall of 2003, we quickly learned that it would require a great deal more renovation, planning, furnishing and preparing than we anticipated! However, we were **ABSOLUTELY OVERWHELMED** by the outpouring of generosity by so many individuals, corporations and other non-profits in San Francisco and throughout the Bay Area! We are so proud to say that our youth center was redesigned, decorated and furnished entirely by in-kind donations!

The youth center is now filled to capacity each Tuesday and Thursday with 20 students and two staff. The students have enjoyed gardening, creative arts, cooking, homework assistance, and have continued to build upon their meaningful relationships with each other in the safe, fun, supportive environment they've known since their childhood days at ROCK! On behalf of all the children, youth, parents, volunteers and staff of ROCK, we extend a tremendous thank you to all of our generous partners below. We've all heard the expression, "It takes a whole village to raise a child". At ROCK we've learned that it takes a whole city to raise a youth center!!

Jones United Memorial Methodist Church

***Leasing ROCK this Space

Philanthropy by Design***Nonprofit Interior Design Services

Gina Bui***Designer

ExcessAccess.com** Online Nonprofit Donation Exchange

Kelly More Paint San Francisco** 15 Gallons of Paint

Thomas Swan Signs of San Francisco***Two Office Signs

Bravanta, Kathy Longaker**Foosball Table

Niku Corporation, Kurt Kilgore** Popcorn Machine

Jim Deslurier in memory

of William & Margaret Deslaurier**Air Hockey Table

Jim Eagan**Pool Table

Jeremey Kean**Foosball Table

Stephanie Foote*** Office Supplies

Kathleen and Rene Vignos**Furniture

Abby Carpent San Francisco**Carpet

Bechtel ***Office Furniture

Developmental Studies Center*** Computers and Printers

Dave Katz**Computer, Printer, Fax

Debi Memmolo**Lamps, Curtains

Barbara Waldman** Office Furniture

The Woman's Correctional Facility**Fabric Swatches

Phylis Yagi**Kitchen Supplies

Jan Yagi **Office Furniture

ADT Alarms, Ray Guevarra **Alarm Discount

Artis Cheninanan, Office Tables and Book Cases

Hyperion Software, Doug Barti **Copy Machine

Cassy Lee** Mural Design and Leadership

Chimmy and Cassy Lee **Boom Box

Jeremy Kean **Play Station and Games

Jennifer Melnick ***Couch

Julie Jervy **Computer/Printer

Michele Park ** Lamp and Office Supplies

Current Carpets ** Carpets

Nikki Sanders ** TV/VCR

Debra Reynolds**Books, TV Cart

Dan Morrall** Books



Thanks to all our Youth Center Donors

Volunteers & Advisors

Alex Butkus	Hilda Kwan	Margaret Wang	Wally Tseng
Becky Evans	Holger Mueller	Mateo Burtch	Yamini Koshy
Bill Ge	Jasmin Fisher	Michael Ou	Zulima Ndongo Abeso
Bill Rivette	Jenah	Mr. & Mrs. Francis	Alpha Phi Omega-SFSU
Bonny Lee	Jinan Mahmoud	Macatangay	Bay Area Scores
Carrie Thompson	Joann Suen	Mumtaz Yusuf	El Dorado Elementary School
Charlene Mendoza	Joerg Schumann	Pete Blum	Golden State Warriors
Cheryl Mannion	Kara Cissell	Richard Ou	Community Relations
Chimmy Lee	Kathleen Ma	Sarah Snow	Scott Golde
Chris Alanzalon	Kathy Kvale	Scott Kellerer	SF Rec & Parks Department
Dan Greenblatt	Kathy Shurtz	Terri Sheid	Soccer in the Streets
Dave Katz	Kristen Lombardo	Tom Kraikit	Visitacion Valley Beacon Center
Deborah Davis	Lauren Lee	Tom Skapars	Visitacion Valley Elementary School
Eben Ostergaard	Lisa Boone	Traci Rainaldi	Visitacion Valley Latchkey Program
Elena Gumina	Lyle Ross	Victor Olmo	

ROCK's Board of Directors

Chris Ginieczki	Lyle Ross
Danny Morrall	Nathaniel Cleveland
Dina Wong	Pete Blum
Kathy Shurtz	



Volleyball Skill Drills

Financial Investors

Legends (\$10,000 & above)

Silver Giving Foundation
Louis R. Lurie Foundation
Evelyn & Walter Haas, Jr Fund

Champions (\$1,000 & above)

Junior League of San Francisco
Bank of America
Chris Ginieczki
Wylie & Ann-Marie Peterson
Developmental Studies Center*
Nicola Sandars**
Chimmy Lee*

Superstars (\$500 & above)

Kathleen Vignos
Carrie Thompson
Eric & Holly Moriarty
Golden State Warriors*
Jennifer Soloway

Winners (\$250 & above)

Bridgespan Group
Aaron Snegg
Biren Bhandari
Brad & Trish Piatt
Kathy Shurtz

Sponsors (Up to \$250)

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Robert Porter
Stephen & Kelly Melancon*
Sterling & Frieda Haidt
Syida Long
Traci Rainaldi
Tricia Ochoa
W Reed & Lois Foster
Whitney Brock

*Indicates in-kind donations

**Indicates both monetary and in-kind donations



ROCK's Mission and Programs



Shooting Pool at the Youth Center

Real Options for City Kids (ROCK) was founded in 1994 to respond to the needs within San Francisco's low-income neighborhoods for enhanced public education and positive after-school activities. The mission of ROCK is to nurture the healthy development of children by listening attentively to their needs and by providing opportunities to those who might not otherwise have access. ROCK's mission translates into action through school-based and after-school learning enrichment programs combined with sports and fitness, leadership training, and summer camp programs for children, ages 7 – 14, in San Francisco's Visitacion Valley.

Giving Back

Teodora Ildefonso – Program Director, Middle/High School Programs

On December 2003 at 12:00 a.m. I was sitting in front of my computer trying to finish my 10 page paper, when I realized that I am about to graduate this from San Francisco State University this spring! I needed to find a real job! I stopped typing my paper and quickly searched through Craig's List frantically for any job opportunities in the non-profit field. With no luck, my last resort was to check out Monster.com. To my astonishment I ran into an ad looking for a Middle/High School Program Director with ROCK. I was so excited, because I've living here all my life and this is the first time I've ever heard about this organization. I quickly revised my resume, created a cover letter and the rest is history!

My name is Teodora Ildefonso and I have been working with ROCK for three months now! Working here has definitely been challenging, exciting and rewarding. I've been blessed to work with great staff and volunteers, build relationships with ROCKers and their parents and create crazy adventures for our SALT sessions. Giving back to my own community is definitely rewarding because when I was younger there weren't any programs for me or my friends to go to after-school or over the weekend! It feels good to provide a safe place for many of our young people to go to after-school and on Saturdays!

A Special Thank You

Every time I see a smile on the face of a child, hear a laugh from a young person trying something new or receive a hug from a thankful participant, I realize just how important ROCK is to the Visitacion Valley community. I was thinking the other day about why is it that ROCK is so successful and what I came to understand is that this organization is the result of the countless hours and resources contributed by our hundreds of volunteers and donors. So, on behalf of all of us at ROCK, I want to thank all of you who in some way have contributed to the success of such a valuable organization.

Curt Yagi, Executive Director





590 Leland Avenue San Francisco, CA 94134



SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, June 14th

*The 2nd Annual ROCK
Golf Tournament*

"One of the first words that comes to my mind when I think of ROCK is "family". Just like a family, everyone is loved and accepted unconditionally for who they are. Every member of the ROCK family - kids, volunteers, staff, and sponsors - contributes in their own way and with their own special talents. Without everyone involved, the ROCK family just wouldn't be the same!" - Kathy Shurtz, Volunteer



"I like the youth center because if I was home, I wouldn't be doing my homework." - Raheem, age 11

"I like SALT because it gives me a chance to do fun things I have never done before and make new friends." - Mariah, age 12

