

Keeping Kids Safe Program

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June Spotlight



This month the Keeping Kids Safe Program is pleased and honored to recognize Retha Roberts for her dedication and contribution to the KKS program. As an Intake Coordinator, Retha has worked with the Keeping Kids Safe Program since January 2007, and has volunteered over 160 hours of service. Here she shares her experience with us:

"I really believe in the volunteer program of doing intakes here in the courthouse as families go through the legal process of supervised visitation or supervised child exchange. I have found during my 1 1/2 years here at Family Court that parents experience many emotions that can be very fearful and stressful for all concerned.

Perhaps it is the father who is now told that he can only visit his children while supervised and only on restricted days and hours. He may be volatile, or sad, or disbelieving and very distrusting of this process and the court. Certainly this experience is new to him and the children. It may be the mother who for the first time has been removed from daily contact with her children. She may feel scared, victimized, or sad, and wondering what will happen next.

This is where a volunteer can make a huge difference in a families life. A volunteer can quell much of the anxiety that a parent feels as they embark on a totally new way of being with their children. We answer questions about the programs and assure them that children come first. WE can listen to their anger and watch as the volatility comes down and civility returns. We can assure them about the non-biased conduct of the agencies and volunteers. We may assist them with ways to help their children adapt to their supervised visits.

As a volunteer it is richly rewarding to make a difference to someone in the course of an otherwise unpleasant situation. Throughout my experience here at family court I have felt very supported and valued by the volunteer coordinator Carol Stewart, she also makes a large difference in people's lives.

It is a pleasure to serve here after retiring 3 years ago as a real estate broker performing property management. I have two adult children, one living in Santa Cruz and another living in the inland empire. I enjoy a passion for reading, spending time with friends, walking and just hanging out."

Volunteer Coordinator:

Carol Stewart

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Message from La Familia and F.A.C.E.S.

We would like to thank the KKS volunteers/interns for conducting supervised visits and writing reports at our agencies. Your work is appreciated—
Thank you!

Zamara John and Antonia Fraga



June

I shall pass through this world but once. Any good thing therefore that I can do, or any kindness that I can show to any human being, let me do it now. Let me not defer it or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again.

Etienne de Grellet

Intake Survey Comments



At the conclusion of every intake, the parent is asked to complete a short survey about their intake experience at the court. These are some of the comments from parents:

from parents:

"It is well appreciated and friendly, thank you!"

"Thank you for providing safety for my children!"

"This was really hard to have a short time at visitation but this lady made it bearable."

"The interview was great, they took their time with me and explained everything. I can't ask for a better interview. Thank you for all your help in this matter."

Excellent

Calendar of Events

Timesheets Due

July 1

Court Closure

July 4

