



## **WOMEN ON THE MOVE NETWORK**

### **ANNUAL REPORT OF ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS FOR 2017**

The year just completed was one of significant changes, opportunities and challenges for this organization.

The makeup of the Board of Directors now includes two new members, Dr. Deborah Deas and Mr. Javier Saucedo, who also assumed the duties as treasurer upon the resignation of long-time member, Mr. Frank Pinkerton. It was noted with regret that Member Emeritus, Mrs. Gry Kvalheim, passed away this year.

#### **PROGRAMS**

##### **YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS**

Our WHO'S YOUR HERO? programs at continue at David and Margaret Youth and Family Services facility, at Perdue Elementary School in Rancho Cucamonga and Kucera Middle School in Rialto. The program at the Rancho Cucamonga Family Resource Center began in September, but was closed down due to factors beyond



our control. Efforts are under way to restart the program in early 2018, if possible. There was a greater than usual turnover of college volunteers as mentors necessitating an urgent recruitment effort in December., with positive results. We were able to open the programs in January after the school holidays with nearly all the mentor

slots filled. We continue to draw mentors from Western University of Health Sciences, University of LaVerne and the general public. We also made a strong connection with the World Financial Group, and a number of our new mentors came from among their membership.





The Executive Director of Youth Development Programs was on medical leave for several months in the fall. The Assistant to the Director and a Board Member kept the programs functioning in her absence, for which we are very appreciative.

We continued to promote the program at local community fairs and similar events where volunteers and mentors manned information tables.



A Fundraiser-Family Bingo Night at Perdue School was carried out by the participant girls, with support from Board members and mentors and small donations from Food 4 Less and Niagra water. It was very successful, and provided opportunities for the girls to learn and practice hosting, selling and change-making skills. Well over 100 people attended the event.

The girls in the program carried out service projects in November and December, making holiday cards and gift bags for distribution to needy persons by the Rancho Cucamonga Family Resource Center. The importance of being of service to others was emphasized in sessions making the gift bags.



### WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT WORKSHOPS

Our monthly workshops for adult women, using guest presenters, continue to draw new and continuing participants for sessions on a variety of topics of



interest, for example: *Communication Skills, Compassion, Food and Feelings, Relationship Red Flags* and *Updating Your Wardrobe*. The participants learn from each other, express common concerns, support each other and build relationships. The talented and knowledgeable

presenters always support our efforts and come to us without charge.

## GIRL TALK 2017

The 2017 Girl Talk conference for all girls ages 11 to 19 was unique in that it included an expanded age range, it was held on the campus of Chaffey College and had an added parent/caregiver workshop. Chaffey College provided a great deal of valuable support by giving us meeting spaces, lunch, staff support and publicity, which enabled us to serve over 100 girls at reduced cost to us. As usual, Meagan Tandy, our former mentor and staunch supporter, made the connections for us with Chaffey College, and brought in many of the workshop leaders and other elements such as music and special activities. We also had community support from Macy's and local businesspersons. The parent/caregiver workshop was modeled on our Women's Empowerment Workshops, and was conducted by WOTMN members, on the topic of *Expectations: Helpful or Not?* We plan to make the parent/caregiver workshop a regular part of future Girl Talk conferences.



## COMMUNITY CIRCLE

Our group of loyal volunteers helps us in various ways, such as manning information tables at community events, serving as registrars at Girl Talk conferences and searching out needed donations. A new Circle member owns a restaurant where we have hosted two events, one a membership meet-and-greet, and one a mentor recruitment gathering. Circle members will also help us find suitable presenters for the Women's Empowerment Workshops.

## **SUPPORT EFFORTS**

### NETWORKING, PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PUBLICITY

We have partner relationships with the University of LaVerne, Western University of Health Sciences and Chaffey College, and a few businesses.



We are represented in the Rancho Cucamonga Healthy RC Steering Committee, and in December we were awarded a plaque for Outstanding Leadership and Service to the Community. The plaque was given at the annual end-of-year dinner. Two of our Board members and our administrative assistant were present to receive it. In addition, two of our members and administrative assistant serve on the Compassionate Communities Committee for the City of Rancho Cucamonga.

Throughout the year we have tried to establish a regular newsletter, with limited success. We are still on the lookout for a capable public relations person and someone to manage our website. Our Facebook page regularly carries photos and items about our activities and programs.

### ADVISORY COUNCIL

Our Advisory Council has not met this year, although individual members still keep in touch and offer assistance from time to time. We will need to reactivate the Advisory Council this year, and confirm or replace members as needed.

### FUNDING

A fundraising Fiesta was held in September. It was a joyful occasion, attended by



many new supporters. We raised several hundred dollars, enough to cover expenses for a few months.

We will need to mount one or more additional fundraising efforts in 2018 in order to give



us a comfortable supply of funds going forward. We have had an offer from a possible grant writer, which we hope will prove to be successful.

### PLANNING

At the beginning of 2017, we stated our need to "strengthen our practices and our funding in order to carry out our mission with increased effectiveness". At this juncture the task is the same. Our programs hold great promise for making significant differences in the surrounding communities. We have the desire, and we seek additional human resources and funding to implement our plans.

Presented: February 11, 2018

Barbara Marino,  
Executive Secretary

