



# FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

KEEPING FAMILIES HEALTHY AND INTACT

Spring 2018 Newsletter



Generously  
Donated By:



## Thank you to the Quest Foundation

The **Quest Foundation** awarded us a \$25,000 grant for a 12-person passenger van to safely transport our kinship children and youth to and from our youth program. Our Kinship Youth Program (KYP) is an intensive and innovative program for disadvantaged youth that is an alternative to stranger foster care. The program utilizes practice-based Positive Youth Development and Trauma Informed Care as its main approaches. KYP helps keep children in homes with

family members, minimize the effects of trauma, improve school performance, and improve the social and emotional health of kinship children and youth.

Participants receive academic support, have access to mental health therapy, learn skills to improve their social behaviors, and build relationships with caring adults and peers. KYP offers academic support through group and one-on-one tutoring, and educational advocacy in their schools.

For more information: [www.fssba.org](http://www.fssba.org)

## New at Family Support Services

New Van for KYP

New Chief Operations Officer

Spring Campaign May 1 - 8

New Tax Law: Tax Cuts and Jobs Act

***"You really can change the world if you care enough."***

***Marian Wright Edelman, the founder and President of the Children's Defense Fund***



## Holidays at Family Support Services

**2017 Holiday Sponsor-a-Family Program**  
Each year Family Support Services serves as the match-maker for our families and our donors.

It is through our coordination that families in need are connected/paired with a sponsor(s) that create the magic of Christmas in their lives. December 2017, 91 families in San Francisco and Alameda County and 37 youth in our Kinship Youth Program were pleased to have been sponsored. This year our sponsors collectively gave over **\$30,000 in gifts and donations.**

The Holiday Sponsor-a-Family Program is a great opportunity for families, friend groups, neighbors, book clubs, sports teams, and co-workers to get involved in the spirit of giving! Contact us if you would like to participate in the 2018 program by e-mailing: [HHester@fssba.org](mailto:HHester@fssba.org).

We would like to give a special thanks to all the businesses and individuals that participated in our 2017 program.

Your contributions truly made a world of difference and we appreciate you!



## The face of Kinship...

Olympian Simone Biles was raised in a kinship home. Simone was in and out of foster care for years. Finally, in 2002, Simone and her younger sister, Adria, were adopted by their grandfather, Ron, and their step-grandmother, Nellie, who lived in Texas creating a home where she was able to reach her potential.

**KINSHIP ROCKS!**  
For more info contact  
Donna Moore  
[dmoore@fssba.org](mailto:dmoore@fssba.org)

## Charitable Giving and the new Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA)

Will donors continue to support the organizations and issues they are concerned about?

In 1917, the U.S. government created an opportunity for Americans to take a tax deduction for donations to charitable organizations. That was a game changer for charitable organizations, by allowing taxpayers to deduct charitable donations from their taxable income. Americans were encouraged to give and had an incentive to do so. It was simple and Americans gave year after year, and felt good about both the ability to give and enjoyed the tax break. Individual contributions became the cornerstone of most nonprofit development strategies; we in the nonprofit world rely on our individual

donors to fill the gaps in our government and foundation funding. We are all more than concerned about the future of our fundraising plans as the new Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) takes effect.

I believe that most people give because it's the right thing to do but I also know that the tax deduction made the sacrifice worth it.

The TCJA is complicated, as the only way to take advantage of a tax deduction is to file an itemized tax return which sounds simple enough, right? Here is the issue -researchers believe that the number of Americans who will be filing itemized tax returns will go down significantly because of the increase in the standard deduction to \$12,000 (\$24,000 for a married couple).

Here is what we do not know; if there is no direct tax benefit, will our donors continue to be giving? **We sure hope so!**

We believe that those of you that support Family Support Services will continue to give and support our agency as we stay focused on delivering impactful programs and services to the most vulnerable populations in our communities.



By: Cheryl Smith, CEO  
*This article is not intended to offer any tax advice, please speak to your tax advisor to discuss the new law and your personal situation.*

## Respite Care...who gets the Tony Award



Respite/Child Care is specialized care designed to give parents and other caregivers a break from the daily demands of caring for their children, many of whom have special needs. These may include children who: have a developmental disability, are medically fragile, substance exposed, abused or neglected or at-risk for abuse or neglect.

**Each year** the Eastbay Respite Program hosts a 'Respite Conference' and awards one of its outstanding Respite Providers with the Tony Award. This year's award went to Ms. Sonia Orender. Ms. Orender was nominated by Mrs. Schmitt and family who stated "I would hope to impress on your funding agencies and donors how important each and every respite care provider is to the overall mental health of the families they serve."

## The Spring Giving Campaign 2018 May 1<sup>st</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>

Family Support Services

# SPRING

— FUNDRAISER —

**We are thankful for each family we support.**

**We are thankful for each person that makes a donation.**

**We are thankful for each day our doors are open to support families struggling to keep their children safe.**

Please give at:  
<https://goo.gl/B7Lh3D>



New Chief Operations Officer



Elizabeth Adeyi has over 20 years of management experience working with children and families in both the states of New York and Pennsylvania.

Prior to joining Family Support Services, Elizabeth Adeyi was the Executive Director of Montgomery County, PA, Child Care Information Services where she administered a \$27M grant for subsidized child care program services.

Elizabeth can be reached at: [EAdeyi@fssba.org](mailto:EAdeyi@fssba.org)

## Major Funding Provided by:



Save the DATE  
October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018

*14<sup>th</sup> Annual Eat, Drink and Be Giving Gala*

*Oakland Marriott City Center*



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