



# Mary's Shelter

Spring 2010

*changing lives two at a time*

## Mission Statement:

Mary's Shelter empowers and equips vulnerable teen mothers and their babies for lives of dignity, hope and self-sufficiency.



## SAVE THE DATES:

**March 13, 2010**

Annual Gala

*Emerald Enchantment*

Radisson Hotel

Newport Beach

**September 15, 2010**

Annual Golf Tournament

Black Gold Golf Course

Yorba Linda

Donate or  
RSVP on-line  
[www.teenshelter.org](http://www.teenshelter.org)

Thanks to YOU (569 individuals and organization donors) Mary's Shelter completed its **15th year** of support for pregnant minors who chose life for their babies! Here are some highlights of the Annual Report inside this newsletter.

Mary's Shelter provided a safe home and loving care for a total of **42 teen mothers** and **22 of their children** in 2009. Not only did Mary's Shelter residents deliver healthy babies, but our girls matured into nurturing mothers and acquired skills to help them succeed on their own as single parents. This was accomplished through our dedicated professional staff, largely funded by our generous donors, and by our wonderful volunteers.

The enclosed summary of our audited financial report shows that in this recessionary year, Mary's Shelter was able to meet its operating expenses. While revenue from private donations and fundraising events was down 11% from the prior year, many other

nonprofits fared much worse. We attribute this steadfast support to the many caring individuals and organizations who value this ministry to some of the most vulnerable among us.

Our Board and Management also took steps to assure financial stability during the extended recession, by implementing cost-containment measures early last year. Since government subsidies are decreasing in 2010, and private donations are not expected to rise, we have further streamlined our operations in order to assure our viability going forward.

Our goal remains to increase private donations to move Mary's Shelter away from reliance on government funding, and to encourage supporters to include our Endowment in their estate plans so that Mary's Shelter can serve teen mothers and their babies well into the future.

## 2009 Highlights

## Turning the Page

At our Changeover Meeting on January 18th, **President Erica Sheehy** extended appreciation to four valued Directors who completed their three-year terms on the Mary's Shelter Board of Directors. In addition to supporting our fundraising efforts:

**Dana Bledsoe** applied her corporate and HR experience as Vice President of Patient Services at CHOC to help Mary's Shelter revise our performance evaluation and compensation plan, benefit policies, and evaluate various cost-containment strategies.

**Adrienne Matros** brought her clinical skills as a Psychologist to decisions about resident policies and applied her experience on other nonprofit boards to lead our Governance Committee, which formalized our director recruitment and orientation process and recommended Bylaw updates.

**Berni Neal** made a big impact serving as President and then Chairman of the Board. She not only introduced many new donors to Mary's Shelter but also extended herself to make sure our residents and staff members had appropriate Christmas celebrations.

**Arzo Yusuf** served the Mary's Shelter board as Secretary, and garnered support from people in her training industry.

In January, we also welcomed three new directors to the board to provide leadership and governance for the next three years. Welcome to **Fabio Cabezas, Cheri Maggiano and Martha Sears**. Thank you all for stepping forward to continue the tradition of helping Mary's Shelter change lives – two at a time!



*L to R, Martha Sears, Cheri Maggiano and Fabio Cabezas*

The Emerald Enchantment Gala on March 13th is the major fundraiser for Mary's Shelter each year. We will have a wonderful time listening to Irish music, shopping the Silent Auction, enjoying a sumptuous dinner with other Mary's Shelter supporters, honoring Mary and Pat Dirk for their exceptional support, listening to a former resident talk about how Mary's Shelter changed her life, and bidding on Live Auction prizes.

You can enjoy all of this for \$135 per person while helping Mary's Shelter care for teen mothers and their babies who rely on us at a

critical time in their young lives.

You can download an invitation and make your reservation on our website, or call Christine at (714) 730-0930 Ext. 15.

If you've never been to our Gala before – make this the year for you and your friends!



**Board of Directors**

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 Monique Gonzalez  
 Peggy Holmes  
 Cheri Maggiano  
 Gus Ordonez  
 Martha Sears  
 Erica Sheehy  
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**Executive Director**

Barbara Nelson

**Program Director**

Mary Kerr

**Mary’s Shelter**

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 info@teenshelter.org

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**Featured Employees**

Congratulations to **Child Development/Parenting Coordinator Amy Goodshaw, Shift Lead Denise Peters** and **Shift Lead Monique Tamayo** who completed their five-year anniversaries at Mary’s Shelter in January and February.

**Amy Goodshaw** had experience as a Pre-school Director and Kindergarten Teacher prior to coming to Mary’s Shelter as our Child Development/Parenting Coordinator. With her education and experience in Early Childhood Education, and her calm and encouraging way of teaching, she has been a great asset to our program. Amy develops a stimulating curriculum for infant care to foster babies’ development, conducts a toddler class to prepare children for pre-school, teaches Parenting Classes, coaches teen mothers individually on their parenting challenges and accesses community resources to meet the assessment and intervention needs of our babies.



**Amy Goodshaw**



**Denise Peters**

**Denise Peters** came to Mary’s Shelter five years ago, having prior experience working with youth in group homes. She feels a deep sense of spiritual fulfillment helping nurture and mentor the teens, and bond with the babies, even though it can sometimes be challenging. Her rewarding work with our girls inspired Denise to pursue an MSW degree while she continues to work as a Shift Lead on three all-night shifts each week.

**Monique Tamayo** had experience as a Case Manager at a domestic violence shelter when she was hired as a House Manager at Mary’s Shelter in 2005. Because of her excellent work performance she was promoted to Shift Lead. As such, she supervises teen mothers and their babies, making sure the daily program is followed, appointments are kept, medications are distributed, and listens to and encourages our teen moms. Monique likes working with young people and says that every day presents new challenges.



**Monique Tamayo**

We are delighted that these educated, talented and dedicated women are part of the Mary’s Shelter team and hope that they will continue to help us change lives – two at a time, for many years to come.

**FINANCIAL REPORT\***

For the 12 months ended September 30, 2009

*\*This is a brief summary of the independent financial audit.*

*Donors may view a copy of the complete audited financial report on our website.*

Revenues		Expenses		Balance Sheet	
Govt. – AFDC	\$1,023,822	Resident Program	\$1,395,352	Assets	
Govt. – Other	\$ 39,493	Administration	\$ 87,720	Current Assets	\$ 493,787
Private Donations	\$ 206,940	Fund Development	\$ 100,332	Fixed Assets	\$ 772,617
Corp. & Fndn. Gifts	\$ 256,240	Total Expenses	\$1,583,404	Total Assets	\$1,266,404
Special Events	\$ 119,017			Liabilities	
Donated Svc & Equip	\$ 6,078	Net Operations	\$ 52,451	Current Liab.	\$ 76,535
Investment Income	\$ (28,129)			Long-term Liab.	\$ - 0 -
Other Income	\$ 12,394			Total Liabilities	\$ 76,535
Total Revenues	\$ 1,635,855			Net Assets	\$1,189,869
				Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$1,266,404

**Note:** : Donors will appreciate that **88 cents** of every dollar was used for program expenses to care for teen mothers and their babies in 2009.

# ANNUAL REPORT

Mary's Shelter in 2009 – *Changing Lives Two at a Time*

**MISSION AND PHILOSOPHY** *Mary's Shelter empowers and equips vulnerable teen mothers and their babies for lives of hope, dignity and self-sufficiency. Created out of profound respect for the God-given gift of life, Mary's Shelter nurtures and protects the lives of both mother and child.*

**PROGRAM SERVICES** – The comprehensive services at Mary's Shelter address the physical, emotional, spiritual and educational needs of teen residents and their babies. We also stress parenting education and teach independent living skills, including job preparation, in order to intervene in the negative cycle typical of teen pregnancy.

**PROGRAM OUTCOMES** – In 2009, Mary's Shelter **counseled 212 teens**, their families and friends who called Mary's Shelter for guidance and referrals when they were faced with the pregnancy of a minor. We provided loving care for a total of **42 teens and 22 of their children** in our homes. Their length of stay varied from a few weeks to the entire year depending on their circumstances. During the year, 16 of our residents were reunited with a family member (always our goal) and we assisted seven young mothers as they legally emancipated as adults.

**Eight healthy babies were born** to residents while living at Mary's Shelter in the last year (and many more babies were delivered to girls after they left.) One infant was two weeks premature, but all eight had healthy birth weights of 6 pounds or more and APGAR scores of 9,8 or 9,9. Our very positive birth statistics for teen mothers were the result of 102 pre-natal visits, 17 ultrasounds, 24 hospital visits and 88 pediatric appointments during the year, plus 21 childbirth preparation classes and the day-to-day supervision of healthy prenatal behaviors by our attentive staff.

We also scheduled appointments and took our girls and babies to a total of 613 other medical appointments during the year for non-maternity purposes, such as physical exams, sick visits, immunizations, appointments with specialists and for dental and vision care. This year our staff acquired the special skills needed to promote the development of a child with Down's Syndrome.

To help **foster healing and develop coping skills** Mary's Shelter Social Workers provided our teen mothers, many of whom have experienced traumatic backgrounds, with 415 hours of individual therapy, 28.5 hours of family and couples counseling plus facilitated two weekly therapeutic groups all year. Additionally, we took residents to 228 appointments with Psychologists and Psychiatrists as needed.

To **promote spiritual formation**, build self-esteem and instill hope, we offered a weekly bible study and transportation to various church services for interested residents.

To break the cycle of child abuse and neglect, Mary's Shelter emphasizes **positive parenting skills**. In 2009, 22 pregnant girls participated in Prenatal Parenting classes, 34 residents attended weekly Infant Parenting Classes and 11 teen mothers learned age-specific parenting techniques in weekly Toddler Parenting classes. We also arranged eight guest speakers to educate our girls about the loving parenting option that is adoption, and two girls made that choice this year.

We monitored the **development of all of our infants and toddlers** and took all children to the Regional Center for developmental assessments. Two children required extensive interventions during the year to maximize their physical development. This involved arranging for and taking children to Physical Therapy sessions at CHOC, Occupational Therapy sessions, Infant Stimulation sessions and twice weekly participation in the ICEC program. Eight toddlers (babies over one year old and walking) thrived in our weekday Toddler Program to help them become preschool ready while their moms were in school, and our infant care staff was attentive to the infants.

To help prepare teen mothers for successful independent living and prevent a life of poverty, the first step is to **complete their education**. In 2009, 33 of our residents made progress in an independent course of study in our own Mary's Academy, whether at a Junior or Senior High level, and four others were enrolled in a public high school primarily to benefit from an ESL program. We arranged for tutoring as needed. Two Mary's Shelter residents graduated from high school in 2009 and two passed the GED exam. Another teen mother enrolled in a state university and yet another was employed.

Mary's Shelter stresses **independent living skills** once a girl turns 16 years of age. In 2009 we sent six teen mothers for vocational testing and five attended on-site computer classes led by a volunteer. Through Orangewood Children's Foundation, we sent 14 girls to Health and Nutrition classes, 17 to Personal Financial Management classes and 13 to an Orientation to Community Services. As residents approached emancipation, our Case Managers helped five obtain day care arrangements, three secure transitional housing, one girl obtain employment and another teen mother volunteered in the community to get work experience.

**HUMAN SERVICES** The Mary's Shelter administrative staff includes an Executive Director, Development Assistant and Bookkeeper. The program staff included a Program Director, Associate Program Director and five Coordinators with specialties such as medical services, parenting, etc. Social services are provided by two Social Workers and two Case Managers. The continuous care and supervision of our residents is provided by 18 House Managers, over half of whom have college degrees in human services fields. An indicator of the dedication of our staff is that 19 of our 32 employees have worked at Mary's Shelter five or more years! About 25 volunteers supplemented our paid professional staff by providing services directly to our residents, and another 40 provided indirect support (Board and special events), totaling over 3,000 volunteer hours in 2009.

**FINANCIAL REPORT** While private donations from individuals, organizations and special events were down 11%, corporate and foundation giving remained stable in 2009 and government subsidies were slightly higher. There was also a \$28,129 loss in the market value of our invested reserve funds. But the wage freeze and benefit reductions implemented last year enabled Mary's Shelter to cover expenses. In fact, a \$50,000 grant received from the Weingart Foundation at the end of the fiscal year allowed us to fill a vacated Case Manager position and gave us a positive bottom-line for the year. The ongoing challenge is that Mary's Shelter needs at least **\$60,000 per month** in private donations to provide our staff-intensive services for pregnant and parenting minors and their babies. Our faithful donors have demonstrated time and again that our mission is dear to their hearts and that they will continue to rise to the occasion.

## DONORS CHANGE LIVES ALL YEAR LONG

Many caring individuals, organizations, churches and companies brought smiles to the faces of our pregnant minors, teen moms, babies and toddlers last year with gifts of cash, merchandise and love. We regret any errors or omissions on this list.

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 Sts. Simon & Jude  
 Catholic Church  
 Trinity United  
 Presbyterian Church  
 Woman of the Evangelical  
 Lutheran Church in America

**CLUBS**

Blessed Sacrament Church Outreach  
 Catholic Bible Ministries  
 Catholic Daughters of America Court  
 Blessed Sacrament #2024  
 Christian Women's Fellowship  
 Color Us Gone  
 Ebell Club of Irvine  
 Father Maximilian Kolbe  
 Charities, Inc.  
 Fire of Glory  
 Franciscan Friars  
 Italian Catholic Federation  
 Branch #393  
 Italian Catholic Federation  
 Branch #423  
 Knights of Columbus Council #12451  
 Knights of Columbus Council #3926  
 Knights of Columbus Council #5385  
 Knights of Columbus Council #6332  
 Knights of Columbus Council #7985  
 Knights of Columbus Council #9195  
 Knights of Columbus Council #9487

Knights of Columbus Council #9511  
 Knights of Columbus Council #9594  
 Ladies Auxillary, Knights of  
 Columbus Council #6020  
 Moms Club of Portola Hills  
 MOPS  
 Newport Harbor Emblem Club #394  
 Orange Coast Mothers of Multiples  
 San Francisco Solano Catholic  
 Church Women's Circles  
 Sts. Simon & Jude Men's Club  
 Volunteer Center of Orange County  
 Water from the Rock  
 Women in Business Orange County

**FOUNDATIONS**

The Ahmanson Foundation  
 Catholic Campaign for Human  
 Development  
 The Croul Family Foundation  
 The Disneyland Volunteers  
 Community Fund  
 The HealthCare Foundation for  
 Orange County  
 Orange County Community  
 Foundation  
 The Peter and Mary Muth  
 Foundation  
 The PIMCO Foundation  
 The Reso Foundation  
 Sisters of St. Joseph Healthcare  
 Foundation  
 Sweet Bay Foundation  
 Weingart Foundation



**Your name  
 can be here too,  
 next year.  
 Please include  
 Mary's Shelter  
 in your  
 charitable  
 donations.**

## Volunteer Opportunities

To find out how you can help make a difference as a Mary's Shelter volunteer, call Amy at Mary's Shelter, (714) 730-0930, x 17.

**Drivers** – Drive our girls and their babies to their doctor and other appointments once or more a week, depending on your availability.

**Receptionists** – Take calls at the Shelter reception desk, greet visitors and do clerical tasks as needed to assist the staff one-half day per week.

**Mentors** – Matched to a particular girl, mentors maintain a relationship with the teen mother, serve as a friend and help her clarify and achieve her dreams.

**Child Care** – Watch our precious babies grow and help them flourish one morning per week while teen mothers are in school.

**Gardening Mentor** – Come once each week to show our girls how to tend a garden. We have raised beds with vegetables, fruits and herbs and need someone who loves to garden to keep them up to date and to share her knowledge and enthusiasm.

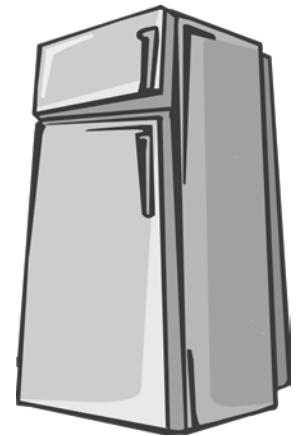
**Other Volunteer Opportunities** – Help plan our special fundraising events or serve on our Board of Directors contact Executive Director Barbara Nelson for details.

**NOTE:** To work in direct contact with our minors, volunteers must be at least 21 years old, fingerprinted for a background check, be tested for TB and receive basic training in such areas as confidentiality. In some cases, first aid and CPR training is also required.

## Current Wish List

In addition to cash (which is always in short supply) the girls and babies of Mary's Shelter need:

- **Refrigerator** – Mary's Shelter needs a new refrigerator. Ours gets lots and wear and tear.
- **Disposable Cameras** – so residents can take pictures for their scrapbooks and baby books.
- **Household Supplies** – paper towels, tissue, toilet paper, D batteries, energy efficient light bulbs or Gift Cards for Albertson's, Smart and Final or Home Depot.
- **Baby Care Products** – Diapers, especially in sizes 3-5, baby wipes, formula and baby food.
- **Gift Cards** – for Target or CVS which make great gifts for our girls' birthdays and to Starbucks, Subway, Jamba Juice for special treats.
- **Car Detailing** – Wash, wax and detail our four shelter vehicles



## Many Ways to Give

- **Regular Gifts** – of any size really add up over time. Call (714) 730-0930 or go on-line to [www.teenshelter.org](http://www.teenshelter.org) to authorize a monthly or quarterly gift billed to your credit card or directed from your bank account.
- **United Way** – You can designate Mary's Shelter as the recipient for your charitable payroll deductions using our United Way number: MAR705
- **Matching Gift** – leverage your gift by applying for a matching charitable gift from your employer.
- **Planned Gift** – Most of us can make a significant gift from our estate to continue support for our favorite charities. Please consider naming Mary's Shelter in your will, designating a specific dollar amount or percentage of your estate to "Mary's Shelter, a nonprofit California Corporation." You ensure your legacy continues to change lives, you can specify the "**Mary's Shelter Endowment**" for some of the assets in your estate plan.
- **Alternative Gift** – Having a special birthday or anniversary? You already have more "stuff" than you need so ask people to make a donation to Mary's Shelter in your name instead.
- **Albertons** – Everytime you shop enter the Mary's Shelter phone number (714)730-0930, and a percentatge of your purchase will directly benefit Mary's Shelter.





*Mary's  
Shelter*

P.O. Box 10433  
Santa Ana, CA  
92711-0433

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
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SANTA ANA, CA  
PERMIT #1878

*Changing lives  
two at a time*



**E**merald  
Enchantment

**You are Invited to an Evening of Irish Merriment**  
*A Gala to support teen mothers and their babies at Mary's Shelter*

**Saturday March 13, 2010**

**6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.**

***Radisson Hotel Newport Beach***

**Come have FUN while helping pregnant minors who have chosen life for their babies:  
Live and Silent Auctions, Pot O' Gold Raffle, Dinner, Irish Entertainment**

For information please contact Christine at (714) 730-0930, Extension 15 or [Christine@teenshelter.org](mailto:Christine@teenshelter.org)  
An invitation can be downloaded from [www.teenshelter.org/Donor Events](http://www.teenshelter.org/Donor%20Events)