

# FRIENDS & FAMILY

Community  Connection



May 20, 2011

Dear Andrew,

Thanks, San Diego, for another great event--it was a momentous day! On Saturday, May 14th, 175 FFCC volunteers teamed up with 200 of San Diego's homeless community at the San Diego Salvation Army building to package over 100,000 meals for disaster-ravaged Japan! This was the first event of its kind in San Diego and turned out to be a tremendous success. In addition to the 100,000 meals, 40 boxes of toys, coloring books, art supplies, puzzles, and board games were packaged and will be shipped with the food. The estimated value of the packaged food and toys is \$35,000. What an incredible gift to the children and families in Japan!



For those of you who missed this event, this is what you would have seen: FFCC volunteers working alongside our homeless neighbors for a common purpose, to assemble meals for people in need thousands of miles away. During the hours of the event, there was no difference between us; we were all volunteers. You would have seen people empowered by the experience to give to others; you could see on their faces. Many had the opportunity to volunteer more hours than they had originally signed up for and they did so with great enthusiasm! There were several people from the STEPS and CRASH programs (people transitioning from homelessness to a life lived in the mainstream) who gave leadership to this event. People like Michael who gave direction and training to the meal assembly volunteers; and Kelley who helped the registration team by greeting and name-tagging incoming volunteers; and Chris, who worked the microphone--and gave Phil a break!--encouraging all the volunteers for doing a great job, just to name a few. It was a sight to behold. And everyone said when it was all over, "Let's do this again!"

Thanks to all who helped make this possible, especially to Holy Smokes BBQ from Green Oaks Ranch in Vista for providing a fantastic lunch to all the volunteers and to ACE Parking for generously offering protected parking to volunteers for the day!

## Helping the Bolton-Lum Family

Thank you FFCC network for teaming up to help the Bolton Lum family! We want to help this Rancho Penasquitos Mom battling a brain tumor with a more tranquil home environment that will aide in her healing. We're looking for volunteers with some construction skills and others to be a part of the garden team. Monetary donations would be helpful to pay for a new sliding glass door, and garden supplies. Please contact Becky at [bpalenske@san.rr.com](mailto:bpalenske@san.rr.com) if you can help this month. To donate, you can use Paypal at [www.ffccsd.org](http://www.ffccsd.org) and indicate that you would like to assist the Bolton-Lum family.



## Go ECHS White Tigers!

Last Saturday, 15 students and staff from Escondido Charter High School (ECHS) started their weekend early and traveled to the downtown San Diego Salvation Army to join in packaging meals for the people of Japan devastated by the recent earthquake and tsunami. ECHS is just one of the many high schools in our county who have joined FFCC in the Fight Against Hunger by participating in Food Packaging Events. These students gave up their Saturday morning to serve alongside our downtown volunteers to package over 100,000 meals

for Japan--and they had a great time doing it! Thank you for your time and effort ECHS! You served well!



## Water Well Drilled at Haiti Orphanage!

Blue Ridge International Water traveled to Haiti to drill for water at the new Children's Orphanage in Gressier, Haiti. They drilled down 215 feet before hitting fresh clean water, pumping 15 gallons per minute.

The work continues on the orphanage itself, as construction on the first of three buildings is moving forward. The walls are up and the roof is going on next, just in time before the rainy season hits. The plan is to complete the roof and install the windows and doors over the next two months so the building will be ready to occupy.

In August, the plan is to have a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the opening of the orphanage. It is a huge accomplishment for both FFCC and those living in the city of Gressier to see progress happening and the children being cared for. FFCC volunteers who have traveled to Haiti, enjoy the fruit of your labor!

### In This Issue

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You make a difference!

Thank you so much for your gifts of time, talent, and financial support!

### Quick Links

## FFCC Website!

[email](mailto:ffcc@ffcc.org) FFCC



Thank you all who have traveled and helped in the construction of the orphanage and to those who have financially donated to help with the construction!

#### **Upcoming Events at a Glance**

Haiti Trip #7 Team Reunion May 22 5:00pm  
Haiti Trip #8 Team Meeting May 23 6:30pm  
Adult Senior Outreach May 24 9:00am-12:00pm  
Tanzania Team #9 Family Potluck June 4 5:00pm  
Fight Against Hunger HS Club Coordinator Meeting June 5 4:00pm  
Homeless Outreach (Downtown Salvation Army) June 6 6:00pm  
Food Packaging Event #25 (Save the Date!) July 29  
Tanzania Trip #9 June 20-July 7, 2011  
Haiti Trip #8 August 12-21, 2011  
Haiti Trip #9 November 4-12, 2011  
Haiti Trip #10 January 21-28, 2012  
Tanzania Trip #10 February 10-27, 2012

#### **Contact Information**

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