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Summer/Fall Edition
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EHP's Family Sustainability Fund: *Nicole's Story*

In July of 2022, EHP launched the \$2 million Family Sustainability Fund providing direct assistance to local families-in-need for a two-year period.

This new fund, an all-inclusive support program, helps selected families over the course of several months reduce debt and increase income through modest financial assistance combined with budget planning, employment, financial counseling, and referrals to other organizations that specialize in affordable housing, education, childcare, and government aid.

We recognize that providing financial assistance alone without providing the tools to become financially stable has the potential to lead to dependency instead of self-reliance.

Now, in its 2nd year, we are seeing positive changes in the lives of our FSF recipients.

The following was written by a fund recipient on how EHP's FSF lifeline has changed her life.

Your donations are giving those in need the opportunity to rewrite their future.

I want to take this time and let everyone know how much EHP means to me. It is because of EHP that my dreams were not just possible but made a reality. EHP put light back into my life during my darkest moments.

EHP not only provided financial support but more importantly provided mental and emotional support.

EHP encouraged me to get back up when I had fallen, worried about becoming homeless after my benefits had been stolen, and provided resources, when I was worried about being evicted from my home.

EHP provided me with a new computer, giving me the tools that I needed to start realizing my dreams and enroll in fashion school. I am currently enrolled at The Academy of Art University San Francisco and I'm in the process of earning my AA degree in Fashion Styling. This is my passion and what I love to do.

Some might think that fashion styling is not a real degree, or that I wouldn't need a degree to be a fashion stylist. But being a part of this educational program has turned my life around for the better. I am doing great at school!

School was a little scary at first and I was nervous and full of doubt. But I had Lesia's voice in my head, reassuring me by saying, "Girl, you got this! This is all you baby girl!" She has constantly checked in on me to see how I was doing and let me know that I can come to her with anything. "You know EHP is here for you" is what she says every time she sees me.

I know there are a lot of people out there struggling and not receiving encouragement like I've received from EHP. They don't have an organization like EHP guiding them and providing support, telling them that it's ok to dream and that they will provide you with what you need to succeed.

The program that EHP has created is going to help people who want to do better for themselves but just need a little help to get started. EHP is here for the community and wants to see the people in their community be successful. EHP is helping build a better community for all of us.

I truly thank EHP because without them none of this would be possible.

- Nicole



National Rebuilding Day Comes to EHP

On April 28 - 29, 2023, Rebuilding Together Peninsula and Sobrato joined forces to give EHP a much needed facelift. With a grant from RTP, our warehouse floors were restored and the Activity Building received a fresh coat of exterior paint plus deck repairs. Team captain, Peter Tsai from the Sobrato Organization, was able to secure a company to remove the old epoxy flooring and restore the underlying concrete while RTP gathered all the necessary supplies to paint and restore the Activity Room and surrounding deck.

Dozens of volunteers from Sobrato and RTP gathered early on the morning of April 28, to move all freestanding items from the warehouse into our parking lot, storage unit and food pantry. Once that was done, the volunteers led by Greg

Bernard of RTP moved on to work on the Activity Building while the flooring contractors began work on the warehouse floors.



Tarps were laid while an RTP carpenter replaced broken or deteriorated balusters and deck railings. Soon painting was underway and from the finished product, you would never guess that some of the volunteers had no painting experience whatsoever. It was a long day and we were thankful for

the morning pastries, breakfast sandwiches and beverages and a food truck for lunch provided by Sobrato. By 6 pm, the Activity Building was newly painted with leftover supplies and equipment neatly tucked away and the warehouse floors ready to be polished. The next day was quieter, with the floor company returning to finish the floors



and Peter and a few friends to oversee the remaining work. It was amazing how they were able to turn this project around in two days!

EHP is extremely grateful to Rebuilding Together Peninsula and the Sobrato Organization for renovating our warehouse floors and painting the Activity

Building. Thank you for helping to sustain and enhance our facility and creating a safer campus for our staff, volunteers, clients and visitors.

EHP's Family Sustainability Fund: *Mason's Story*

EHP has helped me and my family in numerous ways. Ever since my grandmother and uncle passed away life has been very rough. In an instant, everything fell into my hands and I had to learn how to balance things out quickly in order to survive and keep my family together.

I am 22 years old and having the responsibility of raising two high schoolers and a middle schooler definitely has not been easy. But I've learned to make the best of things and continue doing what I know my grandmother would have wanted me to do which is to act with a loving heart. And that's exactly what EHP did. EHP provided us with food,



rental assistance and more.

There were times I was jobless and had no money to provide, and EHP came through, providing a backbone.

While EHP helped with paying my rent, I was able to look for a job and research schools focused on Information Technology. I finally landed a job close in the neighborhood and I am so grateful.

I plan on continuing to work and provide for my family while continuing my education so I can progress in life, and hopefully one day become financially independent.

THANK YOU EHP FOR EVERYTHING.



The 2023-2024 school year is about to begin and our children need your help to build their learning foundation! If you would like to lend a hand, a donation of gift cards will go directly to families on the B2S program list and families will be able to shop with their children for Back-to-School gear.

The most requested gift cards are: Amazon, Walmart, Target and Costco.

If you would like to donate items, Backpacks, school supplies and hygiene products would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for giving our students a head-start to a successful school year!

Donations can be dropped off at 2411 Pulgas Avenue, East Palo Alto,

Monday-Thursday, 9:00 am–5:00 pm

For more information, please call LaKesha at

650-323-7781 x1200 or email: LaKesha@ehpcares.org



Food for Thought ... From July 2022–June 2023, we served:

6,356 households, 15,283 individuals and 33,718 food boxes

We anticipate serving over 3,500 households during Thanksgiving distribution

And over 5,500 households during EHP's Christmas distribution



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Our Mission:

to provide compassionate, dignified
and practical assistance to families
and individuals experiencing
economic and personal hardship.

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America's largest and most-utilized independent evaluator
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EHP is a Platinum-level [GuideStar Exchange](#) participant, demon-
strating its commitment to transparency. Write a review about us!

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