

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

This project has two main components that aim to solve two important areas of need at Noah Homes, our partner institution. First, Noah Homes urgently needs to renovate and expand its Food Storage Room at a total cost of \$7000. Second, most residents at Noah Homes need to be fitted with prescription glasses. Our Club will seek donations of frames; two of our Club members will donate the services to perform the eye examinations and glasses fitting; the remaining \$3000 of grant money will go toward the purchase of lenses which need to be done on an individual basis.

NOAH HOMES: LMSR INSTITUTIONAL PARTNER

Established in 1983, Noah Homes began with one home and seven residents. In 1986, it opened four more homes for a total of 47 residents. Today, Noah Homes supports 70 residents with Down syndrome, Cerebral Palsy, Autism, Fragile X and other developmental problems. It has a staff of 73 in its eleven acres Spring Valley campus.

Noah Homes' mission is to help residents with developmental disabilities, providing safe homes in a community campus setting. With the loving support of its staff, residents achieve maximum independence, and become contributing members of their community. Founder Sr. Kathryn Jennings, a Rotarian from Rancho San Diego Rotary, envisioned the residents' community involvement in all the activities that people without challenges take for granted. Today, the residents are out in the community on a daily basis, including jobs at Vons, Albertson's McDonalds, On the Border, Pizza Hut, and Chilli's, among others.

Noah Homes depends on State funding for reimbursement of living expenses. As the State's finances deteriorate, it looks for other options to fill the funding gap created by the State's cutbacks.

FIRST PROJECT COMPONENT: \$7500

As stated above, the first component of this project consists of the **expansion of the Food Storage Room for better shelving, in order to double the capacity to store more food from local pantries and regular donations from local merchants. Noah could accept new donations to control costs, and have better control of food rotation.** This District Grant will provide \$7000 for this purpose. The Building Industry Association (BIA) would donate the labor for the actual construction.

SECOND PROJECT COMPONENT: \$3000

In January 2012, 16 LMSR members and relatives traveled to Costa Rica and visited two local Rotary Clubs, The San Pedro and Curridabat Rotary Club, and the Cartago Rotary Club. Our members and local Rotarians visited and worked in several projects. One project in particular, a Vision Project to provide glasses to schoolchildren from very low-income schools in Costa Rica worked very well. Our Club collected new frames donated by manufacturers and vision centers from the San Diego area; two Rotarian optometrists, one who belongs to our Club, and another from the Cartago Club donated their services to perform the eye examinations; our Club also provided the funds to purchase the lenses. Close to 40 children and two adults were fitted with brand new glasses in less than a week. Furthermore, enough frames were left behind to eventually provide glasses for 200 additional children. This project was done exclusively with LMSR resources, except for the valuable assistance of the members of the Cartago Rotary Club.

The successful completion of the Vision Project for school children in Costa Rica has inspired the members of our Club to develop a Vision Care Project for the Residents of Noah Homes. Most Noah Residents require prescription glasses. There are three phases for this project:

- a. Collection of frames. To make the glasses more affordable, we will encourage donations from suppliers. The goal is to collect all the frames needed through donations. Two members of our Club have proven to be very skillful in this endeavor. **(Amount of frames?)**
- b. Vision care screening and examinations. Club members Dr. Jeff Hall and Fern Hall and associates will donate their services for this purpose.
- c. Lenses. Noah Residents will be fitted on an individual basis. \$ 3000 from this grant will be used for purchasing the lenses.