



## Once You Are Part of the Mary's Path Family, You Are Always a Part.

At Mary's Path, our mission is **saving two lives at a time**, and that goes beyond the walls of the homes where we care for our teen moms and babies.

The journey begins at our doorstep but reaches far beyond for many years to come. While the foster system only supports our teen moms and babies at Mary's Path during their stay, we have been able to create a more comprehensive, thoughtful network of care that will serve them throughout their journey thanks to the help of our donors, foundations, and community partners.



These last few months have shown us how much our community cares for the future success of our new families. We were treated to a fabulous meet and greet at the Hormuth Estate, with over 100 women coming together, all hosted by two powerful women from Sur West Realty.

We also received invitations to speak at community churches and sorority dinners with sisters who have four generations of members still giving back to the community. An individual who knows our CFO bought every item on our Amazon Wishlist, while a bank CEO from CommerceWest matched donations to our Moms for Moms campaign challenge grant.

All of these are examples of **community at its best**, supporting our young families as they venture forward toward independent lives. I am overwhelmed by the embrace of all who have joined us.

**We welcome all to the Mary's Path Family. Enjoy this newsletter and learn more about how we save two lives at a time.**

In gratitude,

Jill Dominguez  
Executive Director

[Donate Today](#)

## In Her Own Words: Lily's Story



While Lily's story is unique to her, it serves as an inspiring look into the stories of all those we serve at Mary's Path. **Watch Lily's story above** and learn more about the courageous young girls we serve on their road to becoming moms.

## Projects / Funding Needs

Facilities Needs	Transportation Needs	Classrooms and Play Areas
Equipment repairs and replacements: washers, dryers, dishwashers, microwaves, ovens, etc. <b>\$20,000</b>	Late model van (Honda Odyssey or similar) with low mileage <b>\$50,000</b>	New playscape and enclosure <b>\$6,000</b>
Upgraded camera security system and integrated alarm system <b>\$8,000</b>		Childcare classroom equipment, materials, and furnishings <b>\$8,400</b>

[Help Us Meet These Needs and More!](#)

## OC Sheriffs Partner With Mary's Path

Deputies join our residents and staff in a new program exploring learning experiences through trauma-informed care.



Mary's Path has a true partner in the Orange County Sheriff's Department (OCSD)! Led by our Advisory Council member, Sheriff Don Barnes, the OCSD has set the tone and forged a meaningful relationship with Mary's Path, creating opportunities for growth and understanding between the deputies that serve Mary's Path and our teen moms and staff. To advance this partnership, we recently launched our **Learning Experiences Through Trauma Informed Care at Mary's Path**.

We involve the entire community to share in life lessons and consequences while incorporating teaching moments. In our first team effort, we asked OCSD staff to join us for a special Lunch-and-Learn. We selected Deputy Randall Torres to be our guest. His easy-going style earned respect from both residents and staff and made Deputy Torres the ideal speaker.

Recently, a few of our residents were involved in minor theft incidents, and we wanted to create a teaching moment for our girls, rather than a law enforcement/juvenile justice lesson being their only experience. Our goal was to inform our girls of the consequences for their future should they be convicted of a felony or misdemeanor. Deputy Torres and his field training deputy, Anas Hasic, delivered the message in a Q&A format.

We all learned anything stolen with a value over \$950 was a felony, no matter if tried as adult or juvenile. Once the felony is on your record, you are barred from many future jobs, such as cash-handling jobs like McDonalds or any county job, which offer great pay and benefits to high school graduate-level employees. The list also includes any work in law enforcement or work with children, such as our floor staff jobs or mental health professionals. The residents asked about jail time. Deputy Torres explained a case could be tried and a conviction handed out with no jail time, but that the felony conviction remains forever and that having a record expunged was not always possible.

Deputy Anas "Nas" told his personal story of coming from a war-torn homeland, where his immediate family were all killed. The traumatic story resonated closely with our girls and created a trust factor. He discussed making decisions about his future, which included playing professional football for the Kansas City Chiefs.

Deputy Torres knew many of our girls. He told his own personal story about joining the OCSD out high school, as well as the opportunities that led to his great career. The commitment to serve and help others was deeply rooted in each officer's story.

This lunch had 100% resident and staff participation! Kudos from everyone was shared. The tone, demeanor, and word choice were all spot on. The afternoon was more than we could have hoped for in the "great experiment" of incorporating trauma-informed care into the core culture of Mary's Path.

This is a rare opportunity, and we are going to be setting the example for all short-term residential therapeutic programs with our partners at the OCSD. We are now planning some drop-in BBQs for OCSD!

A special thank you to In-N-Out for hosting lunch with gift cards donated through the hard work of our Advisory Council member Carole Geroncin.

## Sur West Realty Event

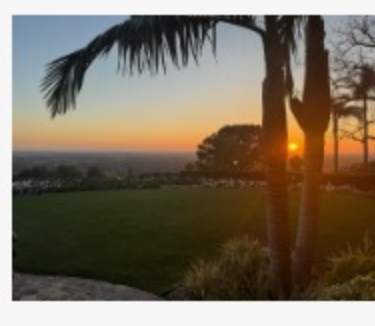
Our longtime supporters from Sur West Realty, Erin Casey and Sue Mitchell, hosted our Spring Event at the lovely home of Carolyn and Rick Hormuth, Casa de los Soñadores—translated "the house of dreamers."



The evening was filled with over 125 powerful women learning about Mary's Path and our work with teen moms and babies from the foster care system.

Our Board and Advisory Council were on hand as ambassadors for the evening. The embrace of our new friends and supporters kicked off our big Mothers Day Season of Giving.

Thank you, Sur West Realty!



## Moms for Moms Campaign a Success!

Our fourth annual Moms for Moms giving campaign was once again a huge success! Our donors and supporters honored moms, dads, uncles, grandmas and anyone else that represents "Mom."

We are so grateful to the Patrick and Mary Dirk Family and Sandy Segerstrom Daniels for putting up our match challenge grant this year. We more than doubled our giving thanks to these generous donors!



## Milestones



Here at Mary's Path, we measure milestones rigorously, like any good organization. But we also measure them in first smiles, first words and first steps. Here are some recent milestones of which we're very proud!

- \*An 11-month-old took her first steps a week ago—she has been practicing hard for weeks by pushing everything around the house!
- \*The new moms have been successful with breastfeeding with the support of our onsite lactation educator specialist.
- \*A 4-month-old rolled over for the first time, and mom was so excited to share the news!
- \*A toddler got enrolled in outside daycare so that she can gain the crucial socialization skills she needs to thrive.
- \*3 babies had their first smile.

## Happening Around Mary's Path



- \*5 babies born in the last three months
- \*8 high school graduations
- \*3 teen moms and babies participating in our Aftercare Program since leaving Mary's Path and transitioning to a lower level of care and independent living this year:
  - 2 of our Aftercare teen moms have enrolled in community college
  - 1 are currently working on graduating high school
  - 1 began an internship at a CSEC Survivor Program (Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children more commonly known as child sex trafficking)
  - 1 enrolled in cosmetology school

With a simple donation, you can advance our young families' progress toward a brighter future.

[Change Two Lives at a Time!](#)