



CLUB AWARD ENTRY FORM

Annual Reporting January 1-December 31, 2019

Prepared by: Diane Kennedy		Club: Ebell Club of Irvine
Number of Members in Club (as according to the CFWC Yearbook): 20		
Reporter's Address: [REDACTED]		
Club Position: Secretary/Home Life Chairman		CFWC Area: C
City: Irvine	State: CA	Zip: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]	Phone: [REDACTED]	
Home Life Community Service		

The Ebell Club of Irvine, located in southern California in the center of Orange County, was founded and federated in 1974. At that time, the city of Irvine had only been in existence for two years, and the area within this new city was evolving from a working ranch to a "model" city as planned by the Irvine Company. Today our city has over 280,000 residents. It is viewed as an affluent community where most of the residents are college graduated, the school district is highly regarded, and the population is a diverse mixture of cultures. Of our 20 members, three are employed and the rest of us are retired; we range in age from 60's to 80's, with the majority of our members in their 70's. We are an aging group who is proud to be a member of this federation and all that we accomplish in each of the community service departments despite our small numbers.

Project: Families Forward Support Hours: 31 Donated: \$200.00 In Kind: \$1,675.00

In 1984, sharing the vision of providing temporary housing for families in crises, a group of dedicated community members, the City of Irvine, and the Irvine Company jointly founded Irvine Temporary Housing. When the organization's goals expanded to include a large food pantry, job information, and counseling, it evolved into what is now "Families Forward". This nonprofit organization is based in Irvine but provides assistance to families in crises throughout Orange County. This year our club supported their efforts in five specific ways.

In July we learned that their food pantry was quite depleted and we made a donation of \$95.00 worth of much needed peanut butter.

Their "Back to School" program supports dignity and self-confidence by providing at risk children with new backpacks and required school supplies. Our club voted to spend \$150.00 on this project; one of our members was a bargain shopper and was able to buy 20 quality backpacks with that money! In addition, thirteen of our members donated a wide variety of necessary school supplies and additional backpacks. Because we purchased everything at "back to school" sales, we valued the items at their usual prices (i.e. One member bought 150 notebooks for 25 cents each, and they usually are a dollar apiece). The value of the donations for this project was \$1,002.00; nine hours was spent on purchasing and delivering these items. One member also spent 4 hours helping to distribute the donations to the clients at the facility.

At Thanksgiving, a food basket was provided for a deserving family listed with Families Forward.

Thirteen of our members contributed food items worth \$158.00 to provide dinner for this family. Four hours was spent in collecting and delivering the food.

At Christmastime we "adopted" a needy client family from Families Forward to provide them with a Christmas that they might not have otherwise been able to have. Eleven of our members provided gifts,

clothes, and gift cards for this single mother and her two children. These items were valued at \$270.00. Twelve hours was spent in shopping and delivering.

After 30 years at the helm of Families Forward, Executive Director Margie Wakeham retired. As a tribute to her many years of service, we made a \$200.00 donation to the Margie Legacy Fund.

Ronald McDonald House Hours: 36 Donated: \$0 In Kind: \$242.00

This facility provides a temporary place to stay while their critically ill children are being treated at Children's Hospital of Orange County (CHOC). This year we supported them in three different ways.

In March we participated in the "Feasts from the Heart" program whereby outside groups come in to provide a home-cooked meal for the residents of the facility. Six of our members prepared dinner for and served approximately 25 – 30 people as they would come and go from the hospital to be with their children. In addition, four other members who could not attend that evening also contributed food for the dinner. There was \$170.00 worth of food served, and a total of 29 hours was spent in shopping, cooking, serving, and cleaning up of the meal.

Cardboard "Ronald McDonald Houses" were distributed to members and friends for collecting metal pull tabs from soft drink cans. RMH can then recycle these at the going rate of \$1.00 a pound. One of our members was in charge of collecting the "houses" and delivering the pull tabs to RMH. A total of 7 members donated 40 pounds of pull tabs over the course of the year. The collecting, weighing, and delivering took a total of 4 hours.

Through their "Snackin' Good" program, donations of chips and other snack items are encouraged to have on hand at the facility so there will be a ready supply for residents to grab when they are going back and forth to the hospital. This year we donated 65 snacks at a value of \$32.00. This project took 3 hours, including deliveries to RMH.

Spring Clean-Out-Your-Closet Campaign Hours: 47 Donated: \$0 In Kind: \$2,430.00

We searched our closets for good usable clothes to donate to two worthy charities. Three members donated 55 pieces of clothing valued at \$313.00 (using the "In Kind Donation Guide") to give to Working Wardrobes. Five other members donated 262 pieces valued at \$2,117.00 to give to Women Helping Women. Both of these non-profit organizations assist women emerging from life crises in getting back into the work force and achieving self-sufficiency.

Blind Children's Learning Center Hours: 5 Donated: \$0 In Kind: \$148.00

Our members have been impressed over the years with this innovative teaching facility for the visually impaired in neighboring Tustin. We learned from their "wish list" that they would like to have "Jumbo Nuts and Bolts" and "Giant Sight and Sound Tubes" to enrich the kinesthetic and sensory development lessons in their pre-school program. We purchased both with club funds. It was a pleasure to deliver these items in person, spend some time introducing them to the children, and see their joy with their new acquisitions!

Sleeping Mats for the Homeless Hours: 287 Donated: \$0 In Kind: \$0

Several years ago, one of our members became aware of a unique way to turn plastic grocery bags into sleeping mats for the homeless. Many members saved the plastic bags and helped to cut them into strips. Over the course of the year, these strips were then crocheted into mats. Three mats were completed this year and donated to Mary's Shelter for the homeless. It is a very labor-intensive project and a total of 285 hours was spent cutting the strips and crocheting.

Todd Anglin Home Hours: 7 Donated: \$0 In Kind: \$288.00

This facility is designed to care for poverty-stricken and homeless children. The children do take part in a reduced or free lunch program at school during the week; however, on the weekends and when school is not in session, many of the children are without food. At Todd Anglin, they are given backpacks with healthy snacks and other food items to take home during these times. We found that we could help by supplementing these items. This year 7 members contributed \$88.00 worth of such food items. An additional \$200.00 worth of healthy snacks was purchased with club money. Once a month, one of our members delivered the donations to the facility.

Friendly Center Hours: 14 Donated: \$0 In Kind: \$300.00

This community outreach center has over 20 programs to assist low income families all over Orange County. With \$100.00 of club money and donations from three members, eighteen Easter baskets were put together to brighten the Easter holiday for some of the children. The purchasing, assembling, and delivering of the baskets took a total of 14 hours.

Operation Christmas Child Hours: 18 Donated: \$0 In Kind: \$176.00

This holiday season seven of our members participated in the Samaritan's Purse project to bring some Christmas cheer to children in disadvantaged areas. They each filled a shoebox with small toys and basic necessities that would be sent overseas. One member worked a drop-off location for 4 hours checking boxes and loading them into larger boxes to be picked up by a truck.

Second Harvest Food Bank Hours: 1 Donated: \$0 In Kind: \$149.00

The club approved spending up to \$150.00 to purchase canned tuna for this food pantry in need of nutritious items for their clients. One member purchased and delivered these.

St. Jude's Ranch Hours: 11 Donated: \$0 In Kind: \$0

This residential treatment home for abused and at-risk children and young adults is located in Boulder City, Nevada. One of the therapeutic programs they have involves the recycling and repurposing of greeting cards. The children use the fronts of the cards to make new packs of cards which are then repackaged and sold. The children are paid for their work and taught basic job skills. This year seven members collected 719 card fronts to use for this project; one member actually delivered them personally!

March of Dimes Hours: 1 Donated: \$0 In Kind: \$50.00

It was requested that clubs bring donations of diapers and baby wipes to an Orange District council meeting to donate to the guest speaker that day from March of Dimes. Our club responded by approving a \$50.00 purchase of such items. One of our members bought these items and brought them to the meeting for us.