Foundation Focus



October 2023 Newsletter

HBFOF Raises Funds For Injured Lifeguard

On Monday, July 3, one of our Huntington Beach lifeguards, Elizabeth Lovat, sustained a spinal injury while performing her duties. She was transported to a local area hospital in stable but serious condition. After a few weeks of recovery, she was transported to a world-renowned spinal injury facility outside of Denver, CO where she continues to improve.

Upon hearing of the accident, the HBFOF immediately set up a donation page on the website. Through the amazing outpouring of community support, over \$100,000 has been raised so far to help cover needed expenses that would otherwise be unmet with almost no overhead as compared to all of the usual fund-me sites!

As we near the end of 2023, would you please consider a tax-deductible donation to further her recovery needs? For the latest information visit:

https://www.hbfof.org/lizzie





Thank You

Elizabeth Lovat & her family have provided the following message:

"Thank you to all those who have sent their love, prayers, and well wishes over the last week. Our family is enormously grateful for the outpouring of support we have received not just from our Huntington Beach community, but from all over. Please know that your words of encouragement are so comforting to all of us during this difficult time, keep them coming.

We also want to acknowledge those who have experienced similar injuries and have reached out to share their experiences. Your stories of recovery and triumph are truly inspiring and have given us so much hope and positivity."

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Annual Spark Of Love Program

It's that time of year to help others in need during the holidays. The Spark of Love Toy Program benefits local charity and non-profit groups in our community who provide toys to kids and teens who may otherwise not fully enjoy the magic of the holidays.

Individuals may drop off new and unwrapped toys at Huntington Beach fire stations, Marine Safety headquarters, Senior Center in Central Park and City Hall. Bins will be placed outside each location's front door during business hours. We ask that you deliver toys *without* knocking on the door or ringing the doorbell.

Monetary donations made be made through the non-profit Huntington Beach Fire Outreach Foundation by credit card or PayPal on the HBFOF website: www.hbfof.org/donate Additionally, HBFOF partners with the Waymakers Huntington Beach Youth Shelter to provide gift cards during the holidays. Not all needy youth need toys; sometimes a shopping trip to get some new clothes or shoes is an amazing gift.

A staff person accompanies them to a store and helps them select their own personal needed items and then pays for them with the donated gift cards from HBFOF.

This is a very inspiring partnership helping a very special community.



"With the donations we receive from HBFOF, we are able to provide clothing for a youth who arrives at our door with nothing but the shirt on their back. By taking the youth shopping, they get a sense of normalcy and their dignity is restored."

Nancy G, Program Director, Huntington Beach Youth Shelter





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HBFOF in the Community

Pacific Airshow

The Pacific Airshow is an annual event held in Huntington Beach, California. Spanning over three days, the Airshow features the best in military and civilian flight demonstrations from international teams, including past performances by the U.S. Navy Blue Angels, U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds, Royal Air Force Red Arrows, and Canadian Forces Snowbirds.

HBFOF provides financial support for the Fire Department's volunteer programs, both CERT (Community Emergency Response Teams) and RACES (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service).

During the Pacific Airshow, CERT provide first aid support and RACES provides communications via ham radio. For a look at RACES communications, view this:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= Slny B V2jE





"HBFOF donations allow us to purchase special training equipment we would otherwise not be able to get. The most recent items were some new gloves for our training class and helmet-mount flashlights!"

Carol B, CERT Coordinator, Huntington Beach CERT



HBFD Open House

The Huntington Beach Fire Department Open House is a yearly event in October to celebrate National Fire Prevention Week.

HBFOF is a proud supporter of the Open House and this year provided hots dogs, ketchup, mustard and napkins so that the over 2,200 attendees could have a free lunch!

The focus for HBFOF at this year's event was collecting donations for the HBFD Peer Support dog Kingman. The visitor to the HBFOF booth had the opportunity to get small stuffed Kingman plush dogs, T-shirts, patches or Kingman challenge coins.

All proceeds go to financially providing for Kingman and the Peer Support program.



https://www.hbfof.org/kingman