

Special Points of Interest

- Fall Food Drive
- Teen Leadership
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Holiday Giving
- Now Hiring!
- Texas Roadhouse

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Food Drive Success!

Bay Area Turning Point recently completed their annual fall drive the weekend of November 20th and 21st. Because Bay Area Turning Point is surrounded by such a generous community, the event was again a great success. Marvis Carmichael of Star Toyota has worked with BATP and Kroger for 10 years organizing the bi-annual drives. Star Toyota modestly estimated that 26 thousand pounds of food and over 9,000 dollars in gift cards and financial contributions were received.

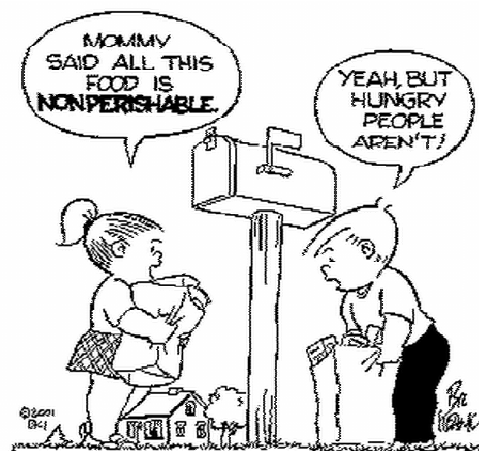
The bi-annual food drive does more than assist those who reside at the BATP shelter. As one Wyle employee stated, "it adds a sense of camaraderie to the workplace." Approximately 150 volunteers shared their time, their spirit, and their dedication with BATP. Several youth groups, businesses, and religious groups come together to achieve the vision of Bay Area Turning Point: Peace... Every Woman, Every Child, Every Man, Every Day. Many of the volunteers are "food drive veterans" who staff and other volunteers have become very familiar with.

I'd like to give special recognition to one "food drive veteran" in particular; Loretta Mae Dock. Mrs. Dock has worked several food drives and organized members of her local Lion's Club to support the drive as well. Last June, Mrs. Dock rescheduled her vacation as to be a part of the community event! This November, she and the League City Evening Lions Club worked both Friday and Saturday at the Dickinson Kroger Store off the Gulf Freeway.

On Sunday November 22nd, Mrs. Dock passed away. Her dedication and love for the food drive was truly remarkable, and her spirit will live on in the hearts of both Bay Area Turning Point volunteers and staff for years to come. Thank you Ms. Loretta (or Grandma Loretta as I so fondly called her), you will be missed.

To Star Toyota, participating Kroger stores, Kroger staff and managers, and ALL OF THE AMAZING VOLUNTEERS AND SUPPORTERS, thank you so much for your time and generosity... and we will be seeing you again next June!

-Ashley McDonough



Christmas Cards!

Bay Area Turning Point will take the stress out of gift giving and holiday card mailing this season by doing it for you. The Holiday Greeting Card program allows you to honor and remember family, friends and clients in a memorable way while graciously supporting programs that directly benefit the clients of Bay Area Turning Point.

There are two options for the colorful greeting cards illustrated by the children residing in Shelter.

- 1) You may provide us with a mailing list of the individuals you would like to honor and we will send a card to each honoree for a minimum donation of \$10.00 per card.
- 2) You can purchase a pack of 10 cards for \$20.00, and we will send the cards directly to you so that you may add a personal greeting, address the cards and mail them yourself.

Contact Jackie Keys for more information or to place an order.
281-338-7600

*Merry
Christmas*



Take a stand against violence and abuse by giving your time to participate in one of our programs - to help support the journey to peace. Volunteers are the heart of Bay Area Turning Point and contribute thousands of hours of service to the agency each year. Volunteers range from teenagers to seniors. Orientation

sessions are held throughout the year for those who wish to share their time and talents in special projects, direct services and prevention activities.

Check out the Bay Area Turning Point website for more information, or call Terri Muesse, Volunteer Coordinator, to set up a time for orientation!

Job Postings

Bay Area Turning Point is currently hiring for the following positions:

- Residential Caseworker
- Legal Advocate
- Childcare Worker
- Shelter Assistant

Please visit our website for job descriptions. You can e-mail resumes to Katia Paez at

kpaez@bayareaturningpoint.com

Or fax your resume to:

281-557-0290



Teen Leadership Leads the Way in Ending School Bullying

The Teen Leadership class at Clear View Intermediate/High School is a unique course that offers teens an opportunity for personal growth and self discovery. It is offered in a format that is engaging and fun for the students. Molly Kistler, Intermediate Teen Leadership instructor at Clear View, invited Bay Area Turning Point in to facilitate an 8 week violence prevention course. Topics in the course included: bullying, gender respect, gender stereotypes, sexual assault, media, safe dating, decision making and healthy relationships. Based on information presented to the class, the group of young teen leaders were compelled to take what they had learned to the next level. During the section over *bullying*, the students revealed that they believe bullying is not only a problem in their school, but in junior highs and high schools across the board.

Highlights from the lesson brought to light the many forms bullying can take.

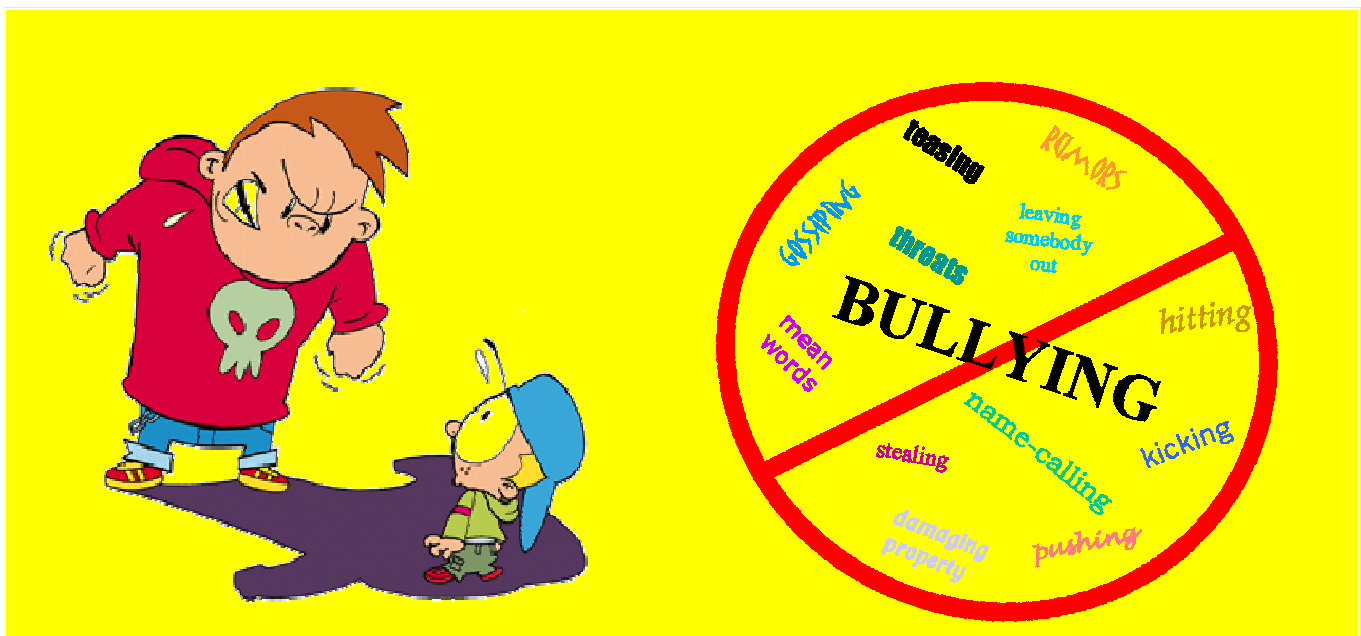
Verbal: taunts, name-calling and put-downs, threats and intimidation

Social: exclusion from peer groups, ganging up, ridiculing, extortion or stealing of money and possessions

Physical: assault and sexual assault

Cyber: using the computer or other technology to harass or threaten

“So what causes bullying?” asked one student. The group identified one cause in that when people base their judgments off stereotypes and assumptions, they are more inclined to pick on/bully one another. The more time we spend getting to know one another and appreciating differences, the less likely we are to bully. The result of the discussion was that the 7th graders would interview the 8th graders and put up a “*Did you know*” board in the Junior High hallway. Fun facts the kids learn about each other will be posted for all of the students to see. The 7th grade teen leaders hope to see a decline in bullying and violent behaviors in their school.



Holiday Giving

Doesn't it seem that we only need to get new tires, go to the doctor, buy new glasses or get oil changes when we are flat broke? Odd as it sounds, all through college, I found myself requesting Wal-Mart gift cards, oil change gift cards and kitchen gadgets for Christmas. Without the practical gifts, my 6 years of schooling would have required me to eat a lot more Ramen and PB&J than I already did. Don't get me wrong, I liked receiving books, jewelry and electronics but it was the practical items that made me sleep a little easier Christmas night.

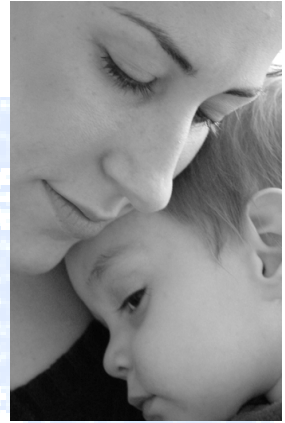
For a moment, close your eyes and imagine yourself in the position of one of the Bay Area Turning Point residents. It's 2 in the afternoon. School is almost out and your volatile spouse will be home in about 2-3 hours. You've decided to leave today and never go back. Space in the local shelter is available but you can only pack a bag for you and a bag for the children. You pull the kids out of school about 30 minutes early to avoid traffic. The kids ask what's going on and you struggle to explain. You have no job, no money and you are scared. The kids will have to switch schools, you will need to find a job and the long battle begins.

You've been in shelter about 3 months now and the holidays are approaching. You've gained employment and are trying to save money to move out on your own with the kids. The shelter has been great in providing free shelter, food, clothing and personal care items. They've assisted with childcare, counseling for you and the children and career casework.

About a month before Christmas, your caseworker asks you to write up a holiday wish-list of things you and your kids most need and want. What would most help in giving you a hand-up? Well, if it were me, I'd want things that would provide some type of financial cushion for when I move out. I'd want gas and oil change gift cards, Wal-Mart and Kroger gift cards, clothing store cards and pharmacy cards. Those items would help me sleep a little easier... on Christmas night.

If you are considering being a donor to Bay Area Turning Point this holiday season, any gift you donate will be appreciated. But for the moment that you close your eyes and try to imagine yourself as a resident of Bay Area Turning Point, think of what items would help you in rebuilding your life.

Thank you and Happy Holidays!



Reminder: Fill your heart and your belly!

Who's cookin' at Bay Area Turning Point? Texas Roadhouse of course! Hand-cut steaks, award winning ribs, fresh-baked bread and made from scratch side items are the standard at Texas Roadhouse. All of their food is created from scratch with only the highest quality and freshest ingredients. They combine large portions and great value to give you Leg-

endary Food at a reasonable price.

Currently, Bay Area Turning Point is selling gift cards to Texas Roadhouse as an agency fundraiser in which BATP receives 10% of total sales. Gift cards are available in increments of \$15.00, \$25.00, and \$50.00. The cards are on sale now through Dec 31st.



Cards make great office gifts and stocking stuffers. Besides, who doesn't like home-style cooking in Texas? Interested in purchasing? Contact Jackie Keys at 281-338-7600 (ext. 2115) or by e-mail at jkeys@bayareaturningpoint.com



Let's all pitch in and help out! Come to Texas Roadhouse on this special night and we'll donate a portion of your sales directly to your organization. **All you have to do is come eat, and you are helping your group!**

**BAY AREA TURNING POINT
FUNDRAISER NIGHT
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 9, 2009**

If anyone brings this flyer in to eat at Texas Roadhouse, Friendswood, **ON THIS NIGHT, 10% of ALL YOUR SALES** go back to your organization! What a great deal!
(If you misplace your flyer, just tell your server.)

18194 Gulf Freeway
(Next to Wal-Mart on El Dorado)
Friendswood, TX. 77546

Call Ahead Seating:
Call an hour before you plan to arrive.
We'll put your name on the waiting list!
281-461-3800