



Organization of Special Needs Families (OSF)
10823 Willowbrook Way
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Holiday Greetings

from

OSF Board of Directors



Wishing you a happy holiday!

Organization of Special Needs Families (OSF)

Newsletter ~ November 2005

Dear friends and families,

I hope you had a nice Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving is one American celebration my immigrant family wholeheartedly adopted and embraced. After all, family togetherness and abundance of great food transcend ethnicity and culture.

This Thanksgiving, I looked into the adorable face of my young daughter, a child with special needs. I thought of things, other than the obvious good fortune of having a lovely and loving family, for which I am thankful.

To start, I am thankful to be surrounded by a cadre of dedicated child development professionals who work hard to strengthen my child's weaker skills. I am thankful for an organization like OSF, offering my family acceptance and friendship, not to mention its array of wonderful programs. I am thankful for living in a community where many of its denizens embrace, include, and enthusiastically support special-needs individuals and their families.

I am thankful that my child, bravely working through her challenges, opened my eyes, mind, and heart to the trials and tribulations of special-needs children and their families. I am thankful that I've become more aware, tolerant, understanding, and appreciative of those who don't fit standard molds. I am thankful that because of her special needs, not in spite of, my feisty child will grow into a wonderfully unique woman with her own special place in the world.

Lastly, I am thankful for given the opportunity to write the OSF newsletters so that Lihuei, OSF's president, constantly offers to buy me lunch in show of her appreciation. For this, my stomach and I are immensely thankful.

Have a safe and joyful time in the upcoming holiday season!

~ Shirley ~

Volunteer Newsletter Editor

OSF 3rd Annual Fundraiser Dinner a Success!

Thanks to our generous supporters and hard-working volunteers, we netted almost \$30,000 from the fundraiser dinner!

Approximately 250 people attended the event. Everyone had a splendid time. The food by Outback Steakhouse was superb. Performances by OSF students were thoroughly precious and often hilarious.

Funds raised help support program operations and development of new programs including integrated pre-school, adult vocational training and day service, community-based supportive housing, and senior care.

Sign-Up for eScrip Now!

Register your debit, ATM and credit cards with eScrip to help support OSF.

Every time you use a registered card at a participating merchant, the merchant makes a money contribution to benefit OSF. Visit www.escrip.com for a list of participating merchants and program details.

To register:

1. Log on to www.escrip.com and go to "sign up".
2. Designate *Organization of Special Needs Families* to receive contributions. Our group ID is 500002623.
3. Register your cards.

Mrs. K Wins "Teacher of the Year" Award

Congratulations to OSF's very own Sudha Krishnan! Mrs. K, as she is affectionately called by her students, was awarded "Teacher of the Year" by the San Andreas Regional Center.

Mrs. K was recognized for exceeding the basic duties of providing education, support, and guidance to students with special needs. She was honored at the Regional Center's "Service Above Self Award" banquet in October.



A true devotee to kids, Mrs. K volunteers as lead special education teacher at OSF and teaches at Cupertino Middle School.

Recycle Printer Cartridges and Cell Phones

Help OSF raise funds *and* protect the environment!

Simply drop your empty printer cartridges and old cell phones off at the collection boxes located at the administration office and at the learning center. OSF sorts them and turns them in to earn cash or products.

The administration office is at 20432 Silverado Ave, #5 in Cupertino. The learning center is at 20920 McClellan Road, also in Cupertino.

