

# Because Every Child Matters

Summer 2012



A Publication of Aviva Children's Services  
Parent Aide, Volunteer, and Parent Support Programs for Child Protective Services

## Urgent Need -- Back to School August 3rd

This abbreviated version of the newsletter is to bring you up to date with our latest news and also to ask for your help with backpacks and school supplies. It is going to be a very short summer for the children in TUSD with the other school districts following right behind. That means Aviva needs to have their backpacks with school supplies even earlier this year in order to get the kids ready before school starts.

Last year we provided over 700 filled backpacks to the children in CPS. This year, with the increase in children coming into the foster system, we expect to have to provide closer to 900. It is very important that all children begin school with the supplies they need and a backpack to carry them in. Please consider making your donation before July 18th if possible, so we can distribute the backpacks on July 20th at our Back to School Event.

Please help with whatever you can. If you can, please post the flyer on the back at church, work or pass it out to your friends. Call 327.6779 or email: [bonnied@avivatucson.org](mailto:bonnied@avivatucson.org) for more information.

Thank you again for all of your support.

## Undies Drive Huge Success!

We want to thank everyone who contributed to the undies drive this year. What a success it was!! So far we have collected 4750 pairs of underwear and socks, and diapers, which is 63% more than collected last year. Those who helped make the difference are: Alliance Bible Church, Aqua Caliente Elementary, Beyond Bread Book Club, Catalina United Methodist Church and Day School, Ott Y Women's Club, Pantano Behavioral Health, St Francis in the Valley, TEP Engineering Department, Tucson Corvette Club and Walgreens.

We also want to thank Sandy Elers, Maricela Olea and Jim Ross. Some of you donated money in order for us to purchase the sizes we run out of fast and we want to thank you too.

Every child deserves new underwear and socks and now they can have them!

## We Are In the Parent Aide Business!

All the waiting is over. After 18 months, Aviva, along with 10 other agencies, was awarded a contract with the state to provide full-service parent aides to the families in Child Protective Services. This means that in addition to our current work supervising visits between the children and their birth parents, we will now have trained staff who will work one-on-one with the parents to help them work their case plans in order to reunify with their children.

This is another way that Aviva can support parents and provide additional resources and services to them so ultimately the children can be back in their own homes. We know from years of research that this is the best outcome for children.

The Parent Aide program gives parents the structure and opportunity to learn new parenting skills, household management, and personal improvement. Children flourish in a healthy, safe environment.

## Aviva Provides Programs for Parents

Along with our expanded Parent Aide Services, we have also partnered with Family Drug Court/Juvenile Court to provide management of the Sober Alumni Program. The group of parents meet twice a month - once a month to work on maintaining their sobriety and to plan a sober, free activity with their children. The second meeting is their outing. Their first was to the Reid Park Zoo and in June they went bowling. Starting in July, Aviva will also offer Zumba exercise classes to both the Sober Alumni and Parent Peer Support Groups.

# BACK TO SCHOOL DRIVE



*Every child should start the new school year  
with the supplies they need!*

Aviva Children's Services is asking you to help children in need  
with the following school supplies:

- new backpacks for all ages
- spiral notebooks
- notebook paper
- pencil pouches/boxes
- 2-pocket folders
- notebooks
- calculators
- color pencils
- crayons
- rulers
- glue sticks
- blunt scissors
- 3-ring binders
- general school supplies

Also needed: gift cards to Payless Shoes, Target, Wal-Mart or JCPennys for shoes, school uniforms, socks and underwear for all ages.

Aviva Children's Services is a local Tucson non-profit agency that provides services and resources to children who are in the care of Child Protective Services and are victims of neglect, abuse and poverty.

