

Vision LITERACY

Partners Creating Opportunities

Tutor and Volunteer Newsletter December 2006

*The staff of Vision Literacy wishes all
tutors and volunteers...*



Happy Holidays!

*We look forward to working
with you in 2007!*

WELCOME, NEW VOLUNTEERS!

Vision Literacy extends a hearty welcome to the following tutors and volunteers who joined us this fall:

Kathleen Campbell, Karelle Cornwell, Kitty Duhamel, Janelle Dumax-Baudron, Lily Laws, Karen Lee, Scott Love, Mike Nalls, Bob O'Casey, Emily O'Connell, Shar Patadia, Joseph Pritikin, Helga Stewart, Jennifer Tero, Simmi Verma.

The generous gift of time offered by these new members of the Vision Literacy team – as well as the ongoing commitment of our current volunteers – will help improve the lives of hundreds of Bay Area citizens in 2007.

Thank you, all, for your commitment to adult literacy!

DONOR CAMPAIGN TAPS BAY AREA GIVING

People across the Bay Area have generously contributed over \$4,000 to Vision Literacy since the November launch of the *2006 Donor Campaign*. The money will be directed towards volunteer training, student instructional materials and books for families with young children.

If you're interested in making a donation to the campaign before the end of the year, you can access our secure donation form by clicking on the "Donate" link in the upper right corner of the Vision Literacy web site (www.visionliteracy.org).

CORRECTIONS LIBRARIANS NEEDED

Vision Literacy Corrections is looking for volunteers to staff the men's and women's libraries at the Elmwood County Correctional Facility in Milpitas. Volunteers would be responsible for shelving books and helping inmates check out reading materials.

A variety of shifts are available during the following hours:

Men's library – Mon.-Fri., 1-4 p.m.

Women's library – Wed., 9-11 a.m.

If you are interested in helping, please contact Sheryl Springer at 408.957.5486 or sspringer@visionliteracy.org.

GOMEZ LEAVES JOB AS LITERACY SPECIALIST

Shannon Gomez, a Vision Literacy employee for the past two years, has left her job as a literacy specialist to accept a full-time position with the Santa Clara County Superior Court. Her last day of work was Dec. 8, 2006.

In her new role as part of an innovative family court program, Gomez will research support services for families struggling with multiple and complex legal and personal issues. The position will allow her to combine her project management experience with her extensive knowledge of county-wide family and youth programs.

While Vision Literacy is sad to lose a dedicated employee and friend, we wish her the best of luck in her new endeavor.

**Tutors: Your feedback is important!
Please remember to mail in your monthly
progress reports by Jan. 3, 2007.
Thank you!**

VISION LITERACY EMPLOYEES WORK TO SHARE "GIFT OF READING"

Vision Literacy has added 3,600 books to its resources, thanks to a dedicated group of employees, volunteers and students who recently participated in the *Gift of Reading* program.



Employees Sheryl Springer, Tim Miller and Judy Walko, volunteers **Emily Day** and

Emily O'Connell, and five students from south county gave their time to help sort children's books donated to the charitable program.

Their efforts were repaid with two generous gifts of books for Vision Literacy programs. The south county office received 700 books, which will be distributed as holiday gifts to the children of Vision

Literacy students. The Elmwood County Correctional Facility received 2,900 children's books, which will be placed in the lobby for inmates' children to read and then take home after visiting incarcerated family members.

The *Gift of Reading Program* is sponsored jointly by the San Jose Mercury News and Kids in Common, and is conducted annually during the holiday season. This year the organization estimates that 72,000 books will be distributed to 48 non-profit agencies throughout the Bay Area.

If you have a question, comment or submission for the newsletter, please contact Kristin Seitz, editor, at 408.262.1349 or kseitz@visionliteracy.org. Next deadline for submissions: Jan. 13, 2007.

VISION LITERACY CELEBRATES THE HOLIDAYS



at a variety of events this month.

Students and their children shared food and fun in the classroom at MACSA

Vision Literacy staff, students and volunteers celebrated the holidays



Students learned about the Henry Huffman program while indulging in holiday treats and games



The Friends of Vision Literacy dined out with community supporters



The Milpitas staff enjoyed lunch together

