



**The DKG California LIFE Foundation Annual Meeting of Members
Virtual Meeting
May 30, 2026
Minutes**

Norms were established prior to starting the meeting:

- Mute yourself unless speaking.
- Place your account on speaker mode so the shared screen can be seen.
- Place comments and questions in the chat and Kimberly Hutchison will monitor the chat.

1. Using the gavel inscribed with the date of April 8, 1999, the date The Chi State DKG LIFE Foundation was officially accepted by the State of California, I, Laura Fujitsubo, DKG California LIFE Foundation Chair, call the 2026 DKG CA Learning Is For Everyone Annual Meeting of Members to order at 11:12 AM.
2. The Annual Meeting of Members is held in accordance with the Bylaws of the LIFE Foundation. The purpose of the Annual Meeting is to report to you, the members of The LIFE Foundation, the status of The Foundation, to elect Board Members and to transact any business that should come before this meeting.
3. Our bylaws state that a quorum is all who are in attendance. Judy Sears, Secretary of the LIFE Board of Directors reported that a quorum exists.
4. On behalf of the LIFE Foundation Board of Directors, Laura Fujitsubo, The LIFE Foundation President, welcomed all to the 27th Annual Meeting of Members.
 - a. LIFE Board of Directors introduced themselves:
 - i. Laura Fujitsubo, Alpha Eta Chapter, Area VI, President
 - ii. Judy Sears, Eta Chapter, Area XI, Secretary
 - iii. Sue Noyes, Beta Lambda, Area 2, Co-treasurer income and expense
 - iv. Donna Chin, Theta Iota Chapter, Area VI, co-treasurer tax ID
 - v. Kimberly Hutchison, Alpha Eta, Area 6, communications chair and Webmaster
 - vi. Lorelie Olaes, Lambda Chapter, Area XI, Liaison Coordinator and Nomination Chair
 - vii. Cathie Lynch, Gamma Nu, Area 2, Fundraising Chair
 - b. Laura welcomed the DKG California Executive Board, committee members, and past LIFE Board members.
5. The members were told that the minutes to the 2025 LIFE Foundation Annual Meeting of Members had been approved by the Board of Directors and were on file at the Education Center and on The LIFE Foundation website. Judy Sears, LIFE Secretary, presented the summary of the minutes from the 2025 Annual Meeting of Members, a motion was made to approve, and the motion carried.
6. Laura gave a president's message

- a. Laura presented the mission of The LIFE Foundation.
 - b. She gave a brief historical overview of the LIFE Foundation
 - c. She thanked donors.
 - d. She gave an overview of LIFE's activities at the North/South Regional Conferences including both Meet-the-Author sessions and the mini-raffles.
 - e. She introduced the new LIFE Logo inspired and created by Toni Cook. The new logo includes the entire name of the foundation and a book with LIFE superimposed on it. The logo was approved by the board of directors.
 - f. Laura introduced the 2026 LIFE Newsletter with a QR code and reference to the LIFE Website where it is posted for all to access.
7. A summary of the 2025 project reports was presented by Donna Chin. Photos were presented of some of the projects.
 - a. Descriptions of these projects can be found in the LIFE Newsletter.
 - b. This is one of the highlights of serving on the Board. We read about the amazing projects and their successes with the children in all regions of the state. The reports tell the LIFE Board the success of each program, how the LIFE grant award was used, and highlights of the project. The Foundation received 20 project reports this year. All reports expressed the success of these projects. LIFE's work is to enable you and educators throughout our state to implement projects that have the potential to transform and empower children.
8. Sue Noyes, LIFE Co-Treasurer of Income and Expenses, presented the financial report.
 - a. Sue stated that The Foundation is in good financial shape.
 - b. To date, The Foundation's income is \$12,500 more than last year.
 - c. We raised \$3588.19 at both North/South Conferences. Thanking all areas for donating baskets and gift cards.
 - d. She gave an overview of the non-program expenses: \$51.15 for postage for grant reviews, \$430.33 for printing of grants and the newsletter, legal fees for submitting forms, and \$100 stipend to the authors which was approved by the board.
 - e. Program expenses included \$22,998.00 for grant payments and Tax ID grant reimbursements.
 - f. She reported that at this point in time The LIFE Foundation's bank balance is \$45,710.20. And the profit/loss shows a positive balance of \$2,498.94 after two years of working at a lo
9. Donna Chin, LIFE Co-Treasurer of Tax ID and Legal, presented a summary of the tax ID use.
 - a. Donna gave an overview of the use of the LIFE Foundation's EIN number by chapters and reiterated the use must be tied to programs related to The LIFE Foundation's mission.
 - b. She reported the income of \$1,395.90 was from two chapters fundraising events (Eta Chi and Delta Iota).
 - c. She reported the reimbursements included \$2255.00 to Gamma Nu for a fundraising event that occurred in the 2024-2025 fiscal year and reimbursement of \$995.70 for Eta Chi and \$410.00 for Delta Iota.
10. Kimberly Hutchison, Communications Chair, read a summary of the donations for the fiscal year while the names of the donors and their remembrances and honorees were displayed on the screen.



- a. The board was profoundly moved by the number of members who have been so touched by Jan to remember her in this way. LIFE received 28 donations from members and three chapters in remembrance of Jan. Jan was a treasured 35 year member of Eta Iota Chapter in Area 16. Know that your donations will assure that Jan and every loved one's legacy will live on in the projects that are being implemented throughout the state both now and for years to come.
11. Cathie Lynch, Fundraising Chair, presented a fundraising report.
 - a. She spoke to the success of the two raffles this year and thanked the areas for their generous contributions. We had 18 prizes in each region.
 - b. Giving Tuesday also a success. She said donations were made directly to the LIFE Foundation and via the collaboration with North State Giving which was in the counties around Area 2. Due to the contributions through North State Giving we received a random prize of \$1,000. She encouraged other chapters to contact her if they'd like to partner with fundraising groups in their part of the state.
12. Lore, Nomination Chair, nominations report
 - a. Presented Ginny Zopolos as a candidate for the LIFE Board
 - b. Asked for additional nominees
 - c. Presented a motion to approve the election of Ginny Zopolos as a new member of the LIFE Board of Directors this May 30, 2026 to begin her term on July 1, 2026. The motion was seconded and approved using a QR code connected to a Google Form. 100% of the votes approved the motion. Lore then welcomed Ginny to the Board.
13. Lore, Liaison Coordinator, presented an update on Area Liaisons
14. Sue Noyes gave an overview of the LIFE Grant applications and awards for the year. The names of the recipients were displayed on the screen.
 - a. This year we received 31 grant applications from 14 different areas. We approved funding for 30 grants for a total of \$22,998. Of those grants 16 were given in the north region and 14 in the south.
 - b. Nothing makes us happier than being able to give awards to support these amazing projects. One of the deciding factors in funding a grant is if the project meets the mission of The LIFE Foundation. Following the review of all applications, we decide which projects to fund. We must then decide the amount to grant. The budget is a very important part of the application process. First, with the input of the treasurer, we determine the total amount we will be able to use to fund all the grants. This year we set the limit at \$23,000. Next we look at the budget of each project. Funds are to be used directly to support learning and literacy of children. We avoid funding general supplies, consumables or professional development.
15. Closing
 - a. Laura asked Kimberly if there were questions from the chat that needed to be addressed:
 - i. Question: what was the total income from Giving Tuesday this year? Answer: \$7,5535.00
 - ii. Comment: some people needed more time to vote. Suggestion putting the URL in the comments.
 - iii. Question the validity of the vote due to above. Answer: Since the results were 100% approved and our bylaws state those in attendance is a quorum, the results stand.
 - iv. Question: if someone hasn't received their grant check, what should they do? Answer: Email us at tolife@lifedkgca.org.
 - v. Suggestion to have a line item in the budget for Giving Tuesday.
 - vi. Reported many positive comments in the chat.

- b. 2026 Newsletter can be found on The LIFE Foundation website.
 - c. Next Annual Meeting of Members at the 2027 DKG CA Convention.
 - d. Reminder that Giving Tuesday is December 1 this year.
 - e. Reminder that LIFE Grant applications are due March 1st.
 - f. Thank you for attending.
16. The 2026 Annual Meeting of Members of the DKG California State LIFE Foundation was adjourned at 11:53 AM.

Judy Sears, LIFE Secretary

Laura Fujitsubo, LIFE President