



The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

# LIFE Newsletter

THE CHI STATE LEARNING IS FOR EVERYONE FOUNDATION

808 University Avenue  
Sacramento, CA 95823-6723

*The mission of The Chi State Learning Is For Everyone Foundation is to promote and support special projects related to learning and literacy within the State of California.*

## Message From LIFE President

I believe The Chi State Learning Is For Everyone Foundation is a gem and a gift to DKG California and the children of California. The founders of this Foundation had an inspired vision that the board of directors is determined to continue. The Foundation's sole purpose is to fund literacy and learning projects throughout our great state. LIFE truly is wonderful! To do this we need three things: projects to fund, money, and people willing to do the work and spread the word.

The word is out, and the need is great! This year we received 38 grant applications from 15 out of 18 DKG California areas including applications from 8 non-members. The applications requested a total of \$38,371. Wow! This number far exceeded our bank account. We were able to partially fund 30 of these grants for a total of \$15,561. Please see Robin's financial report on page 6.

We are grateful for the support of our DKG California sisters. LIFE only income is through donations and fundraising. Without your support, there would be no LIFE. It is with great pride that we receive donations from individuals, chapters and areas and particularly note those in honor of people who have touched the lives of so many in our organization (listed on page 6).

Fundraising is a necessary fact of LIFE. We are always looking for new ideas to raise money for LIFE grant awards. This year we were able to again offer a vacation experience due to a generous donation from Donna Fleischer and her family. Newport Beach Vacation Raffle tickets can be purchased during convention, and the winner will be announced Sunday morning. Additionally, thank you all in advance for your support of our convention raffle. You too might be a winner!

But it's all about the people, right? I work with an amazing group of women on the LIFE board of directors. Each has been touched by the Foundation's mission and is willing to put in work toward that end. If you are so touched, please read the message from our nomination's chair, Jeannine Mendoza, and join us on the board.

Yes, LIFE is wonderful,  
*Laura Fujitsubo*  
President of The LIFE Foundation

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| <p><b>LIFE</b><br/><b>Board of Directors</b><br/><b>2022-2023</b></p>                           |  |
| <p><b>Laura Fujitsubo</b><br/>President</p>   |  |
| <p><b>Robin Kelly</b><br/>Treasurer</p>   |  |
| <p><b>Lorelie Olaes</b><br/>Secretary<br/>Liaison Coordinator</p>                               |  |
| <p><b>Jeannine Mendoza</b><br/>Nominations</p>  |  |
| <p><b>Open</b><br/>Raffle Chair</p>   |  |
| <p><b>Kimberly Hutchison</b><br/>Webmaster</p>  |  |
| <p><b>Members:</b><br/><b>Carole Seedman</b><br/><b>Janice Gonder</b><br/><b>Donna Chin</b></p> |  |

# Examples of Grant Reports for 2022-2023

## Harry Potter Unit

Lea Van Diepen, Beta Delta, Area 10 received a LIFE Grant to support her interactive Harry Potter Unit with her 6<sup>th</sup> grade students. The students were able to use Harry Potter glasses, sorting hats, and magic wands to heighten their engagement with the reading project. The grant funds were also used to purchase Harry Potter books and unit lesson plans.



## Sponsor-A-Class

Natalie Kidder from Solano County received a LIFE grant to help support her Sponsor-A-Class program. This program supplies books to Transitional Kindergarten teachers and students in Title 1 Schools. One teacher reported, “Parents have expressed their gratitude for helping their child appreciate reading and storytelling.” This teacher also said, “I love that the books provided help start a love of reading and many students also end up getting their library card, too.”



## Audio Books, An Alternate Path to Reading and Literacy

Shelly Fleming, Eta Chi, Area X, received a LIFE grant to build an audio book library in two Poway School District schools. Some testimonials from students say it all, but it boils down to one third grader who said, “I really like audiobooks. They help me read the books.” Many Special Education Teachers agree.



## Little Libraries

Margaret Rodrigues and Gamma Alpha, Area V, bought books for the chapter's Little Library Project. The Chapter has four Little Libraries near low-income housing in the Morgan Hill community. Gamma Alpha members monitor and restock the libraries weekly to restock the libraries. Many of the books are bilingual.



## Lobby Literacy Plus

Gamma Chi in Area 16 received a LIFE grant and provided books for children of single parents attending Cuyamaca Community College. Several books were English/Arabic bilingual classic books. The parents reported these books helped them improve their own English reading skills.



## Literacy for All

Erika Cantrell, Beta Omicron, Area XII, received a grant and she created differentiated book bags filled for students from her Title 1 school for summer reading. She filled the bags with books a stuffed animal depicting a character from the story and a journal. She received many notes from parents saying how thankful they were and how excited their child was to receive the book bags.



## Family Engagement

Kristen Silverbush, Epsilon Chi, Area VI, received a LIFE grant to build bookbags for her students to take home and share with their families. Participation exceeded her initial expectation.



## The LIFE Foundation Grant Awards 2023

- Christal Marshall, non-member, Ventura, Word Game Club
- Mean Hockett, Alpha Alpha, Area 7, Learn to be Literate
- Melanie Miller, Theta Eta, Area 16, Books for Babes and Siblings
- Abigail Deming, Kappa Beta, Area 15, Triple E Reader
- Margaret Rodrigues, Gamma Alpha, Area 5, Little Free Libraries
- Doris Christopher, Gamma Chi, Area 16, Lobby Literacy Plus
- Carol Galvez, Beta Lambda, Area 2, Serff and Community Wide Book in Common
- Lynette Lange, Delta Iota, Area 10, Once Upon a Lap
- Kristen Silverbush, Epsilon Chi, Area 6, Family Engagement
- Kristy Powell, Iota Gamma, Area 6, Raptor Willy Reader Program
- Teri Ralston, Beta Alpha, Area 2, Books for Kids
- Sarah Elder, non-member, Placerville, Learning Activities Center
- Suzette Vieira, non-member, Placerville, Making Letters Come Alive
- Natalie Kidder, non-member, Benicia, Sponsor-A-Classroom
- Dee Cavenee, Gamma Epsilon, Area 14, Bag of Books
- Gloria Sanchez, Kappa Delta, Area 18, Summer 2023 Book Donation
- Patricia Logan, Alpha Epsilon, Area 17, Bring Your Own Book
- Grace Hu, Zeta Nu, Area 8, Youth Muze Free Music Education Program
- Nuvia Alvarez Epsilon Epsilon, Area 9, Let's Read in Spanish
- Ellen Owens, Delta Mu, Area 18, After School Reading project
- Rozanne Child, Omicron, Area 13, Learning Kits on the Go
- Monique Blain, Alpha Alpha, Area 7, Tiger's Corner
- Claudia Sholl, Alpha Alpha, Area 7, Talk about Take Home Books
- Janet Tarjan, Alpha Alpha, Area 7, Books and School Supplies
- Michelle Olinger, non-member, Bakersfield, For the Love of Books
- Nicole Bandy, Delta Xi, Area 6, Power Up!
- Nancy Rogers-Zegarra, Eta Upsilon, Area 1, Share the Joy of Reading



## 2022-2023 Donations

Beta Omicron honors Dr. Margaret Armstrong's 50th Wedding Anniversary

Letty Yamada in memory of Rose Fucile

Alpha Gamma Dissolution in memory of Harriet Arnold

Beta Epsilon in memory of Joanne Bailey and Bea Wojtyla

Zeta Zeta in memory of Marilyn Steichen and Peggy Ebersole

Gloria Bracco in memory of Mercedes Hart

Epsilon Beta in memory of Gene Patterson

Sandra Bell in honor of her Beta Delta Sisters

Mary Marchi in memory of Margaret Cook and Margaret Manning

Mary Marchi in honor of Nancy Henderson, Nancy Howe and Teresa Bennett

Alpha Sigma in memory of Margie Curletti

Micky Miyamoto in memory of Dorothy Becker's sister, Frances

Beta Delta in memory of Mary Ellen Jones

Patricia Feist in memory of Mary Ellen Jones

Hazel Powell in memory of Joey Bear and Joan Jurickovich

Leslie Mason in memory of Joey Bear and Joan Jurickovich

Glenda Hastings in memory of Joey Bear

Gamma Epsilon in memory of Jeanette Solomon

Alpha Kappa in memory of Lynn Duniway

### **Chapter Donors:**

Alpha Eta

Gamma Epsilon

Epsilon Phi

Zeta Kappa

Gamma Alpha

Zeta Sigma

### **Individual Donors:**

Toni Cook

Laura Fujitsubo

Kathleen Ellis

Robin Kelley

Donna Fleischer

Ellen Owens

### **DKG California Committee Donor:**

Bylaws Committee

Thank you to all who were able to give so generously. You make LIFE possible.



## Message from LIFE's Liaison Coordinator

The Chi State LIFE Foundation Area Liaison Network is being re-established to strengthen LIFE's ability to inform all DKG California members and friends about:

- LIFE grant application process
- Joining the LIFE Board of Directors
- Ongoing fundraising efforts
- LIFE Foundation business

The Foundation has chosen to use Area Liaisons instead of Area Directors for disseminating information about LIFE because Area Directors change every two years and our hope is that Area Liaisons will be LIFE's area contact for longer periods.

Thank you to Area Directors and their leader Charlotte Wilmeth-Street for supporting us in this effort. We have received the names of Area Liaison's from six areas (areas 6, 8, 11, 13, 14, and 18). If your area isn't listed and you'd like to learn more and support LIFE, please contact your area director about volunteering. As an Area Liaison to the LIFE Foundation you will receive periodic information via email from LIFE's Liaison Coordinator for you to distribute to chapter presidents in your area and at your area events.

Thank you from LIFE,  
Lore Olaes  
LIFE Foundation Liaison Coordinator

## LIFE Needs You

We are looking for new members of the LIFE Board of Directors. If you are drawn to a non-profit organization that supports literacy projects developed by teachers and DKG California Chapters throughout California, please consider joining the LIFE board. The time commitment varies, but the LIFE raffle at California State DKG Convention is our biggest in person time commitment. Otherwise, Zoom meetings have been essential for the Foundation since our board members live throughout California. If you have any questions, please contact the LIFE Nominations Chair, Jeannine Mendoza, at [jmend90291@aol.com](mailto:jmend90291@aol.com) or ask any LIFE board member for information.

Our most urgent need is for a treasurer. Robin Kelley will be leaving the board next year. She would like to train her replacement this year.

Applications and nominations are usually due March 15, 2022, but nominations are accepted throughout the year. Most board members nominate themselves. Nominations forms are available on The LIFE Foundation webpage: [www.dkgca.org/thelifefoundation.html](http://www.dkgca.org/thelifefoundation.html) or the LIFE link on the dkgca.org website and can be submitted on line.

Jeannine Mendoza  
LIFE Foundation Nomination's Chair

| <b>2019-2023 PROFIT AND LOSS SUMMARY REPORT</b> |                      |                      |                      |                       |                      |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
|   | 2019-2020<br>Actuals | 2020-2021<br>Actuals | 2021-2022<br>Actuals | Proposed<br>2022-2023 | Actuals<br>2022-2023 |
| <b>INCOME</b>                                   |                      |                      |                      |                       |                      |
| Donations                                       | \$5,108.17           | \$9,419.89           | \$10,757.88          |                       | \$2,670.73           |
| Raffle at Conv.                                 | \$4,743.03           |                      | \$3,872.67           |                       |                      |
| Fundraising                                     | \$910.00             |                      | \$2,754.37           |                       | \$1,030.00           |
| Amazon Smile                                    | \$139.89             | \$59.63              | \$367.87             |                       | \$149.07             |
| Other   |                      | \$63.93              |                      |                       |                      |
| <b>TOTAL INCOME</b>                             | <b>\$10,901.09</b>   | <b>\$9,543.45</b>    | <b>\$17,752.79</b>   |                       | <b>\$3,849.80</b>    |
| <b>EXPENSES</b>                                 |                      |                      |                      |                       |                      |
| Hotel   | \$683.99             |                      | \$224.91             | \$3,000.00            | \$445.00             |
| Travel  | \$444.30             |                      |                      | \$1,000.00            |                      |
| Postage   |                      | \$110.00             | \$65.40              | \$150.00              |                      |
| Printing  | \$189.70             |                      | \$978.58             | \$1,000.00            |                      |
| Supplies  | \$200.99             |                      |                      | \$100.00              |                      |
| Raffle  |                      |                      |                      | \$100.00              |                      |
| Technology                                      |                      |                      |                      | \$250.00              |                      |
| Legal Fees                                      | \$20.00              | \$20.00              | \$105.00             | \$100.00              | \$30.00              |
| Miscellaneous                                   | \$247.96             |                      |                      | \$250.00              | \$85.00              |
| Audit   |                      |                      |                      | \$100.00              |                      |
| Total Operating Expenses                        | \$1,786.94           |                      | \$1,373.89           | \$6,050.00            | \$560.00             |
| <b>GRANTS</b>                                   | <b>\$12,746.00</b>   | <b>\$6,837.00</b>    | <b>\$17,267.00</b>   |                       | <b>\$15,561.00</b>   |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>                           | <b>\$14,532.94</b>   | <b>\$6,967.00</b>    | <b>\$18,640.89</b>   | <b>\$6,050.00</b>     | <b>\$16,681.00</b>   |
| <b>NET INCOME</b>                               | <b>(\$3,631.85)</b>  | <b>\$2,576.45</b>    | <b>(\$888.10)</b>    | <b>(\$6,050.00)</b>   | <b>(\$12,831.20)</b> |
| Bank Balance                                    | 24,125.03            | 25,701.48            | 27,185.70            |                       | \$13,009.38*         |

\*Balance after 2023 grants, but before convention income and expenses.

This table shows a comparison of this year with the last three years. As you can see, from line 1, our individual, chapter, and area donations have dropped this year compared to the last three years. Our income from the raffle (line2) is still pending but usually around \$4,000. Line 4, our Amazon Smile income, will no longer be available as the program was discontinued by Amazon.

Expenses for the LIFE Foundation vary greatly. The Foundation’s operating expenses historically have been very low due to the generosity of the board members. We cannot expect this to continue. We have anticipated expenses of \$6,050 this year. We are making some changes to reduce operating expenses like using the QR code for members to access our newsletter as printing is a large expense. Most expenses occur during convention and are not reported as of this publication date.

The LIFE Foundation was able to fund \$15,561.00 in grants this year and we will be able to meet our financial obligations due to carry-over from last year.

-Robin Kelley, LIFE Foundation Treasurer



**START THINKING ABOUT WHAT LITERACY PROJECTS YOU WANT TO DO FOR YOUR CLASS, SCHOOL OR COMMUNITY NOW!**

The LIFE Foundation is so proud to be able to support learning and literacy projects throughout California. Applications and instructions can be found at [dkgca.org/LIFE](http://dkgca.org/LIFE).

Grants for 2024-2025 are due March 1, 2024.

Please note – Follow the instructions for completing the application carefully. Not only include a description of your project but also an **anticipated budget** and an explanation of the how the anticipated LIFE grant funds will be spent. The LIFE board looks forward to hearing from you about your literacy project!

