

DEAR FRIEND OF CIRCLE OF CONCERN,



I want to thank each and every one of you who have given to COC with your time, your generosity and your prayers. Since my dad, George, has slowed down a bit and turned the running of COC over to me, it's allowed the opportunity to assess the needs of the COC organization, and realize what I can and can't do, alongside being a full time pastor, father and spouse.

With that realization, I'm happy to announce that as of June 1, Carol DeGraff is the COC Executive Director. Many of you know Carol as George's right hand for years. She knows COC inside and out and will be able to oversee the day-to-day operations, as well as continue to lead COC in its mission – to serve the poor, widows, orphans, abused and needy children through financial help, as well as local outreach and short term missions. I will still be very much involved, particularly in leading the outreaches and giving direction to COC's future.

We've got some exciting plans for this year and believe we will, along with your help, make a difference in the lives of many people. Check out our outreach opportunities on the back of the newsletter... I hope you can join us for one or more!

AUGUST 14TH – an evening at Heritage Church in San Clemente, CA. We will celebrate and honor my mom and dad in all the work they have done since starting COC almost 30 years ago. You will get an official invitation in the mail from Carol in the next few weeks. I hope you can join us for this very special evening.

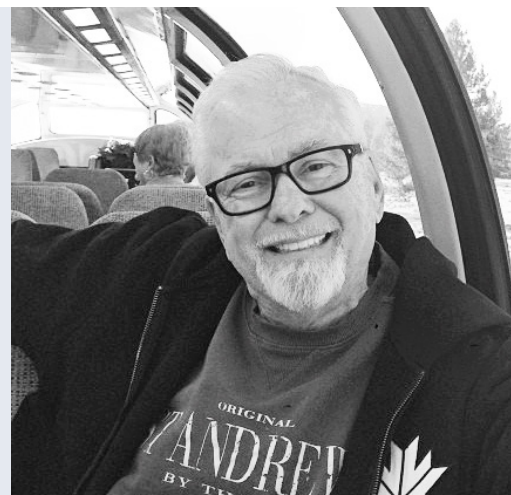
With deep gratitude,
Eric Wakeling

FROM THE FOUNDER

Dear friend,

When Betty and I first started Circle of Concern, I never dreamed of all it would do in almost 30 years. Countless trips to Mexico where thousands have been helped, multiple church plants started, and lifelong friendships gained. And it's not over yet! Thank you for your part in making it all reality. I love helping people and I love serving God. I can't wait until our next Park Outreach in July where I get to see some of you do ministry and just love people in Jesus name. It's all worth it!

George
george@circleoc.com



WE'VE MOVED!

Please note our new address:
Circle of Concern
PO Box 6592
Oceanside, CA 92052-6592
949-388-6400

OUR WEBSITE IS UPDATED AND NEW!

Check it out at
CIRCLEOC.COM

SUPPORT OUR THRIFT STORE

Donate your used clothing and household items. **Call 1-800-499-5121** to see if we pick up in your city.

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT : NINA DREYER



For those of you who don't know her, let me introduce Nina Dreyer, an amazing woman who has been on almost every one of our COC outreaches. She heads up our vision clinic, and has such care and concern for every person she sees. Here's her recount from our January park outreach in Oceanside, CA. -- Carol DeGraff

Pastor Dey from New Song Espanol had prepared well for us: there were tables for immigration help, face painting for the kids, music, food, and a warm welcome for those of us coming with Circle of Concern.

I run the Vision Clinic where we offer reading glasses and sun glasses to adults in need. We test their eyes with the instruments we have in order to help the adults get the best strength of diopter for their need. We typically use a Santa Biblia as literature they can read from as they seek to find the perfect fit. And we are able to offer them the Bible to take with them as well. The people we serve are always so grateful.

When their physical needs are taken care of, we feel free to offer to meet their spiritual needs through our offer of prayer for any need they may have. When asked this question, they stop for a moment and look into our eyes. Are we genuine? They look for reality. We are there for them. Typically, they always ask for prayer for their families, a universal need.

At the January outreach, there were two prayer experiences that stood out among the rest. One lady explained that her husband was stuck in Mexico and she was living here in the States with two of their three sons. She explained the reasons why she couldn't see him because she may not have been able to get back in to the United States to be a mom to the two sons currently living with her. She was crying while explaining her plight. Honestly, the situation had no answers but we did bring her needs to the Lord. Through a translator we were able to lift up her situation through all our tears. I will never know the how things worked out for her and her dear family, but we do know that our prayers were heard as we felt the Presence in our midst. As she looked up after our prayer time, she had peace and gratitude in her eyes. He is our Answered Prayer. And she knew His Peace.

The second experience was for a lady who requested prayer for her brother. He was addicted to drugs and needed help. We prayed and then we were able to offer her an opportunity for her brother. We made a couple of phone calls and arranged a place for him at a Christian men's rehab if he could get there. I spoke with her on the phone a couple of times after our initial outreach. He was on his way. -- Nina Dreyer

CAN YOU JOIN US?

Email carol@circleoc.com if you're interested in joining any of these outreach opportunities.

PARK OUTREACH

July 9, 2016

10:30am - 3:00pm

Libby Lake Park • **OCEANSIDE**

The outreach we did here in January 2016 saw 450 people attend, and at least four came to Christ. It also connected people to New Song Espanol, a growing Spanish speaking congregation in Oceanside.

LA PUERTA CHURCH

September 17, 2016

3:00 - 6:00pm

KidWorks Donahue Center
1902 W Chestnut Ave • **SANTA ANA**

Last year we helped La Puerta Church, a new church plant in a Hispanic neighborhood in Santa Ana. The congregation is now 50 strong, and we want to partner alongside them again to bring awareness to the community.

MEXICO MINISTRY TRIP

SAVE THE DATE!

December 28-31, 2016

Vincente Guerrero • **BAJA**

Circle of Concern, together with Kids Around the World, will be driving down together and building a playground, interacting with the local community, and working at the mission/orphanage that we are staying at. Space is limited.

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Visit us online at circleoc.com