



Salinas Circle for Children

June 2011 Newsletter

One in six children have a developmental disability

The number of children with developmental disabilities has increased by 17% in 12 years, driven largely by big jumps in diagnoses for autism and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, research shows.

More than 15% of school-age kids — about 10 million children — had a developmental disability in 2006-08, according to a study released Monday in the journal *Pediatrics*. That's up from 12.8% in 1997-99.

The study suggests that three or four children in a typical elementary school classroom have development disabilities. Some of the increase may be the result of the rise in premature birth, which leaves some babies with lasting impairments, says study author Sheree Boulet of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. One in eight babies today are born prematurely, according to the [March of Dimes](#).

In the past, many children who had problems learning or talking would have been dismissed as odd, says Alison Schonwald of Children's Hospital Boston. Today, these children are more likely to be diagnosed with a problem. Parents may push for an official diagnosis so their children can receive medication, special education or other services, says Schonwald, who wasn't involved in the new study.

"It's great to diagnose them early, so we can intervene early and help them reach their full potential." Though the high rate of disability is

sobering, she says, "it's much more daunting to think of the number of adults out there who have never been identified and served."

Others say the study underestimates the number of kids with developmental disabilities. Many kids with learning disabilities, for example, aren't diagnosed until they're 11 or 12, says Neal Halfon of the University of California-Los Angeles. So the new study, which included kids ages 3 to 17, may have missed some of them, he says. Halfon notes that schools have a disincentive to test kids for learning problems, because a diagnosis would require them to pay for special ed.

And some, such as Philip Landrigan of the Mount Sinai School of Medicine, say improvements in screening and diagnosis can't completely explain the increase. Landrigan says research suggests that environmental chemicals, such as pesticides and the phthalates found in many soft plastics and cosmetics, can affect children's development.

The study also underscores the need to help parents and teachers of disabled students, says pediatrician Nancy Murphy of the University of Utah School of Medicine, who wasn't involved in the study.

"We need to have better resources to take better care of these kids," she says.

By **Liz Szabo**, USA TODAY 5/32/2011

****President's Message****

It's June already! I'm not only surprised at how fast this school year has gone by but also that we are already halfway through 2011. Already...really?? Time really flies.

As I write this message, I'm preparing for the end of my school year by creating memory books for my students. It makes me think of the memories that I have made while a member of Salinas Circle for Children. It is hard to believe that I've already been a member for 4 years.

Working along side of the membership I've learned something new about this organization and myself each year. Leadership, communication skills, team building and patience are just a few of the things that come to mind. This year alone, Salinas Circle has already undertaken a tremendous amount of work. Some of it includes; AT&T's Birdies for Charity and Shootout, Girls Night Out, Celebrate Mama and more. My fondest memory was our 1st Annual Bowl for a Cause at Valley Bowl. It was such an feeling of accomplishment to bring together Salinas Circle, families, teachers, typical children and children with disabilities for a fun afternoon of bowling. I smile thinking about these memories.

I am also excited about of all the wonderful memories we will make together in the future. Coming up this month is the Alumni Luncheon on June 25th at Salinas Golf and Country Club to celebrate Salinas Circle's members, past and present. It will be an honor to speak with the ladies that have paved the way to bring us to where the organization is now. We are gearing up for this year's Annual Event, Hula for Moola, and can't wait to see the possibilities that it will bring.

All these memories are because of you! Members, supporters, special needs professionals, teachers and students! How can we continue our mission without all of you wonderful people? My memories help me look at Salinas Circle's accomplishments. Because of the hard work our members and supporters have put in, we are about to grant over \$25,000 to programs for and families with children with special needs. How awesome is that?

It's truly amazing that a small group of women, all volunteers who donate their time, makes such a difference in our community. How can we do more? We can spread the word about Salinas Circle for Children. Tell everyone you know who we are and what we do. The more people that know about and help us with our mission, the more children we can help.

Smiles,

Kelli



*******Meeting Notice*******

TUESDAY, JUNE 7TH

6:00pm for social/food & 6:30 for meeting

Elaine Hunt's house: 20275 Franciscan Circle

Directions to meeting place:

From Highway 68 take Portola Drive exit. Go right on Portola (crossing frontage road) and then make an immediate left onto Franciscan Way. Go about ½ mile, take 2 left on Franciscan Circle. The house is at the end of the cul-de-sac.

Call 455-0551 if you can't find the house.



JUNE

*******Happy Birthday*******

Ruthann Schuler & Kathy Hicks



******Special Activity******

Salinas Circle for Children

Alumni



Luncheon

*Come Celebrate OUR
45 Years of Giving*

June 25, 2011

12:30 p.m.

Salinas Golf & Country Club
475 San Juan Grade Road, Salinas

RSVP by June 12th

For more information, please call (831) 424-7232

*** Just for Fun ***

Bottle of Wine

A woman and a man are involved in a car accident on a snowy, cold Monday morning; it's a bad one. Both of their cars are totally demolished, but amazingly neither of them is hurt. God works in mysterious ways. After they crawl out of their cars, the man is yelling about women driver.

The woman says, "So you're a man. That's interesting. I'm a woman. Wow, just look at our cars! There's nothing left, but we're unhurt. This must be a sign from God that we should be friends and live in peace for the rest of our days."

Flattered, the man replies, "Oh yes, I agree completely, this must be a sign from God! But you're still at fault...woman shouldn't be allowed to drive."

The woman continues, "And look at this, here's another miracle. My car is completely demolished, but this bottle of wine didn't break. Surely God wants us to drink this wine and celebrate our good fortune." She hands the bottle to the man.

The man nods his head in agreement, open it, drinks half the bottle, and hands it back to the woman.

The woman takes the bottle, puts the cap on it, and hands it back to the man.

The man asks, "Aren't you having any?"

The woman replies, "Nope, I think I'll just wait for the police...."

Prank

At a high school in Montana, a group of students played a prank. They let three goats loose in the school.

But, before turning them loose, they painted numbers on the sides of the goats: 1, 2, and 4.

School administrators spent most of the day looking for No. 3.

Now that's funny...

What Love Means to Kids...

A group of teachers posed this question to some 4- to 8-year-olds: "What does love mean?" The answers they got were broader and deeper than anyone could have imagined. See what you think:

"When someone loves you, the way they say your name is different. You just know that your name is safe in their mouth." Billy, age 4

"Love is when a girl puts on perfume and a boy puts on shaving cologne and they go out and smell each other." Karl, age 5

"Love is when you go out to eat and give somebody most of your French fries without making them give you any of theirs." Chrissy, age 6

"Love is what makes you smile when you're tired." Terri, age 4

"Love is when my mommy makes coffee for my daddy and she takes a sip before giving it to him, to make sure the taste is OK." Danny, age 7

"Love is when you tell a boy you like his shirt, then he wears it every day." Sarah, age 7

"Love is when Mommy gives Daddy the best piece of chicken." Elaine, age 5

"Love is when your puppy licks your face even after you left him alone all day." Mary Ann, age 4

"I know my older sister loves me because she gives me all her old clothes and has to go out and buy new ones." Lauren, age 4

"You really shouldn't say 'I love you' unless you mean it. But if you mean it, you should say it a lot. People forget." Jessica, age 8

Thanks to www.foolishtimes.net for these "Just for Fun" tidbits.

Hostesses for 2011 Meetings

June	M.J. & Alethea	Elaine Hunt's home
July:	Summer Social	Teresa Slaton's home
August:	Pre-event, details to follow	Kathy Hemenway's home
September:	volunteers needed	Elaine Hunt's home
October:	Trish & Vickie	Alethea Leandro-Farr's home
November:	Carolyn & Elaine	TBD
December:	Holiday Party/Installation of Officers, suggestions welcome	



June 2011

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Salinas Circle for Children

The purpose of the Salinas Circle for Children is to raise and provide funds, and to perform needed services, to assist children with physical, developmental, and emotional needs in Monterey County.

Our mission is to provide the tools and support needed so they may thrive in their living and learning environments.



2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Salinas Circle for Children is looking for fun-loving, hard-working volunteers to help us in fulfilling our mission.

Please come and see how you can assist us in helping the children with special needs of Monterey County.

If not you.....then who?