



PENINSULA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

A "Summer of Hope" for East Palo Alto

The children of East Palo Alto are getting some extra attention this summer, thanks to a collaborative new effort we call the "Summer of Hope." The Cities of Palo Alto, East Palo Alto and Menlo Park, the Ravenswood City School District, nonprofit organizations, the Peninsula Community Foundation and other Bay Area funders have joined together to support educational and recreational programs for over 1000 children and youth in East Palo Alto.

The Peninsula Community Foundation is proud to have spear-

headed this effort, and is now serving as the fiscal and grantmaking administrator for the project.

Officially known as the Rainbow Summer Program of 1993, this effort is vital to East Palo Alto. This year, after losing so many of its children to drugs and violence and being named the murder capital of the nation, the city is bouncing back. The community is responding to this drive for renewal with financial and moral support. Thanks to the generosity of local funders and the Peninsula Community Foundation's donor advisors, we have already met our original goal of raising \$195,000.

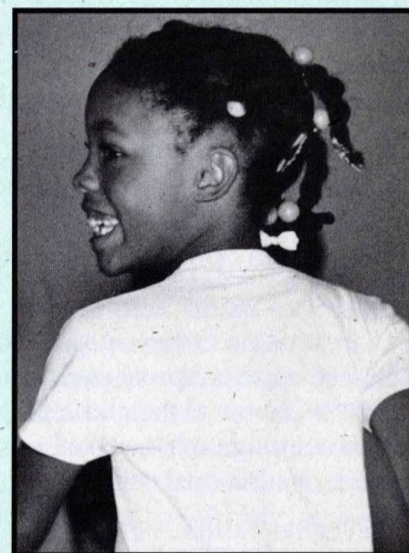


Photo by: Warren Hukill

A dancer delights in learning new steps in the performing arts workshop.



Photo by: Warren Hukill

Three eager students get help from a Summer of Hope recreation leader.

The "Summer of Hope" is already making a difference. One father noted that he wouldn't let his children out of the yard last year because of the threat of violence. This year, they are out in Bell Street Park's recreation program every day. Here is a sampling of other programs that are serving East Palo Alto's children:

◆ **The Rainbow Summer Camp** offers an alternative to the streets through a drop-in playground and recreation center, and overnight camping trips.

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◆ **Sports Camps** offer children the opportunity to learn and play volleyball, baseball, basketball, tennis and soccer.

◆ **The Children's Preservation Network** is giving 55 children the chance to take up to 20 field trips to different communities in the Bay Area through the Great Excursions Summer Program.

◆ Over 100 young adults will be out on the courts with the **Midnight Basketball League**.

◆ The **Summer Jobs Wage Enhancement Program** provides youth working throughout East Palo Alto an opportunity to work at an above-minimum wage job.

In addition to these programs, a host of other nonprofit organizations will expand their current summer programs to serve hundreds of additional children.

Yet the "Summer of Hope" won't affect just children. The City of East Palo Alto will be taking advantage of increased police protection and the support of neighboring cities to clean up and take back community parks, schools and neighborhoods from drug dealers and violence peddlers, and return them to families and the community.

"Summer of Hope" represents an exciting new venture for the Foundation. Over the last year, we have been one of the organizations that has brought together nonprofit organizations and local foundations and corporations to explore strategies that would benefit the



Photo by: Warren Hukill

Athletes and a friend in the middle of a busy day.

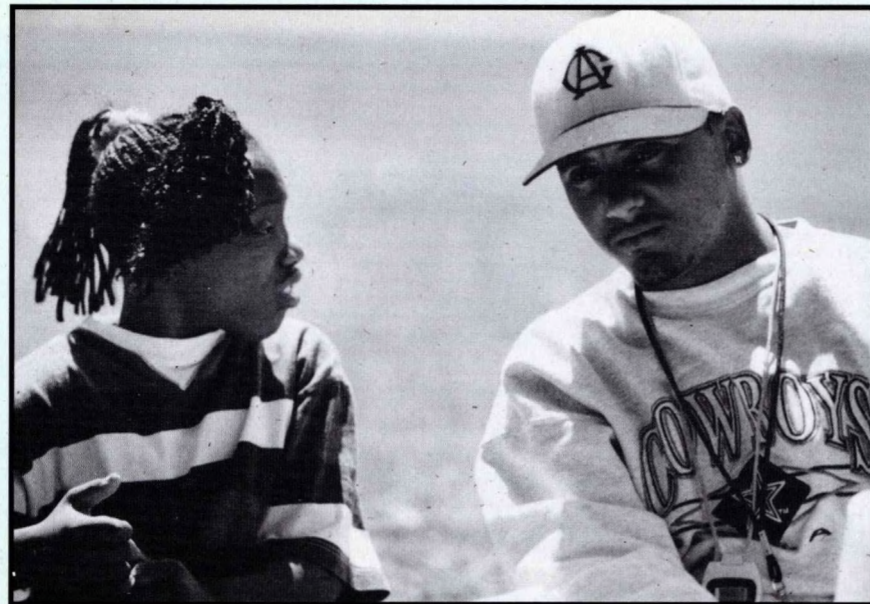


Photo by: Warren Hukill

A reflective moment on the playing field.



Photo by: Warren Hukill

community. This "Dialogue Group," as it came to be called, has served as a forum for sharing information and promoting understanding among the participating organizations. Together, this group, working with city officials, resolved to provide valuable activities to the thousands of children in East Palo Alto this summer.

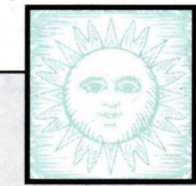
With the promise of continuing the "Dialogue Group," we can be assured that the programs and success of this summer will continue far into the future. ◆

At left: A young goalie stands ready, enjoying her summer sports camp.

Below: A jubilant conductor gets the attention of her choir.



Photo by: Warren Hukill



DONORS TO THE "SUMMER OF HOPE"

Individuals

- Anonymous
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