



Kinship Center's Nancy Murphy Receives Non-Profit Alliance of Monterey County's Leadership Award

Salinas, CA; December 5, 2014... Nancy Murphy, Kinship Center's Director of Placement Programs for Northern California, has been recognized with a Leadership Award by the Non-Profit Alliance of Monterey County (NAMC). The award was presented at NAMC's 10th anniversary and non-profit awards celebration this week.

Kinship Center celebrated its 30th anniversary this year and Nancy Murphy has been a constant, reliable leader and team member since the organization's earliest stage. Joining Kinship Center in 1985, she performed admirably as a dedicated social worker in the early years, which ties to her leadership style today. Nancy still works cases and handles whatever is needed to expedite positive outcomes for children/families. She leads by example, gets involved and does what's best for children.

"I want to thank NAMC and my colleagues for this recognition," said Nancy Murphy. "It has been a work of love. I also want to recognize the families to who step up to meet the needs of our beautiful youngsters. They are amazing and we've been able to finalize more than 100 children's adoptions in each of the past two years with these loving families. I also want to thank my own family for being so supportive."

In her leadership role, Nancy manages 10 social workers and has helped expand foster care and adoption programs to serve families in six counties, including children and families in Monterey County. She's developed an excellent working relationship with the Family and Children's Services Branch of Monterey County Department of Social Services to support the agency's critical efforts in the region. This includes implementing adoption home studies among other important needs like collaborative training and support groups. Partnering with Monterey County has been instrumental in allowing more kids to find permanent families.

Nancy has been with Kinship Center for 29 years and under her leadership for past 20 years alone she's helped find permanent loving families for more than 1,000 children.

"She's very supportive of her team and often pitches in and takes cases, picks up a baby at the hospital, does placement work, rather than just managing from her office," said Kinship Center co-founder Carol Bishop. "This keeps her close to the work and things change over time, so it's easier to manage and lead if you are calling on your experience today vs. years ago."

A pleasure of Nancy's work now is seeing the capability of the talented colleagues she manages to do her job in the future, as they continue to develop.

Kinship Center, a member of the Seneca Family of Agencies, serves more than 1,500 children and families in Monterey, San Benito, and San Luis Obispo Counties each year. Kinship Center merged with Seneca Family of Agencies in 2011. The two organizations' missions dovetailed, as did their commitment to Unconditional Care which means that the organization and its partners will undertake whatever is required to help children and families thrive, even when faced with tremendous challenges. Seneca family of Agencies collaborates with regional partners in education, mental health, child welfare, and juvenile probation to develop innovative programs that annually serve thousands of children and their families. Visit www.kinshipcenter.org and www.senecacenter.org for more information.