

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

12/08/2023

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Humboldt County Legal Professionals Association (HCLPA) Leaves a Great Legacy

Humboldt County Legal Professionals Association (HCLPA) donated approximately \$9,800 to Teen Court.

By Raquel, a Teen Court high school volunteer

Humboldt County, October, 2023—Humboldt County Legal Professionals Association (HCLPA), is an organization that educates members in the legal field and is known for giving generous scholarships to graduating high school seniors and those entering into the legal educational field. HCLPA has helped Teen Court in the past through silent auctions and has supported our Director, Sacha Marini, with scholarships towards her Paralegal Studies. HCLPA has been around since 1971 and was originally organized to gather together a group of legal secretaries to learn from each other as to what was required in the preparation and filing of legal documents. HCLPA is one of approximately 40 legal professional associations in CA, under the organization Legal Professionals Inc., which was an idea started in 1929, and then formed into a nonprofit in 1940. Recently, HCLPA decided to shutter their association and with this they had to transfer any funds they have to another non-profit. Out of all the non-profit organizations in Humboldt County they chose Boys & Girls Club of the Redwoods TEEN COURT!

“It seemed just like the right thing,” said Denise Lopes, a member of Humboldt County Legal Professionals Association (HCLPA) when asked why HCLPA decided to donate the rest of their funds to Teen Court. She went on to say, “We are so impressed by the confidence your Teen Court members exhibit. It gives us

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hope that there are a lot more young people like them across the United States who will become happy, productive and successful adults no matter what path they follow.” Another member, Joni Aitken also shared, “My son was involved in Teen Court for several years, starting in 8th grade to fulfill a requirement for school and liked it well enough to stay until they kicked him out because he was too old.”

Teen Court is grateful for HCLPA’s donation and is honored to receive recognition from a legal organization like HCLPA. Teen Court is a "peer court" for first time misdemeanor offenses that teens commit. The program is conducted by volunteer teens who are trained in courtroom protocol, judicial process and the responsibilities of the various court personnel. Teen Court is a teenager courtroom, run by teens for teens. If you are interested in joining, contact hcteencourt@bgcredwoods.org today!

Photo, L to R: HCLPA reps Jennifer Lower, Leslie Ames, Joni Aitken, Denise Lopes and Teen Court youth Leaders Board- Raquel, Joey, Violet (front), Bodhi, Ethan, Sasha

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