

July 2, 2014

Report of the Thomas C. Hood Social Action Award Committee

Dear Board of Directors:

The committee received five nominations: 1) Homeless Prenatal Project, 2) SAGE Project, 3) Asian Women's Shelter, 4) Larkin Street Youth, and 5) Graze the Roof. We each reviewed these nominations and voted for our top choices. One organization, the SAGE Project, got the most votes (4 or more votes) and was designated the winner.

The SAGE Project (Standing Against Global Exploitation) is an outstanding example of an innovative and comprehensive organization in San Francisco, CA, which is devoted to serving the disadvantaged communities, which is a key criteria for winning the Thomas C. Hood Social Action Award. The SAGE Project is a primary resource for information about commercial sexual exploitation and human trafficking for sex and labor of both adults and children. SAGE has one of the longest standing "john school" programs in the country which is a partnership with the San Francisco Police Department and the San Francisco District Attorney's Office and addresses the demand side of sexual exploitation. The SAGE Project is a survivor-led and focused organization. The Project was founded by a survivor of commercial sexual exploitation and substance abuse who was a forerunner of promoting this issue prior to it ever having national attention. The SAGE Project continues to provide quality local and regional services to adults and youth who have been affected by sexual exploitation, trauma, and abuse. SAGE also works nationally and internationally to address the demand side of sexual exploitation, to train organizations and communities on how to assist survivors, and assists law enforcement and law makers to understand the dynamics of trauma and exploitation. SAGE provides comprehensive trauma-informed and healing services, which include: Peer Counseling, Case Management, Mental Health Therapy, Psycho-Social, Life Skills, and Process Groups, Harm-Reduction Focused Substance Use Counseling, Acupuncture and other Holistic Healing Services, and First Offender Program/Restorative Justice for Buyers.

Working with Michele and the representative of the organization, I put together the session to highlight the work of the Social Action Award winner.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen J. Morewitz

Chair, Thomas C. Hood Social Action Award Committee