

HBSCA NEWS

Hermosa Beach Sister City Association Newsletter

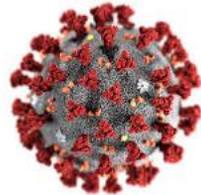


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Top stories in this newsletter:



Fire Engine Campaign



COVID-19 Assistance



Student Exchange POSTPONED

FIRE ENGINE CAMPAIGN



Help us help Loreto! The Hermosa Beach Sister City Association (HBSCA) is co-fundraising with the Municipality of Loreto and the Loreto Bomberos to help them purchase a desperately needed new fire engine.

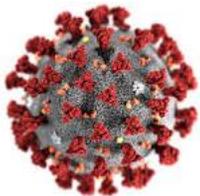
For over twenty years, we have assisted Loreto with US Paramedic Certification and donated used vehicles, as well as new and used firefighting and life-saving equipment.

Loreto needs us, and **together we can make this happen!** Please pledge to donate by clicking on the link below. Payment is not requested at this time, just your pledge to donate. You will be notified when it is time to make the actual payment.

[Pledge Sign-Up Link](#)

Thank you in advance for your support!

HELPING HANDS FOR COVID-19



As you likely now know, our Governor has requested that persons in high-risk categories self-isolate to prevent being infected by the virus. These persons include older adults 60+, pregnant women, and individuals with underlying health conditions such as heart, lung or kidney disease, diabetes, cancer or compromised immune systems.

Member Jessica Accamando has partnered with BCHD to train volunteers to support high-risk, self-quarantined people in the Beach Cities. If you are a person who is at-risk and would like help, they have created a [link to a request form](#). You can complete this form for yourself or for someone else. Our abilities include groceries, pharmacy needs, pet supplies, and calls of comfort. We're here for everyone so our community can stay happy, healthy, and safe.

HBSCA NEWS, CONTINUED...



STUDENT EXCHANGE POSTPONED



HBSCA has decided to postpone the 2020 Student Exchange Program April Trip to Loreto. This decision is made with an abundance of caution and wish to help keep both our community and that of Loreto safe and healthy.

George Barks, VP and Director of Student Exchange Program, is working with the Loreto Student Exchange Team, Alaska Airlines, and our Exchange Families. One option we are exploring is to send our students down in July, the week before the Loreto are scheduled to come here. Then all students would come to the South Bay together. Obviously, all is dependent on health and welfare conditions.

If we all do our part, we can slow and hopefully stop the spread of the pandemic.

OTHER UPDATES:

Paramedic Training Program – Loreto Bomberos will be conducting a training for using life-saving Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs) and invite the personnel of the Santa Fe, La Mision, and Oasis Hotels. Paul Hawkins is shopping for AEDs that HBSCA can purchase and provide to the Loreto Bomberos for them to keep at these hotels so that life-saving interventions can be started before our Loreto Paramedics even reach the sites. These hotels have been very supportive of our work over many years. We are not donating to the Hotels, but to the Bomberos. The AEDs would be property of the Bomberos but kept on site at these hotels.

Casa Hogar – Good news! After all our efforts to make Casa Hogar safe and habitable for the foster children, they have finally received **State Certification** from Baja CA Sur, Mexico. Casa Hogar now has non-profit status and may receive State and Federal funding. **Muchas gracias** to all who donated human and fiscal resources here and in Loreto!

Website – We’ve made a few updates to the [Website](#):

- On our “Home” page – new visual presentation link “About Our Organization” that provides a brief overview
- On our “About” page – “A Brief History” of HBSCA
- A new “News” page for posting links like Obama’s Visit and our newsletters
- “Home” page and “Events” page have been updated with 2020 Adult Trip info
- A few new photos across different pages - **PLEASE** keep sending me more that I can use on the site!
- Your feedback is always welcome and appreciated