



The kids of the Children's Village in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, creatively expressed their thanks on a poster (left) sent to the Discovery Land Company Foundation. Before the Ku Moana race series, Life Pursuits supporters (below)—including Discovery members and staff, locals, and professional athletes—posed with their multicolored stand-up paddleboards.



## Mission Possible

The Discovery Land Company Foundation makes contributions at home and abroad.

**DISCOVERY LAND COMPANY** Foundation director Christy Nichols has worked diligently toward fulfilling the organization's mission to improve the quality of life in the communities surrounding Discovery properties, and her efforts have yielded many positive results. Throughout the U.S. and Mexico there are many children who express a clear message of thanks.

The Foundation focuses on significantly impacting select charities that serve underprivileged children and display

exceptional integrity. Nichols is particularly interested in groups willing to work hand-in-hand with her to identify specific needs that the Foundation can directly fund and have a measurable impact.

### DLCF Announcements

**Dec. 19, 2008**—Life Pursuits Stand-up Paddleboard Event—Kona, Hawaii

**Jan. 19, 2009**—DLC Foundation Golf Event—The Madison Club

**Feb. 13, 2009**—DLC Foundation Wine Tasting Event—Hideaway

One such charity is the Children's Village in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, near Gozzer Ranch. The Foundation is subsidizing expanded facilities, extended care and services for children without permanent homes, and programs for foster teens overcoming severe emotional distress.

In Los Cabos, Mexico, the Foundation donates to Amigos de los Niños, a nonprofit group that supports emergency medical care for barrio children, and Los Niños del Capitan, which provides daycare, meals, medical attention, education, and arts instruction to children whose parents, many of them single mothers, make less than 10 dollars a day.

Other contributions answer more specific needs, such as providing a supply of winter clothing for the children of Crossnore School, a shelter near Mountaintop in North Carolina; or sponsoring a Foster Club All Star, a young adult who endured the foster care system, earned a college scholarship, and now travels around the country mentoring foster youth.

“We look forward to a continued partnership with Christy Nichols and DLCF in our shared goal of making a lasting difference in the lives of vulnerable children.”

—Dr. Phyllis Crain, The Crossnore School



Dear Friends of Crossnore  
I received the gifts you gave me  
The other day there great i really  
needed them and there gonna go to  
good use especially the shoe i need  
for basket ball the shoe i had leaked  
were torn up and had no grip so  
you could imagine what it was  
like on the court but anyways  
I am so grateful I thank you  
from the bottom of my heart  
Tyler Jackson

Dear Friends of Crossnore,  
I just want to thank you  
so much for getting me  
winter clothes to wear  
this winter. I appreciate  
it so much. Again  
thanks for caring. Happy  
Holidays ☺ God Bless,  
Lori W.



The Foundation extends a hand to communities around Discovery properties. The children of Crossnore School, near Mountaintop in North Carolina, sent thank-you notes (left) for shoes and winter clothes. Ben and Heather Crane (top, with kids from H.O.P.E. Farm) have organized charity tournaments to benefit at-risk children in Texas. Above: El Dorado Outdoor Pursuits director Travis Chamberlain meets a youngster from Amigos de los Niños.



The Foundation also launched its own Life Pursuits program this year to directly connect with foster children and provide immediate opportunities in and around Discovery communities. Nichols meets with local government authorities and nonprofit program leaders to pinpoint needs—scholarships, skills training, assistance with athletic programs—areas where the Foundation can offer immediate support. In Kona, Hawaii, Life Pursuits recently sponsored eight foster children who could not afford to play in the local football league, in addition to contributing to the Kai’ Opuia Canoe Club, so foster kids could compete in team races. The Foundation also presents cultural and environmental education opportunities to local youth.

Nichols insists it is the generous support of club members and staff—along with the close attention and courageous spirit of Discovery CEO Mike Meldman—that has allowed her to make so much progress to date.

Ben and Heather Crane, members at several Discovery properties, are passionate about children’s charities and have made substantial contributions to the Foundation. They have organized an annual charity golf



The Foundation supports daycare and meals for Los Niños del Capitan (above) in Los Cabos, Mexico. Below: Participants and the water rescue crew are all smiles after the Life Pursuits paddleboard race in Hawaii.

tournament at Vaquero, in Texas, where Ben, a professional golfer, invites a number of his colleagues to join the intimate event. This year the Cranes donated a portion of the proceeds from the event to DLCF.

percentage of his commissions to help give back to the community where he grew up.

For a cause that began only one year ago, the progress is remarkable.

KIMBERLY SMITH



## Growing Up with Life Pursuits

The Discovery Land Company Foundation recently launched the Ku Moana race series in Kona, Hawaii, to raise funds and awareness for Life Pursuits, a program completely supported by the Foundation. The event was the first two-day stand-up paddleboard race on the Kona Coast. The participants personified the diversity and vitality of Life Pursuits: local community leaders, media, businesses, pro surfers, Discovery club members and staff, and athletes from Hawaii and the mainland, all contributing their time and skills.

Life Pursuits offers foster, shelter, and other displaced youth near Discovery Land Company communities the opportunity to attend camps, participate on athletic teams, learn job skills, participate in leadership training, and also offers access to environmental and arts education. “These children do not ask for material things to be handed to them, they ask for experiences and to be heard,” says Foundation director Christy Nichols. “Often these youth struggle with family crises and don’t have access to experiences that help them mature in positive ways. All children want to celebrate their own identity—but first they have

to discover it.” The Foundation works with directors of programs, shelters, and group homes to support their goals and raise needed funds. “We cannot change the occurrences that began this cycle of abandonment,” Nichols says, “but we can listen to these children and help them now.”