

CSL welcomes new year; plans 2016 House Tour

The Children's Support League of the East Bay will begin planning for next year's Heart of the Home house tour at its meeting next Tuesday, September 15, at 9:30 a.m. at the Piedmont Community Hall, 711 Highland Avenue.

Interested individuals are invited to attend the meeting.

"Major planning starts now," said CSL president Lee Eisman. "We're small but mighty. Our home tour has grown to be one of the best, if not the best in the East Bay, and our wonderful members really love the process. We are active, professional women and homemakers who respect and learn from each other. There's real work involved in creating the magic, and we welcome new members."

The 28th annual Heart of the Home tour will take place the weekend of April 29-30, 2016.

The CSL tour raises money to specifically help children who have a wide array of need in a disadvantaged and underprivileged population in Alameda and Contra Costa counties. Grants totaling \$130,000 from the 2015 House Tour were made to 16 nonprofit agencies that work in crisis intervention; child advocacy; special needs; educational support; family sheltering; child therapy, or child counseling.

"We're very proud of our system in determining grants," said Grants Chair Brooke Hauch. "[In] the last cycle we received an



Children's Support League members gather in advance of their first meeting of the fall: (front) Cornelia Sylvester (left), Mary Jean Haley, Anne Brandon, Elizabeth Stumpf, Pat Forsyth; (2nd row) Penny Robb, Melanie Wallace, Jan Howland, Stacy Mattson, Elizabeth Adams, Lee Eisman, Jocelyne Birren; (top row) Lisa Riddiough, Brooke Hauch, Deanna D'Zamba, Mary Welch, Vicki Stairs. Not pictured: Muriel Behrens, Karen Donald, Shirley Hooi, Janice Jagelski, Sharon Klein, Alison Mackenzie, Miriam Mangini, Erika Rosenberg, Valerie Ruma, Deborah Underwood, Jean Wieler.

overwhelming 43 requests from credible and worthwhile agencies. We encourage realtors, designers, architects, and builders to get involved with CSL's home tour. With the help of more donations from underwriters and our angel donors, we can do even more to

help children," she said.

For a list of agencies receiving grants, see www.wehelpkids.org. CSL is an all-volunteer nonprofit organization. For interest in becoming a member, contact Elizabeth Adams at elizabethsadams@yahoo.com.