



# Santa Clara City Fire Fighters

## Survivor's Benefit Fund – Dave Euerle and Kids Trust Fund

### Important Please Read!

Hello everyone, I am writing to advise you that we are going to be starting a large fundraising effort for the Survivor's Benefit Fund with the money we raise going to the Euerle family. We all know the status of Dave's condition and we as an executive board have made the decision to begin a fundraising campaign to place money into a trust fund that will be intended for the children's college education. The money as it comes in will be ear marked for the Euerles, if Dave beats this illness than the money will remain in the Survivor's Benefit fund in the foundation for any future need. The executive board will also be working to establish guidelines that will be used for any future members who are faced with similar conditions to ensure the equitable treatment for all members in the future.

We have talked with the San Luis Obispo City Firefighters who recently had a member (Greg Otto) battling pancreatic cancer. They are a department of 42 personnel and were able to raise \$115,000 for the Otto family in about 8 months. This money went to cover a variety of medical and family expenses that the family incurred during Greg's hard fought battle with cancer, which just recently ended with Greg's passing two months ago.

San Luis Obispo President Eric Bascom and Treasurer Bob Bisson passed on the things they felt went well and the unexpected things that they felt they would handle differently if they were ever faced with this unfortunate situation again. This information will be invaluable as we start this campaign to secure the future of Brother Euerle's children.

It was noted that the most important thing the SLO firefighters stated was the need to protect the family as much as possible. They created an ICS chart, which had several branches for communication with the family. This currently is being handled well by Brothers Herscovitch and Dave Rose. Dave Rose has agreed to be the primary contact person with the family, so it is important to go through Dave Rose for any information and not direct to the family. Dave Rose has already sat down with the Dave Euerle and his family and made sure this effort is OK with them. According to the SLO City guys it will be taxing on the family in regards to their anonymity because the media will be used to garner support from our community.

As for events, I will give you an example of the events that the SLO City members organized. A golf tournament, Poker Tournament, Used Car Raffle, Movie Night to Ladder 49, Motorcycle Raffle, Fill the Boot events, Silent Auctions, Web Site with an on going silent auction, etc. They used their strong relationship with the media to gather community involvement, which led to many donations of money and raffle items without having to go out and knock on doors. They also sent out letters to every IAFF



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affiliate throughout the U.S. asking for support through donations. Greg attended as many events as his health allowed and explained this had a huge effect on keeping him motivated to keep fighting.

Please note this will be taxing on the entire membership. Your support in times of need has always been incredible and I am sure it will continue. We need to band together, support our Brother and his family, and be ready to raise as much money as we can.

I would like you to please all think of any events you believe would be successful in this fundraising effort. I need people to step up and take the lead on events while I support you in any way possible. Brother Cintas, Brother Shaddle and I will be working on a golf tournament for some time in September. Brother Fetz is working on a large-scale poker tournament with the assistance of Brother Johnson. I will also be working on a reverse draw raffle (prize \$10K) and dinner event.

I would like anyone who is interested in being a member of the committee to please send me an email. We will need a raffle and auction prize committee; a media contact person, many union standby commitments, and a committee to organize each event. I challenge each station to work together to come up with some ideas regarding fundraising events for this effort. We are limited only by our own creativity. If you can chair an event, we as an Executive Board will assist you in making it happen. Remember we have a Brother fighting a battle for his life! Lets show him we are in this fight with him and are here to protect him and his family for what might come in the future. This Benefit Fund and fundraising effort will strengthen our organization and ensure that any time a member is in a life-threatening battle, the tools are in place and the foundation is strong for your local to have guidelines for family assistance depending on the need.

Thank you all for everything you do and the support you have all showed to Dave by working they endless shift trades during this passed year. I know Dave sincerely appreciates the endless support he is receiving. I challenge you that we are a much larger organization than San Luis Obispo, with greater resources at our disposal, if we work together I am confident we can meet or exceed the funds they were able to raise for Brother Otto, but your assistance and creativity will be the keys to our success.

Please contact me ASAP with any ideas you might have, or if you are willing to be a committee member.

Sincerely,

J.D. Madden  
Local 1171  
B Shift VP