



Windermere  
Real Estate  
Coachella Valley

R E A L E S T A T E N E W S

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**WINDERMERE AGENTS SUPPORT OLIVE CREST**

**RANCHO MIRAGE (Calif.) – December 4, 2010** – Windermere Real Estate is exceptionally proud of its agents and the many community service projects and services across the Valley that they support throughout the year. A large proportion of their efforts revolve around providing assistance to the homeless with a focus upon the children, a segment of the homeless population growing at a disproportionate rate.

Windermere agents Diane Marx and Jenell Fontes, of Windermere's flagship office located at 71691 Highway 111, Rancho Mirage, contribute time and effort to Olive Crest, an organization offering safe homes and support for these children. Its stated mission: "Olive Crest is dedicated to preventing child abuse, to treating and educating at-risk children, and to preserving the family...one life at a time." The organization does this by providing safe homes and support for children having few other options. Jenell has worked with Olive Crest for four years, currently serving on the 12-member Board of Trustees. Olive Crest yesterday held its Annual Holiday Event, 'A Safe Home for the Holidays' at the Hyatt Grand Champions in Indian Wells. Diane Marx, co-chair, refers to her earlier career as a teacher. "There are 10,000 child abuse cases per year in the Coachella Valley alone. These children truly are our future, and we need to protect them. Olive Crest gives them a voice."

Olive Crest has built four houses in the Coachella Valley, with each house providing individual bedrooms and safe residential surroundings for six children. Each safe house is adopted by a live-in family providing parent figures for the children, with an environment more like loving foster care rather than institutional facility. The overall goal of the safe home program is to reunite families. Diane notes, "Families with temporarily insurmountable problems can voluntarily place their children with Olive Crest, and later become reunited. With Child Protective Services, for example, that's not so easily done." Since 1995, Olive Crest has provided these services to the Coachella Valley desert communities. "Prior to Olive Crest constructing these homes, displaced children were relocated to Riverside County facilities," says Jenell. "The children are so much better off being able to stay here in the Coachella Valley; for these families, this is home."

Olive Crest operates with more than three dozen Angels--involved community volunteers who put together fund raisers, toy drives, reading programs, birthday parties and other support for the children. "Most of these kids come to Olive Crest with just the clothes on their backs," Jenell notes. "Each \$22 'Safe Day' contribution to Olive Crest

supports one child for one day, including housing, food and other incidentals.”

Windermere encourages readers to visit [OliveCrest.org](http://OliveCrest.org) to learn more.

Windermere Real Estate serves the entire Coachella Valley, with more than 625 licensed real estate professionals in 16 offices and additional locations in Garner Valley and Lake Arrowhead. Locations include Palm Springs, Palm Springs South, Palm Springs Midtown, Cathedral City, Rancho Mirage, Palm Desert (San Pablo), Palm Desert (Cook & Hovley), Indian Wells Main, Indian Wells Luxury Homes & Estates, La Quinta, Old Town La Quinta, and Indio, as well as on-site offices at The Club at Morningside in Rancho Mirage, The Springs Country Club in Rancho Mirage, Deep Canyon Tennis Club in Palm Desert, and Monterey Country Club in Palm Desert. For more information, go online at [www.WindermereSoCal.com](http://www.WindermereSoCal.com).

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