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Spotlight: Dr. Katharine "Kitty" Felton



During the middle of what is known as the American "Wild West," just two weeks before the infamous Jesse James committed his first train robbery in the mid-West, a maverick who would become famous for good works, Katharine Conway Felton, was born in Oakland, CA, on Monday, July 7, 1873. It is fitting that we feature her in our spotlight during the month of her birth. Affectionately known to close friends and family as "Kitty," she was one of two daughters of the 14th mayor of Oakland, CA, the honorable John Brooks Felton. The town of Felton, CA, just north of Santa Cruz, was named in honor of Judge Felton. Kitty was born into a family line that had influenced world renowned politicians, authors and business professionals, including President Abraham Lincoln, Charles Dickens, and the American Rail Road presidents.

When a fledgling organization known as the Associated Charities of San Francisco (now

known as Felton Institute) needed a leader, Kitty was appointed as its first director. After the Great Earthquake of 1906, she worked diligently to ensure that all citizens in need received equal treatment. She even wrote a letter to President Theodore Roosevelt reassuring him that all San Franciscans who were displaced were receiving mental health and social services during the relief effort spearheaded by Associated Charities of San Francisco. Her visionary leadership was praised for innovation in public social service policy and the programs to which she tirelessly devoted her life.

Watch Historian Dan Kelly share more about Dr. Felton at this link.

Kitty graduated with highest honors from what is today, the University of California, Berkeley, where she received the University Medal. Later in life, Kitty was awarded two honoris causa Doctor of Law degrees for meritorious public service by UC Berkeley and Mills College in Oakland, CA. Kitty passed away in 1940. Today, Felton Institute is honored to continue her incredible legacy of innovation and service through multiple programs in five divisions: Adult; Children, Youth and Family; Senior; PREP and BEAM (Prevention and Recovery in Early Psychosis and Bipolar Disorder I Early Assessment Management); Research and Training. Felton's continued expansion aligns with the mission and foundation established by Dr. Katharine Conway Felton.

Children, Youth and Family Appreciation Dinner



During the day, the halls of Felton's Family Developmental Center are frequently filled with the sounds of children's giggles, but at the annual Children, Youth and Family Staff Appreciation Dinner on the evening of June 23, 2017, it was the adults who filled the air with vibrant conversation and joyful laughter

Colorful flowers adorned every table; raffle prizes were wrapped in festive designs, and long tables of food laden with appetizers, sliders, chicken marsala and much more, beckoned.

Yohana Quiroz, director of the CYF division, enthusiastically welcomed the attendees, encouraging all to enjoy the festivities, food, and fun with colleagues and friends. After introducing Felton Board Chair Michael N. Hofman and board member Dr. Michelle Clark, Yohana handed the microphone to Felton President and CEO, Al Gilbert.

Al congratulated all the staff for another successful year of supporting local families through the core CYF programs. He





highlighted all the significant growth, noting that Felton had tripled in size over the last decade and that much of the expansion was within the Children, Youth and Family Division. After also mentioning the three new centers that opened and international and local media attention received during the last year, he announced Yohana's promotion and her new title as Chief Operating Officer, Children, Youth and Family and Transitional Age Youth Divisions.

Yohana and Program Supervisor Phyllis Hogan recognized Mary Ng and Diana Romero for 32 years and 23 years of service respectively. Administration Director Lisa Aguilar and Family Support Director Rosaura Diaz conducted the raffle. The message in the dinner program said it all:

"Thank you for your continued commitment and support of San Francisco's children, youth and their families. This appreciation dinner is just a small way to tell you how much we appreciate everything you do. We are honored that you have chosen to be part of our Felton family! We could not do this work without you."

Felton Board Biz



Al Gilbert, Michael N. Hofman, Amy Solliday

At the Felton Board's June meeting, Michael N. Hofman was recognized for his service as Board Chair, and he then passed the baton to Amy Solliday. Mike first joined the board in 1992 and as Chair Emeritus will continue to serve as Chair of the Development Committee.

New Board Chair and Human Resources Committee member Amy Solliday became a board member in 2006 and previously served as Board Vice Chair. Will Smiley, who joined the board in 2011 and is a member of the Governance Committee, now takes the reins as Board Vice Chair. Lisa Madden, a board member

since 2008 and a member of the Human Resources Committee, continues her service as Board Secretary.

Felton has welcomed new board members: Lauren Mikulski, Chief Marketing Officer at Gone with the Smoke; Eric Minkove, Operating Partner at TPG Growth; JD Moitra, Director at Kaiser Permanente; Michael Orias, Salesforce Administrator and Project Manager at EAH Housing; Yasmine Rafidi, Manager, R&D FP&A Finance, Gilead Sciences; Alefiyah Shambhoora, Senior Strategy Manager, Genentech; Darren Skolnick, VP, Internal Audit at Verity Health System; and John Wyatt, President of Wyatt Consulting.

Felton Pre-School Graduation at SFSU

On August 4, 2017, 65 preschool graduates from Felton's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Center, Learning Center, and Family Developmental Center will switch their tiny purple tassels on their mortarboards at a new location, San Francisco State University. The theme of this year's Early Care and Education Preschool Graduation is Cradle to College.

We wanted the students to have an experience that will help them hold the vision of attaining higher education, even at this young age," explained Yohana Quiroz, Felton Chief Operating Officer of Children, Youth



President and CEO AI Gilbert Speaks to ECE Graduates

and Family and Transi onal Age Youth Services.

Watch one mother's gradua on gra tude at this link.

The ceremony will be held from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm at San Francisco State University's Annex Building. It is always a joyful celebra on of bright futures.



PREP & BEAM San Mateo Graduates to Celebrate



Mid-summer marks a milestone for participants in Felton's Prevention and Recovery in Early Psychosis (PREP) and Bipolar Disorder I Early Assessment and Management (BEAM) programs in San Mateo. On July 20, 2017, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at Felton's 1108 S. El Camino Real San Mateo site, graduates of the programs for youth and adults under the age of 35 will celebrate with Felton staff, family and friends as they prepare for the next steps toward what has become a promising future.

Watch highlights from a PREP/BEAM graduation at this link.

Studies indicate that approximately one in five adults in the United States experiences mental illness in a given year. One in 25 adults experiences a serious mental illness in a given year that substantially interferes with or limits major life activities. Felton's PREP and BEAM programs are designed to transform the treatment and perception of psychosis and bipolar disorder and by extension, the lives of young people and their families by intervening with evidence-based, culturally competent assessment and diagnosis, so that within two to five years of entering treatment, most cases are treated to remission.

Many PREP and BEAM participants are able to complete school, maintain jobs and enjoy enhanced relationships with loved ones as a result of the services and tools provided in the programs. As one graduate shared, before PREP, he was "heading into darkness," but "PREP has been to my life and mind what a sanctuary is in conflict zone. It has literally opened the walls around me and given me access to not only the emotion of hope, but seeing hope in action." You may read more testimonials by <u>clicking here</u>.

As one father said, "Felton's programs not only gave us back our son, but helped our whole family heal." Graduation ceremonies are held several times throughout the year at sites in Alameda, Monterey, San Francisco and San Mateo counties.

SCSEP Benefits Outreach Helps Seniors

Many adults ages 55 and up don't realize that they may be eligible for programs that save money on medications and other health care costs, such as co-pays and deductibles that can save them thousands of dollars. Felton's Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) in collaboration with the National Council on Aging is conducting an extensive free benefits checkup campaign to help seniors. Those applying for the benefits have been able to save an average of \$4,000 annually. Enrollment specialists have information about tax relief, income assistance, and housing and utilities programs that can provide economic relief.

If you know of someone in need who might qualify for the benefits checkup, please have them contact (415) 379-1043, extension 2718.



Felton and You



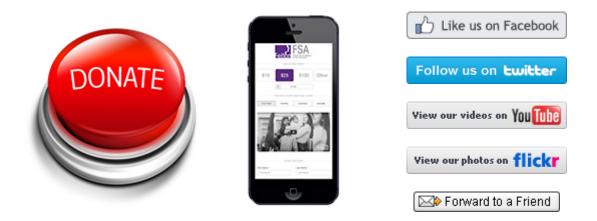
In our newsletter, we have shared information about some of Felton's 45 programs that have made a life-changing difference for many including SCSEP mentioned above. Ted Jang, a participant in the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) who had faced years of unemployment after the 2008 economic downtown, now has a job he enjoys and his contributions to his new company are highly valued. He said, "I want to thank SCSEP for saving my life and giving me the opportunity to start anew with dignity. SCSEP offers the chance to live again."

With your contribution, you are providing the opportunity for many like Ted to truly live again

with hope, food, shelter and dignity. Your donation to support Felton's social services, mental health care and ongoing intensive case management makes a critical difference.

Texting FELTON to 41444 on your mobile device is quick and easy or you may donate online by <u>clicking here</u>. We thank you for being a friend and partner and helping us pay it forward.

Your generous donations transform lives. Thank you!



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