



FSA
Family Service Agency
of San Francisco

Lives Transformed



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SPOTLIGHT: Dr. Katharine 'Kitty' Felton



July is Dr. Katharine "Kitty" Conway Felton's birth month. This month's spotlight focuses on the early years of the woman known as the "conscience of the city" of San Francisco because of her pioneering social work, genius, compassion and lasting impact upon legislation, social work and public policy in the West.

Born July 7, 1873, one of two daughters of John Brooks Felton and Kate Baldwin Felton, Kitty came from an old Massachusetts family filled with notable public figures, including her uncle Samuel Morse Felton, who is now best remembered as the man who ensured Abraham Lincoln's safe arrival in Washington for his inaugural in 1861.

Samuel Felton changed the president-elect's train route, effectively thwarting a plot to attack Lincoln's train.

Kitty's father, John Brooks Felton, was an attorney, a judge and mayor of Oakland, California. The town of Felton, in Santa Cruz County, was named for Judge Felton. According to author Jean Burton, in *Katharine Felton and Her Social Work in San Francisco*, when she was two years old, Kitty and her father were inseparable. That loving bond was shattered the next year when her father died suddenly; yet, throughout her life, people noted that Kitty was very much like her father.

As a student at the University of California, Kitty organized the first debating club. She planned to follow her father's career path and become a lawyer. However, her first year at Stanford Law School was also her last; she left in search of her true calling. In 1897, she became a graduate student at the University of Chicago as a fellow in political economy and lived at Hull House, the ground-breaking settlement founded by Jane Addams. In Chicago, Katharine saw her first impoverished neighborhoods, was involved with social work and experienced organized charities. It laid a great foundation for the work she began as director of the agency known then as Associated Charities, and now as Felton Institute, in 1901. Kitty Felton drafted nearly all of California's early legislation covering welfare and relief, according to the Proceedings of the National Conference of Social Work, Volume 13, 1901.

As a child, Kitty heard predictions about a fearful earthquake coming, and when a small one hit, she placed her cat in her doll carriage and tied the leashes of her three dogs to her tricycle to steer her beloved pets to safety. When the Great Earthquake of 1906 hit, her leadership and initiative led to the development of mental health counseling for the traumatized, transition of nearly everyone in refugee camps into shelters, and the creation of the first employment agency in the United States. These innovations became known as the "San Francisco Model" by 1907.

Dr. Katharine 'Kitty' Felton's incredible legacy lives on today in the more than 50 programs of life-transformative mental health and social services that Felton provides for people of all ages in need who come from every walk of life.

ABC 7's Spencer Christian to Speak at Preschool Graduation



Sixty-one preschool graduates, Felton staff, family and friends are looking forward to the Felton Preschool Graduation, "Cradle to College," on Friday, August 3, 2018, when Emmy Award-winning reporter, sportscaster, talk show host and weather forecaster ABC 7's Spencer Christian will be the guest speaker on the San Francisco State University campus. Before the ceremony, Spencer will sign copies of his latest book, *You Bet Your Life*, at a reception.

Before joining ABC 7 in San Francisco in 1999, Spencer served as weather forecaster, feature reporter and guest host on ABC's national program *Good Morning America* for 13 years. He hosted *Spencer Christian's Wine Cellar* on HGTV and later, on the Food Network from 1995 to 2000.



As the spokesperson for ABC's literacy campaign, Spencer wrote and published a series of children's books, including *Can It Really Rain Frogs? The World's Strangest Weather Events* and *Shake, Rattle, and Roll: The World's Most Amazing Volcanoes, Earthquakes, and Other Forces*. Spencer enjoys inspiring youth and devotes many hours to participating in community events.

Young graduates from Felton's Learning Center, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Center, and Family Developmental Center will don purple gowns and mortarboards as they celebrate this milestone. Al Gilbert, Felton President and CEO, Yohana Quiroz, COO of Children, Youth and Family and Transitional Age Youth and parents will share words of advice at this year's celebration. Students from each site will perform songs or poems at what promises to be a jubilant event. This is the second year that Cradle to College has been held at San Francisco State University's campus.

Felton The Beautiful: Genentech Gives Back!



These summer days, the smiles of many of Felton's youngest clients are bigger than ever, thanks to the collaborative genius of Genentech and Janet Moyer Landscaping, who worked diligently to beautify the Family Developmental Center, the Sojourner Truth Center, and the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Center last month. To see their work, [watch here](#).

Mike Hofman, Felton Board Chair Emeritus and Executive Vice-President of Janet Moyer Landscaping, and his wife Janet Moyer, President of Janet Moyer Landscaping, initiated a planting and irrigation design, determined what materials were needed and contacted suppliers. Janet Moyer Landscaping specializes in the creation of beautiful, sustainable custom residential landscapes that address the unique challenges posed by San Francisco's climate and architectural constraints.

Felton Board Vice Chair Will Smiley, who is Genentech's Director of Staffing, and Felton Board member and Genentech Senior Strategy Manager Alefiyah Shambhoora worked to bring more than 40 members of their Genentech team to volunteer at the sites during Genentech Gives Back Week in June. The hearts of Felton staff were warmed by the generosity of time, labor, materials and smiles delivered, as volunteers installed AstroTurf, planted edible herbs and plants, and assembled new patio furniture. The same generosity has already left an imprint of impact on the young students who are enjoying the fruits of the volunteers' labor.

Playing in healthy environments promotes physical success by allowing children to explore and expand the limits of their bodies and minds. Gardening and outdoor activities foster social and intellectual skills through children's interactions with their peers and their environment.

Genentech has been delivering on the promise of biotechnology for over 40 years, and the delivery on the promise of healthy, vibrant, and expanded spaces will bring joy to children at the Felton Early Childhood centers for decades to come! Thank you.

Felton and You

Felton Ombudsman Program: Advocates for the Elderly, the Greatest Generation

Kitty Felton was a champion for children, especially orphaned children, but she didn't stop there. She cared about and provided services for people of all ages, from birth to the elderly. Kitty set a precedent of focusing on providing for people in need of social services at all ages and stages of life. Today, Felton Institute continues her great legacy.



Among our many award-winning programs that we are proud to offer is Felton's Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program for San Francisco, which serves elderly people and dependent adults living in long-term care facilities. Our Ombudsman Program investigates complaints of abuse and resolves issues affecting elderly and dependent adults in long-term care facilities; investigation is mandated by federal and state law.

In addition, the Ombudsman program provides advocacy and support to help people transition from home to hospital or a skilled nursing facility when assistance is needed. The most difficult transitions often involve moving from being well to being medically compromised.

Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program for San Francisco was created by the Older Americans Act (OAA). OAA supports a range of home and community-based services, including elder abuse prevention and caregiver support. The Ombudsman Program receives and investigates complaints regarding the welfare, health, safety and rights of residents of nursing homes, assisted living facilities, or hospital discharge units. Staff and field Ombudsmen are trained professionals who are certified by the State of California to carry out the duties according to the Ombudsman laws. Volunteer Ombudsmen regularly visit long-term care facilities to provide supportive, friendly contact with residents, improving their daily experience.

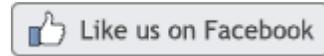
For more information, visit [felton.org](https://www.felton.org), or call (415) 751-9788 or (800) 231-4024 (after hours).

Complaints about the care of residents may be made by the resident or by someone else. Anyone can contact us on behalf of a person in nursing or residential facilities. Ombudsman services are free and confidential.

The elderly population is often called the Greatest Generation. They have given so much to us, the generations who came after them. Felton offers 12 programs specifically designed for elderly people in San Francisco and Northern California with a mental health and social services focus. With your help, we can give back to them and do even more. Together, we can all help to keep the greatest generation healthier, happier and safer where they live. Please consider giving a gift to Felton Institute today. To give to the cause for which you have passion, text FELTON to 41444 on your mobile device; it's quick and easy.

Felton's Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program is funded by the City and County of San Francisco's Department of Aging and Adult Services. The program is designated by the Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman, California Department of Aging.

Your generous donations transform lives. Thank you!



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