

Johnson Controls and Toyota donate \$15,000 to shelter for abused women/children

Shepherd's Gate to purchase learning tools for 'Pay It Forward' program



Sunee Shelby accepts \$15,000 check on behalf of Shepherd's Gate. Standing beside her (from left to right) are David Burkey, Johnson Controls Managing Director, Rick Amano, NUMMI Vice President, Jim Wiseman, Toyota Vice President, Georgana Harley, Shepherd's Gate Board Member, Pat Pineda, NUMMI Vice President, Mayor Marshall Kamena, City of Livermore, Larry Blenn, Johnson Controls Plant Manager, and Steve McRee, Shepherd's Gate Executive Director.

Toyota and Johnson Controls, Inc. of Livermore, California have teamed up to provide a \$15,000 "Community Connection" grant to Shepherd's Gate – a home for women and children who have been abused or are homeless.

The funding will be used to purchase learning tools for a new children's educational and reading program – "Pay It Forward." Upon completion of the nonprofit organization's \$1.5 million Life Center, which will include a Child Care facility, the program will instruct up to 50 children at a time. With the recent expansion of Shepherd's Gate, battered women and their children are now able to reside at the home for periods of up to 18 months. Shepherd's Gate has grown from a shelter that could house up to 16 women and their children for 30-day stays to one that will, upon completion of the campus, be able to accommodate up to 110 individuals.

"We are thankful to Johnson Controls and Toyota for their generosity, support and commitment to the residents of this community," said Steve McRee, Shepherd's Gate Executive Director. "This gift will enable us to provide books, art and music supplies and other educational tools needed to support the programs at the Child Care Center. Without concerned corporations such as these, Shepherd's Gate would not exist."

Johnson Controls' Livermore plant, with 310 team members, produces vehicle-seating assemblies for the Toyota Corolla, Tacoma truck and Toyota Voltz, as well as the Pontiac Vibe. In addition, Johnson Controls also supplies headliners for the Tacoma, Toyota Voltz and Pontiac Vibe. Those vehicles are manufactured at the NUMMI plant.