

August 2016

Dear Sustaining Partner,

***“God, get me out of here, away from this evil; protect me from these vicious people.”*** (Psalm 140:1)

From the time this farm girl moved to California, our community has been my home. I experienced temporary relocations to New York and Kentucky; however, I went to school here and then married and raised my family in San Bernardino. I work, live, play, attend church and shop in this community. I may not like what I see, but I join many of you when I say I'm not ready to leave.

In 1976-1977, San Bernardino was named an All American City. *“The award recognizes those cities whose citizens work together to identify and tackle community-wide challenges and achieve uncommon results.”* I remember well those glory days...I imagine you might too. There is nothing more I'd like to see than for our community to once again qualify for that high honor. Do you agree?

I can't say I have the wherewithal to implement a simple solution. But, with over 40 homicides in the city of San Bernardino, clearly someone---really many some ones--- in authority is and has been asleep on watch. Though we don't have an inclusive, overall plan it seems to me it's time for people like us who live in and love our community to take stock. I believe there are things we can we do which may not be an overall fix, but would certainly move us in a more positive direction? Again, I am not everywhere and deeply involved in all activities in our community. However, we each live in a different neighborhood and socialize with groups of diverse people.

For Life!

Lisa J Stiefken  
Executive Director