

AN APPRECIATION

Her commitment was as strong as the needs she served were diverse

Libby Denebeim was a lifelong volunteer who took her heartfelt community service to citywide heights as president of the Board of Education and chair of the Delinquency Prevention Commission.

The list of her achievements is book length the scope of her grassroots tenure spans five decades. When Libby died Nov. 15 at age 83, she had given of herself to education — especially early childhood — health, mental health, people with disabilities, HIV/AIDS, hospice, domestic violence, sexual exploitation, gay rights and much more, including neighborhood improvement.

That's where the Study Center came in. Libby was chair of our Community Advisory Board in 1974 and later became president of the Board of Directors. She was secretary-treasurer at the time of her death.

She played a key role in The Study Center's early funding, stood up for us when it counted, and served as a steadying force with commonsense solutions and commitment to our mission as a broad-based resource to help other community services succeed.

Stas Margaronis, journalist, ship builder and a founder of the Study Center who remains a board member, recalls:

"Two years after we started the Study Center, in 1974, we realized we didn't have good community outreach. A consultant helped us put together an advisory board — to gain respectability quickly, especially with foundations, and assure them we were doing good things. The consultant contacted a lot of people, and Libby's name came up on everyone's radar.

"She was a real surprise to me — the wife of a banker and from a pa-

ELIZABETH ("LIBBY") DENEBEIM A life of community service



GENE COHN PHOTOGRAPHY

Libby Denebeim receives one of many community honors. This one is the inaugural 2012 Community Service Innovation Award bestowed by Community Living Campaign in honor of Norma Satten, Libby's longtime friend and colleague.

trician background," Margaronis says. "But she was so interested in what we were doing and 'got us' right away. She clearly was someone who could help us bridge the gap between a bunch of scruffy young men and more established groups.

"Libby had a deceptive toughness that made her such a successful advo-

cate on so many issues" and an ability to keep her sense of humor, he says. He recalls the founders meeting with advisers and bitterly whining that the city and foundations weren't hearing them. "She listened, then said, cutting through the bullshit, 'So, better communication would help, right?'"

Study Center's organizational struc-

ture was pretty informal at the time. When the new Community Advisory Board of 35 people needed a chair, the choice was obvious.

"There was complete consensus that she should lead the group," Margaronis says. "She never doubted our potential and was ready to do battle for us. She gave us legitimacy. She saved us."

Many other groups could say the same thing.

Libby was a key player in the Greening of the Schoolyards movement in the early 1970s that changed the nature of playgrounds across the city. That and her other work in education built a grassroots base that got her elected to the San Francisco Board of Education in 1981. She served on the board through 1993, including a term as president in 1988.

She chaired the Delinquency Prevention Commission, and served on the Mayor's Advisory Council on Families, Children and Youth as well as the Mayor's Criminal Justice Council. With Martha Roditti, she put together the exhaustive "Guide to Services for Children, Youth and Families in San Francisco," produced through the Study Center and updated six times from the late-'70s through the late-'80s. She served 10 years on The Coleman Advocates for Children and Youth Advisory Board.

Libby helped bring hospice services to San Francisco as co-chair of the capital campaign for Coming Home Hospice, one of the first AIDS residences in the country. She was a trustee of Pacific Medical Center for 12 years and a member of the Board of Directors of the Institute on Aging for 10 years.

A board president of the San Francisco Mental Health Association, in 1971 she chaired its Education Com-

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HOUSING APPLICATIONS ARE BEING ACCEPTED FOR SINGLE ROOM OCCUPANCY BUILDINGS (SRO'S)



Please go to 241 6th Street, San Francisco, CA for applications
The TODCO SRO Housing Waiting List is open, for the Knox and the Bayanihan House. If your name is currently on any TODCO Housing Waiting List and you would like information on your current status please call the TODCO Marketing Office at 415-957-0227 on Fridays' only.

Building	Size/Occupancy Limit	Max./Min. Income-Limit	Rent
Knox SRO located at 241- 6th St. & Tehama is accepting applications and has an OPEN WAITING LIST.	SRO – 1 Person, or Couple Room size 10 ½ x 18 (Semi-Private) Bath- 7 x 7 In-each room: sink, micro-wave, refrigerator, 2-burner stove, closet, single bed. The Knox has a small gym, library, private lounge, roof top garden, community kitchen, laundry facility & 24 hour staff & surveillance	1 person \$34,600.00/Year Couple-Income \$39,520.00/Year Minimum income of \$866.40/Month	Move in Deposit \$560.00 Rent \$560.00 plus Utilities
Hotel Isabel located at 1095 Mission CLOSED OUT	SRO – 1 Person Shared Bath Each room has a sink, micro-wave, refrigerator, 2- burner stove, closet and single bed.	1 person \$33,360.00/Year No Minimum Income	30% OF INCOME Requires a Certificate of Homelessness
Bayanihan House (Non Assisted Units) located at 88 – 6th St. & Mission. OPEN WAITING LIST.	SRO – 1 Person, Couple Shared Bath Single 10 ½ x 12 – Double 12x12 In the Unit there is a sink, micro-wave, refrigerator, 2-burner stove, closet, single bed, community kitchen, 24 hour staff & surveillance, laundry facility	1 person \$30,275.00/Year Couple \$34,580.00/Year Minimum income of \$854.00/Month	Move in Deposit \$545.00 Rent \$545.00 Utilities included

TDD: (415) 345-4470



Get Geary Moving!

Join the SFCTA and SFMTA for a Geary Corridor Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Project Update!

The Geary BRT Project is a cost-effective way to improve bus service and enhance street conditions for Geary from Downtown to the Outer Richmond. Based on community input and ongoing technical evaluation, staff is recommending specific design options for BRT on the Geary corridor.

Come to an upcoming community meeting for a project update:

- Learn about the project evaluation process
- View design options for different segments of the corridor
- Provide your feedback

Richmond Recreation Center

Date: Monday, December 9th from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Address: 251 18th Avenue

Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California (JCCNC)

Date: Thursday, December 12th from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Address: 1840 Sutter Street

SF Main Public Library

Date: Tuesday, December 17th from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Address: 100 Larkin Street



(The same information will be presented at each meeting)

For special accommodations or language assistance, please call 415.593.1655 at least 72 hours in advance.



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Visit www.GearyBRT.org | E-mail: gearybrt@sfcta.org