

## **Cooks Collision Donates Recycled Ride to Home Start Graduate**

On November 19, a small group of employees of Cooks Collision and Roseville Home Start, as well as friends and family gathered for a very special pre-holiday presentation to a very deserving family.

To most of us, especially living in California, have our own car means freedom. The ability to go wherever we please, whenever we please. But to a formerly homeless family, it means so much more. The ability to make it to work and school on time. The ability to go to extra-curricular activities, or doctor's appointments, or to the grocery store with greater ease. Basically, the ability to live a more stable life.

Roseville Home Start was very pleased and honored to be given the opportunity to partner with Cooks Collision to bring a little more freedom and stability to Bree and her 15 year old son, recent graduates of the Home Start program.

After staying for 1 year at Home Start's residential facility and completing all the programs, including therapy, budgeting, help with job placement and homework, etc., Bree and her son are currently finishing up their final year, in the off-campus program, in an apartment of their own. Bree is now a manager at Lenny's Restaurant in Roseville, and her son is getting straight A's at school. They are truly a Home Start Success story, and everyone at Home Start is very proud of all that they have accomplished.



***Bree enjoying her new car.***

Cooks Collision has been a long time financial supporter of Home Start. In 2005, they committed to donating \$100,000 over the next 10 years to help fund our operational costs. As part of the Recycled Rides Program, they completely refurbished a 2003 Toyota Camry donated by a customer, and presented it to Bree and her son on November 19. Recycled Rides is a nationwide awareness project whereby members of the National Auto Body Council (NABC) repair and donate recycled vehicles to families in need in their communities.

"We at Cooks Collision feel the Recycled Rides Program is a great venue for us to give back to the community", said Chief Operating Officer Mike Barber. "It's truly a company effort, where each of our employees contributed to refurbishing the car for Bree and her son. They are great candidates who have proven themselves, and we would like to help them and other Home Start graduates in whatever way we can."

As a special surprise just for Bree's son, the employees of Cooks Collision in Roseville got together and presented a new guitar and amplifier to him, to recognize his hard work at school.

"We are excited about participating in Recycled Rides," states Ann Englebrecht, Executive Director of Roseville Home Start "Cooks Collision has a long history of helping those in need in our community and we're proud to be a part of this program. We feel Bree is the perfect match for this donation."

Thank you once again to Cooks Collision for their continuing support of the residents and graduates of Roseville Home Start.