

## THE GLAMOUR GOWNS EVENT

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DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES (KABC) -- For some girls, getting a date to the prom is much easier than getting a dress for the all-important dance. A local event called, Glamour Gowns is helping hundreds of teens in the foster care system dress up for the big night.

The event was slated to take place Saturday in West Hall Meeting Rooms 515 A and B at the Los Angeles Convention Center.

Crowds of girls from the Los Angeles foster care system were expected at the Saturday event which lasts from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Hundreds of dresses in all kinds of colors, styles and sizes were set up, most donated by Masquerade, a company that specializes in party apparel for young girls.

The lucky ladies will be privy to a dress, a pair of shoes, jewelry, a purse and even under garments.

The Glamour Gowns event is put on by a group called, Court Appointed Special Advocate Association (CASA), an organization for kids in the foster care system.

About 600 teens were expected to take part in the event, many of whom are victims of abuse or neglect who just haven't had a lot of opportunities to feel special.

"We sometimes think that clothing is such a superficial thing, but I mean, we all know the impact that feeling good has on how we then are able to act in the world. So these girls have a huge self-esteem gift from everybody who donates things for this event," said Dilys Tosteson Garcia, the executive director of CASA.

Shoemaker Chinese Laundry provided hundreds of shoes for the event.

Glamour Gowns is in its tenth year and has provided 4,500 girls with gowns. In addition to their head-to-toe outfits, the girls will also be given goody bags full of cosmetics.

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