



60 Years of Bringing HOPE to Individuals with Developmental Disabilities and Their Families

This year HOPE Services celebrates its 60th year of service to individuals with developmental disabilities. What started in a one-room schoolhouse in San Jose back in 1952 has evolved into a multi-faceted organization that serves the needs of over 2,500 individuals from San Mateo County all the way down to Salinas. Over the next several issues, we are going to take a look back at HOPE Services and what the next 60 years has in store for the organization.

50's and 60's

For many the story is timeless. In 1952, a group of parents of children with developmental disabilities who believed that their children deserved the same opportunities enjoyed by their siblings and friends, opened one of the first preschools for children with special needs. But HOPE was born well before those 12 children walked through the door on a one-room schoolhouse in San Jose. In 1951, Mae Buckaloo, a parent of a child with a developmental disability, placed a small news item in the San Jose Mercury newspaper asking if other parents with retarded children, which was the common word then, had similar fears and questions about raising them. Over a dozen people responded, and on February 11, 1952, HOPE for Retarded Children was formed.



The first preschool served 14 to 16 children each day



and was run by volunteers from the San Jose Women's Club. As the nursery school continued to thrive, the parents sought to hire an executive director of the organization. Pat Hobbs became HOPE's first Executive Director in 1957. By the end of 1959, HOPE for Retarded Children had also established a work training program for young adults who had completed their public school's special education program. HOPE's first workshop was established at Race Street in San Jose.

The 60's brought about the establishment of several more workshops, one in Mountain View and one in Gilroy. The Adult Development Center at Clove Drive was founded to teach community living skills to severely developmentally disabled individuals. These workshops received nationwide recognition as some of the finest workshops for people with developmental disabilities. HOPE was also the only organization in the State to receive funding for its counseling service.

(Continued on page four)



FROM JOHN CHRISTENSEN

The President's Message

It is quite an accomplishment when an organization can stand the test of time. HOPE Services is marking its 60th Anniversary of providing quality programs and services to people with developmental disabilities.

Throughout the years, HOPE's ability to thrive has hinged on one thing — adaptability. To that end, we have been very busy the last few months. I have been meeting with staff and parent groups to introduce myself and to get

to know our community's issues and concerns. We know that we want to control our own future, and in order to accomplish that we will need to provide revenue through alternate means. Our Salvage operation has been doing this for years, but we are branching out further with our green business ventures. Now is the time for us to adopt the concept of Social Enterprise, the provision of labor or services that contribute to our fiscal ability to accomplish our mission. This will be the next generation of HOPE Services, and I look forward to telling you all the details in the next few issues of *HOPE in Action*.

Celebrate the Season!

The administrative headquarters of HOPE Services was transformed into a winter wonderland when over 200 Homestart families gathered together to celebrate the holidays. Guests were treated to an evening of exciting activities, including: art projects, face painting, balloon twisting, and a petting zoo, graciously provided by Animal Assisted Happiness. A surprise visit by Santa was met with squeals of delight!

Community members played a pivotal role in the evening's success. Presents for every Homestart participant and sibling were generously donated by the Family Giving Tree, Cogenra Solar, Inc. and private individuals. Over 40 volunteers came together to decorate, wrap presents and entertain the families to ensure that everyone in attendance had a memorable



(L-R) Debbie Butler, Human Resources Specialist, Emily Condon, Senior VP, Marketing & Retail Delivery, and Debbie Sallen, Vice President, Human Resources from Alliance Credit Union.

experience. "We wish to thank Alliance Credit Union, Chuck Reynolds, Nita Goodson and the volunteers who helped to spread joy and cheer to our Homestart families," stated Vickey Perkins, Manager of the Homestart Program. "We are already looking forward to next year!"

HOPE's Innovative Green Business: e-Waste to Wages

HOPE Services was generously awarded a grant from the Yahoo! Employee Foundation to expand its e-Waste to Wages program to its San Jose and Mountain View sites. This innovative program provides paid employment opportunities for our more severely disabled clients, while keeping toxic materials out of local landfills. "We have already collected 168,401 lbs. of e-waste and have provided 1,152 hours of employment opportunities to our participants. These participants are paid minimum wage and are actively engaged in their community," stated Lori Arnberg, Central District Director. "We continue to look for more community partnerships which will help to increase our collection of e-waste and in turn provide more opportunities for paid employment for our participants." If you are interested in hosting an e-waste event, please contact **John Koncoli** at **(408) 761-5156**



Since 1993, HOPE Services has held the USGS contract where seven individuals with developmental disabilities are currently employed. The USGS in Menlo Park recently held a very successful e-waste event.

or jkoncoli@hopeservices.org. For e-waste drop off locations, or more information about upcoming collection events, please visit www.hopeservices.org.



Hearts & Moons: HOPE Services' Annual Fundraising Dinner in Half Moon Bay

In February, HOPE Services celebrated its 60th Anniversary and six years of service in the Half Moon Bay area. Local chefs, John Karbowski and Doug Degeeter (Cetrella), Tim Duarte (Duarte's Tavern), Dee Harley (Harley Farms), Betsy Del Fierro (It's Italia), and Roberto Pugliese (Mezzaluna) treated more than 100 community leaders, friends and families of HOPE to an evening of exquisite food.

HOPE family members shared personal experiences, including Sergei Doncov, a HOPE client who volunteers at the Peninsula Humane Society. "(Volunteering) teaches job skills and how to be responsible," Sergei stated. Sergei is dreaming about a paid job in the area of environmental, animal and wildlife care.

Lynn Adams, who accepted HOPE's award for Outstanding Community Partnership for Pacifica Beach Coalition, in return honored three HOPE clients for their exemplary work in helping to protect the ocean and wildlife by keeping beaches around Half Moon Bay clean.



Lynn Adams, Pacifica Beach Coalition, honoring HOPE clients and beach clean-up team Cassie Alvarado, Scott Digre, and Eddy Johnson with "Stars of the Sea" awards.

CORPORATE SPOTLIGHT

Specialized Bicycle Components

Specialized has had a close partnership with HOPE Services since 1993, when it began providing full-time jobs to people with developmental disabilities. Currently, 15 full-time HOPE clients are employed where they play a key production role in supporting innovative new products, such as Specialized's "Purist" water bottle — a product that has received rave reviews for setting a new industry standard.

Recently, Ryan Jones, Specialized Water Bottle Production Manager, wrote a letter of appreciation for Job Coach Samuel Dewitt — one of a team of coaches who serve as mentors and job skill developers for the clients at Specialized. Ryan commented that Samuel's "tremendous work ethic, positive attitude, and ability to see the good in all, has helped many of the clients become stronger individuals and, most importantly, more confident in themselves. Samuel is a reminder of how one person can change many lives in a positive way, and how important being a job coach for HOPE truly is," with the result being "the placement of a client where we know they will succeed."



Congratulations Samuel for your recent recognition by Specialized and for ensuring our participants meet their goals of community membership.

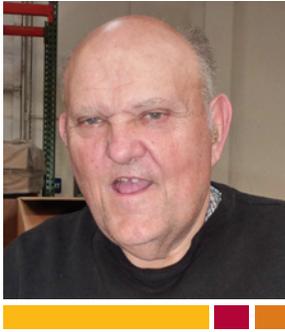
It is coaches like Samuel that bring out the best in those around them and ensure that our clients meet their goals of economic self-sufficiency and community membership. But it is also corporations like Specialized who take a moment to recognize individual efforts and ensure that all their employees, disabled or non-disabled, are welcome, included and part of their team!



60 Years

(Continued from page one)

The 50's and 60's set the course for what the agency was to become. **Dominic Acquistapace** was one of those first 12 preschoolers back in 1952. Today, Dominic is still served by HOPE Services. Through various HOPE programs, Dominic has received life skills training, such as how to use public transportation, shop, and do his own laundry. Dominic has a full life. He works full-time, has devoted friends and interesting hobbies, and has traveled to Washington, D.C., New York City, Philadelphia, and Hawaii. Dominic has a life that he and his parents could only dream of 60 years ago. If it was not for a group of concerned parents, HOPE would not be where we are today. (To Be Continued, June 2012)



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Celebrate our 60th Anniversary and help us build a community of HOPE for individuals with developmental disabilities. Expect an inspiring morning!

For sponsorship or ticket information, please visit www.HOPEservices.org or call (408) 284-2867.

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60TH ANNIVERSARY BUILDING COMMUNITY

BENEFIT BREAKFAST FOR HOPE SERVICES

SCOTT HAMILTON OLYMPIC GOLD MEDALIST
KEYNOTE SPEAKER

MAY 2, 2012 WEDNESDAY
7:30 TO 9:00 A.M.

Santa Clara Convention Center, Mission City Ballroom

Tickets: \$75