



Hope in *Action* Summer 2015

Cars 'n' Cowboys presented by Randi & Jim Zanardi

The first bi-annual Cars 'n' Cowboys event was held August 1st in the Los Gatos Shopping Center, thanks to the generosity of Randi and Jim Zanardi. The Zanardis are long-time supporters of Hope. When Jim was a student at Santa Clara University, he told Randi

display. The cars represented a large swathe of automotive history, ranging from a 1914 Packard to some 1970s Ferraris. Randy Hahn, the voice of the San Jose Sharks, emceed the event, while guests enjoyed great food, including wood-fired pizza from Aldo Maresca (Aldo's Ristorante & Bar and Aldo's Café). Guests also enjoyed music, and some even ventured out onto the parking lot dance floor for some line dancing. A special appearance by Italian tenor Pasquale Esposito lent a new twist to western music!

The highlight of the evening occurred when John DiManto won the 1970 Cadillac El Dorado that Jim Zanardi had donated for raffle. John immediately turned around and donated it back to Hope, along with a generous gift. Whereupon, Jim Zanardi proceeded to live auction the car, earning yet more funds for Hope.

Many thanks to Randi and Jim Zanardi without whom this event would not have been possible and to Helen and Eddie Owen, co-chairs for the event. Hope also thanks the many sponsors, volunteers and in-kind donors who contributed to the success of the event. The proceeds will go towards transitioning 145 clients out of a sheltered workshop and into a community-based program that includes life skills training, media-based learning, and paid work. You can find out more about our workshop transition on page 3 of the newsletter.



Jim Zanardi at the Cars 'n' Cowboys Live Auction

that when he had money, he was going to support Hope. He and Randi have been true to that promise, generously donating and sponsoring fundraisers for Hope for over 20 years.

Jim and Randi had previously hosted the Concours d'Hope at their home. When thinking about resurrecting the event, Randi decided to put a modern twist on the event--envisioning the same concept of great food and amazing cars, but in a casual atmosphere evoking the Wild West that would entice both men and women to the event, and provide much needed funds for Hope. Mission Accomplished!

Approximately 200 Hope supporters gathered for the festivities. With Randi's vision and direction, the parking lot was transformed into a western wonderland, complete with hay bales. Jim corralled a herd of classic car owners, who brought 25 beautiful cars to



Bill Palmer & Randi Zanardi at Hope's Cars 'n' Cowboys fundraiser.



Hope CEO Ray Smith

A year ago in this newsletter, I was introduced as the new CEO. Now, at the end of our 2015 fiscal year, it's a great time to reflect on the exciting things that Hope has accomplished in my first year. Here are some highlights:

New Mission Statement—A good mission statement must be measurable and actionable. Hope has adopted a new, more simplistic, mission statement—“To improve the quality of life for people with developmental disabilities.” Hope will measure its success using eight indicators: personal development, self-determination, interpersonal relations, social inclusion, rights, emotional well-being, physical well-being, and material well-being. While Hope has always inherently followed these principles, formally adopting them, as well as creating a method to measure and track them, enables us to clearly identify where we need to improve and create concrete plans. For example, we identified through client surveys that our lowest score as an agency is on social inclusion. To improve the score, we are modifying where our community activities occur, so that when possible, community activities take place directly within our clients' neighborhood communities.

Hope Has Also Adopted a Long-Term Vision—“To lead with initiatives that help develop society's acceptance of people with disabilities. To promote a common understanding that the world is a better place when people with disabilities are fully integrated and accepted in all aspects of our culture.” Like our Mission Statement, this statement is fully consistent with what the founding families of Hope envisioned and is a powerful guiding principle.

Hope Family Alliance—A network of support, resources, and advocacy is critical to achieve our mission and vision. Indeed, Hope would not exist if it wasn't for the engagement and drive of the families of our first clients. We are focusing on making family and caregiver engagement a priority, and in the past year, we have dramatically increased face-to-face meetings, letters, newsletters and website information. This past year we held over 30 meetings with family members and caregivers.

New Programs Underway

• **Creating Choices—Transitioning the Work Activity Program**—Forty years ago, the Work Activity Program was a progressive shift away from institutional settings; today there is a recognition of the importance of community integration and individual choice, and Hope is at the vanguard of beginning the transition away from secluded work environments. We are partnering with federal, State, and local agencies, as well as our families

and staff, to transition our Work Activity Programs to programs that enable our clients to enjoy a more dynamic and satisfying experience—mixing work, community activities, classroom teaching, and media-based learning. For more information about our program transition, read the article on page 3 of the newsletter.

- **Tailored Day Services (TDS)—Focused Learning and accomplishments**—TDS enables individuals who are regional center clients to pursue postsecondary education, develop or maintain employment, explore volunteer opportunities, or to simply increase their ability to lead integrated and inclusive lives in their community. The amount of hours provided by the service is typically between 5 and 8 hours a week.

Improved Fiscal Performance—Given the State's limited funding (approximately 60% of Hope's costs), Hope must continue to fill the gap through donations, grants, corporate support, and our businesses. In the past several years Hope has borrowed heavily to compensate for funding shortfalls. One of our priorities has been to improve our financial standing. Prudent fiscal management this year, as well as slight increases in our fundraising, has enabled us to reduce our dependence on our credit line to meet payroll. We appreciate the support from our community of family members, businesses, foundations, and other supporters. We will continue to lobby hard with the State for funding increases, while at the same time focusing on increasing our fundraising efforts.



Toby, a participant in Hope's media program, conducts an interview.

More Work to Be Done—We made great progress over the past year, but we still have a ways to go. We will continue to work with the State to increase funding for our programs, but we cannot wait for that to happen, because additional funding may not materialize or—if it does—will likely be insufficient to cover our costs. We need to aggressively raise additional funds to:

1. Provide our staff with the basic cost of living increases that they have forgone over the last 11 years;
2. Transition our work activity programs to community-integrated programs; and
3. Support employment in the community for more clients who wish to work, with more funding for job coaching and support.

With your continued support, we will continue to improve the quality of life for people with developmental disabilities.

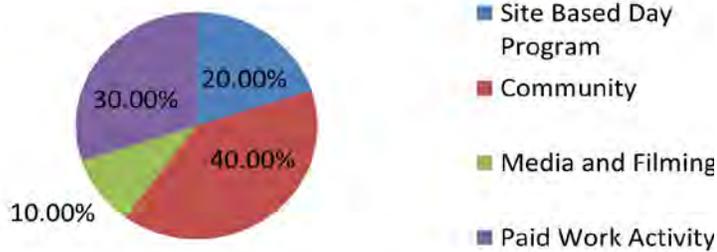
Work Activity Transition Update

Improving Quality of Life: Work Activity Transition Update

This is an exciting time for the participants in Hope's Work Activity Programs. New federal legislation mandates the closure of secluded workshop-based programs over the next five years, like those that Hope has traditionally operated. Hope is taking a leadership role in moving well in advance of the deadlines to design new work programs that will emphasize community involvement and improving the quality of life of our clients. Over the next two years, Hope's Work Activity Programs—which operate in San Jose, Mountain View, Santa Clara, Hollister, Gilroy, Salinas, and Monterey—will experience major changes. Hope's goal is for each client to have a program that is tailored to his or her needs, which will include paid work, but also new opportunities for learning, and access to different community-based activities. (Contact your Hope Services representative for more details.)

Targeted activity profile

Person Centered Planning will be used for each client



Person-Centered Planning

The new programs will allow for more attention to the needs and interests of individuals. The transition will involve a dramatic improvement in staff-to-client ratio. Whereas the Work Activity Programs that Hope has operated for about 40 years have a 1 to 20 staff-to-client ratio, the new programs will have a 1 to 4 ratio for community events, and a 1 to 8 overall ratio. Staff will be better able to tailor activities to the abilities and interests of clients in order to improve their quality of life.

Community-Based Activities

Secluded workshop environments will migrate over time to work that provides opportunities for clients to actively participate in their communities and learn new skills that will increase their opportunities in the future. The new programs will include community-based outings, classroom teaching, and media-based learning. Clients in our media program may learn how to operate video equipment. They may also produce short films on topics including political advocacy, nutrition, and safety training. In addition, Hope instructors will offer classes to clients on a variety of topics like leadership, safety, social skills, and career planning.

Preparation and Timing

In order to achieve this transition, Hope plans to hire approximately 20 new employees, as well as a specialty director, and trainers to train staff on safety and how to use technology and software. The Gilroy and San Jose programs will be at the vanguard of Hope's work activity transition, and their new programs will be in place by early next year. The transition will only be partially funded by the state, and Hope will rely on our donors to help fill the funding gap.

For more information on this transition, including questions and answers, please go to: www.hopeservices.org/our-services/work-activity-transition/.



Hope participants are learning how to produce short films.

Support Hope



Hope's fundraising goal this year: \$2 million. Help us get there!

- Donate directly at www.HopeServices.org. We accept online donations, stocks, monthly gifts & more.
- Register for eScrip at www.eScrip.com and choose Hope Services.
- Go to AmazonSmile—<http://smile.amazon.com>—and select Hope Services as your beneficiary.
- Get a Save Mart/Lucky/FoodMaxx S.H.A.R.E.S. card—contact Angela Mazza, amazza@hopeservices.org, to obtain your card.

Your support through S.H.A.R.E. and Amazon Smile for the past year has yielded almost \$2000, funding 8 months of job coaching for a Hope client.

Whittier Talent Show

The audience grew quiet. "Love, exciting and new...." At first the singer, Michael Scott, sounded hesitant, but as he continued to sing, his confidence increased. "Come Aboard. We're expecting you. And Love, life's sweetest reward. Let it flow, it floats back to you." Thus began Hope's annual Whittier talent show. This talent show provides a chance for Hope clients to explore and celebrate their creativity.

The evening's other performances included a speech by Jane Malkofsky, who encouraged Hope's clients and the audience to rise above their disabilities and fears. The other performers did just that as they sang, danced and recited their poetry, enjoying this moment when they could celebrate their accomplishments, and the audience celebrated along with them, giving everyone a standing ovation at the end of the show.



hope services
30 Las Colinas Lane
San Jose, CA 95119-1212

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Melissa Morton's CAN Do Attitude

Melissa Morton is a Hope CAN (Community Access Group) participant and the 2014 Larry Schott Humanitarian Award recipient. The award recognizes individuals who exemplify the characteristics of Larry Schott—his humanitarian heart and his dedication to volunteer service in the community. It's easy to see why Melissa is the 2014 recipient—she is a woman of vision, who looks for ways to contribute to her community, better herself, and inspire those around her.

Melissa is very active in the Mountain View CAN program. Her enthusiasm has

made her an important PR person for the program, and has been instrumental in attracting new participants. She has also helped inspire other participants with her accomplishments: Some of Melissa's art from one CAN project was displayed at the Palo Alto Art Center, encouraging others to follow their dreams. She has also inspired CAN participants by embarking on—and succeeding with—an ambitious plan to achieve a healthy body weight while participating in the CAN walking program.

Melissa's many CAN volunteer activities include:

- Resource Area for Teachers (RAFT)
- City of Mt. View Shoreline Park Rangers
- St. Francis High School Volunteer Fair
- Hope's benefit breakfast volunteer
- Community Services Agency—Food Bank
- La Comida - Senior Lunch Program
- Ecumenical Hunger Program—Food Bank

Additionally, on her own time, she has been the 2015-2016 President of the Hope Services Lions Club, and she also started a knitting club at her apartment complex.

With all of these efforts, Melissa embodies Hope's vision of helping people with developmental disabilities reach their potential and be active participants in their communities, as well as Larry Schott's way of life. Hope is proud to celebrate Melissa, Morton, 2014 Larry Schott Humanitarian Award Winner!



Want to learn more about us? We'd love to hear from you.

We value your feedback. Call with questions or to share your thoughts.

Send all correspondence to: Hope Services, Attn: Development Department, 30 Las Colinas Lane, San Jose, CA 95119-1212.

Talk to us: 408.284.2862 or 408.284.2858, or connect online at www.HopeServices.org.

Take a tour: We promise to make your day a bit brighter. Contact Angela Mazza at 408.284.2862 or amazza@hopeservices.org.



www.HopeServices.org

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