VOCATIONAL VISIONS

VIEWPOINT

- Winter -
February 2014

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Visit our website, or join us on Facebook to get the latest updates, post your comments and get involved!

www/vocationalvisions.org
www.facebook.com/vocationalvisions

TAX ID # 95-2972669

Individual Visionary: Howard Neufeld

Howard Neufeld has been a member of Vocational Visions' Board of Directors since 1982.

We honored Howard at our November 2013 Annual Meeting and Volunteer Luncheon with two awards. A thirty year volunteer award, as well as presenting him with the 2012-2013 Helen Bora Award. The Helen Bora award is presented to a volunteer each fiscal year who has consistently gone above and beyond in their volunteer efforts.

Joan McKinney presents the Helen Bora award to Howard Neufeld

Before Howard became a volunteer at Vocational Visions he was Executive Director of the OCARC, (Orange County Association of Retarded Citizens).

"The work was so fulfilling that I agreed to be on Vocational Visions' board. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve on the board, and to associate with such dedicated, caring and generous people as there are, and have been over the years. I am thankful to Vocational Visions for providing the opportunity to serve."

We are proud to have Howard on our team. He continues to amaze us with his generosity and willingness to step in when needed.

Thank you Howard, you are an inspiration to us all!

an Enchanted Evening AT THE KENTUCKY DERBY

Vocational Visions' Annual Fundraiser

An Enchanted Evening at the Kentucky Derby

Join us **May 3, 2014** at the Irvine Marriott for another fantastic evening filled with live entertainment, participant performers, live and silent auctions and an excellent menu!

All proceeds directly support the programs and services of Vocational Visions!

For reservations or sponsorship information, call Tammy Jensen at (949) 837-7280 x214, email tjensen@vocationalvisions.org or visit our website www.vocationalvisions.org

We are accepting donations for our Live & Silent Auctions!

Letter from the Executive Director

2013 ended in a flourish of activity and 2014 began with the same intensity level, keeping all of us at Vocational Visions engaged in faithfully living our mission.

At the close of 2013 we painted, carpeted and furnished two sensory stimulation rooms for our HRS program. We were able to accomplish this because of a generous gift of $52,000 from an individual donor. The therapeutic equipment purchased will truly enhance the program day for our participants. We also received a $25,000 grant from the PIMCO Foundation to support our employment programs.

Vocational Visions began 2014 with our CARF accreditation survey which took place on January 6-8, 2014. Two CARF surveyors visited with us for 3 days to review both the administrative and program components of our organization. They visited employment sites; interviewed referral & funding source representatives, board members, staff, and participants; and reviewed lots of records to determine our level of compliance with CARF accreditation standards. The results of the survey will be available on the website once we receive the report from CARF.

Our Enchanted Evening at the Kentucky Derby event is just a couple of months away and we are busy with all the planning that is needed for a successful event. Thank you to our board members Linda Albers and Hilary Hurt for serving as co-chairs for this year's event. The event will take place on May 3, 2014 at the Irvine Marriott. Sponsorship opportunities are still available!

Mark Sorenson of Pacifica Foods has joined our Board of Directors. His business experience and training are a welcome addition to this dedicated group of volunteers.

Each and every day at Vocational Visions we see our participants learning and gaining new levels of independence. Your support and partnership breathe life into our mission. Thank you for being a part of our success. Regards,

Joan McKinney
Executive Director

VISIONARY CLUB MEMBERS 2012-2013

INSPIRATIONAL LEADERS

City of Mission Viejo

Boeing Employees Fd

Craig & Amy Nickoloff

Orange County UW

Richard & Pat Trillwood

United Agencies Inc.

Vons Foundation

GUIDING LIGHTS

Dr. Linda Albers

Susan Bachtelle

David & Linda Baird

Barbara Boteler

Barbara Boulting-house Deming

Donald Bunker

Cecil & Louise Capps

City of Rancho Santa Margarita

John Connolly

Lew Coppersmith

Andy Cracchiolo

Michael & Sharron Dumas

Elks Lodge Mission Viejo/Saddleback

Leroy & Patricia Ellington

William Fain

Ching & Humei Feng

Joseph Foley

Robert Follman/R.A. Industries

Terry & Diane Haffey

Hausman Family Fdn

HBLA

Denis & Catherine Hebert

Ron & Claudia Hill

Jamie Fullmer Memorial Foundation

Ed Lee & Michal Masada Lee

Steven Lovell

Peter & Alex Neptune

Howard & Alana Neufeld

Pacific Western Bank

Larry & Carol Roberts

John Roth

Secured Properties

Walter Simanson

James Smith

Soka University

Taco Bell—Cotti Foods Corp.

Ross Thomas

Laura Tritt

Vogt/Resnick/Sherak

Rodney & Carol Wilbert

Mary Yakura

SYMBOLS OF HOPE

Daniel Bora

Bruce & Pam Bugland

Calisson Inc.

David Cosgrove

Terry Dorse

Mohammad Emami

Marlene Hanlon

Juel Hansen

Kathryn Hebel

Hilary & Tom Hurt

Edward & Rosemarie Kenna

Konica-Minolta

Sheri Lee

Nancy Livingston

Tami Lutzker

Richard & Carol Mraule

Jim & Pam Pasino

Milt & Lynda Ratcliff

Rita Rodeheaver

Rotary Club of MV

Rutan & Tucker, LLP

So. Region Insur. Co.

Julia Stannard

Sterling Search Inc.

Luella Syler

Dennis Ullmann

William & Joan Waiksnis

Dennis Walsh

Floyd & Maryann Watson

Wright/Ford/Young

James & Pat Yeckel

Thank You

Eat & Greet, Support Our Fleet - October 26, 2013

Vocational Visions' third annual "Eat & Greet, Support Our Fleet" fundraiser was held on October 26, 2013. The fundraiser raised over $9,000 to help upgrade, purchase and maintain our fleet of vehicles. Vocational Visions' vehicles transport participants to their job sites as well as daily community activities. Three new vans were purchased in 2013 with the help of our "Eat & Greet, Support Our Fleet", fundraisers! We appreciate the continued support from our donors, guests, sponsors, volunteers and staff. See you at next year's fundraiser!

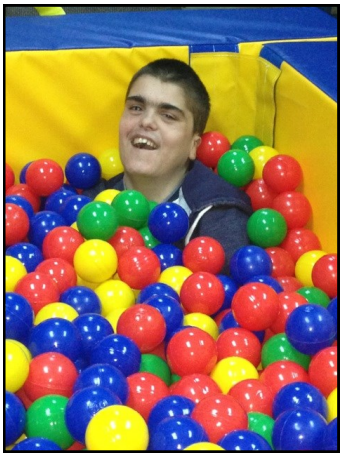
The bake sale included a delicious variety of cookies, cakes, cake pops and Vocational Visions' Dessert Recipe Book Volume 2.

Nick and his crew from NickCo Hospitality Group were on hand to sponsor an amazing BBQ lunch for a second year. The menu included filet mignon sliders, grilled chicken, cole slaw, fruit salad and chips. Thank you NickCo for your support and fantastic menu!

The Chance Auction with 18 exciting baskets! Including a one night stay at the Irvine Marriott, NickCo gift certificates and a Swarovski Austrian Crystal bracelet valued at $100.

New Sensory Stimulation Equipment!

Michael Danzi and the Michael Danzi Fund have generously donated $52,000 to remodel and purchase new equipment for two sensory stimulation rooms for Vocational Visions' HRS, DTAC and Emeritus programs. The exciting and inspiring sensory equipment will provide opportunities for actively engaging our participants in activities in a soothing environment. By opening a window of communication and connection, our participants will enhance their cognitive, physical, social, emotional and sensory skills; as well as experience an environment for stress relief and relaxation.



In the photos to the right you can see Chad Stump enjoying the ball pool, and one of the sensory rooms taking shape with a new leaf chair, sensory bottles, bean bags, new carpeting and black window shades. We know that these rooms will be put to good use for participant activities!

We are grateful to our partnership with Mike and appreciate this very generous gift to our participants!

Thank you Michael Danzi!

VOLUNTEERS 2012-2013

Paula Abramowitz	Judy DiLallo	Susan Irby	Vaieli Parker
Dr. Linda Albers	Johnny Diwas	Jom Ison	Joe Pasciotta
Dave Anderson	Virginia Diwas	Maria Jacobs	Linda Ramsey
Sandy Anderson	Maria Edgcomb	Barbara Johnson	Barry Reid
Ernesto Apolinario	Craig Ephraim	Edward Kenna	Vida Reid
Irene Apolinario	Lilianne Ephraim	Rosemarie Kenna	Silvia Ritterling
Marilyn Atwell	Mila Ephraim	Rita Kincaid	Carol Roberts
David Baird	Roland Fernandez	Peggy Kisella	Larry Roberts
Linda Baird	Savalina Filemoni	Kiwanis Laguna Hills	John Roth
Lori Bartlett	Joseph Foley	Kim Klavzar	Lito Santos
Adrienne Bean	Fred Foster	Rebekka Knoles	Barbara Sartor
Clarissa Belmonte	Stacey Gee	Jan Kylander	Jack Saxton
Rector Belmonte	Jessie Gill	Meg Kylander	Erika Schiller
Larry Bill	Kris Graham	Ed Lee	Bob Serra
Nick Billing	Sandra Granados	Sheri Lee	James Shaffer
Amaurillo Bondoc	Sara Granados	Rosemarie Leonard	Nika Shoemaker-Machado
Jordan Bradsher	Oscar Grande	Jessica Maccaro	Keith Sims
Mary Bradsher	Robin Griffith	Marlon Machado	Margaret Stillwell
Jim Brogan	Patricia Griggs	Arya Mahram	Russ Stillwell
Sandy Brogan	Kathy Hannah	Linda McDowell	Luella Syler
Ellie Cantrell	Mary Harden	Jayne McIntyre	Lydia Tadeo
Glenn Carreon	J.D. Hardin	Carol Megara	Ramon Tadeo
Lois Clenney	Catherine Hebert	Tom Megara	Pat Trillwood
Terri Collins	Denis Hebert	Sharon Meredith	Richard Trillwood
John Connolly	Mark Hernandez	Ed Mitchell	Keanu Trujillo
Carissa Contreras	Giselle Houlihan	Mike Mitchell	Virginia Vincent
Rudy Contreras	Jackie Huckleberry	Yolanda Mooney	Elizabeth Vondra
Jill Cooper	Noah Huckleberry	Tim Morgan	Dennis Walsh
David Cosgrove	Judy Hunt	Erin Morrow	Debbie Watkins
Rose Mary Coward	Wayne Hunt	Alex Neptune	Carol Wilbert
Mary Ann Dehlsen	Nancy Hunter	Peter Neptune	Dorothy Wood
Tanya Delzell	Courtney Hurt	Howard Neufeld	Pete Zimmerman
Duncan Dieterly	Hilary Hurt	Tina Neukirch	

HAVE YOU HEARD?

Vons/Pavilions celebrated participant Richard Wixted with a "Five Years" service award. Richard enjoys his job at Pavilions; he is a positive thinking and hard working employee.

Congratulations Richard!

Workplace spotlight!

Participant Jesse Novak was spotlighted in Newport Therapy Center's September 2013 newsletter. "For 11 years Jesse has been a part-time employee. Jesse works to ensure that all of the toys, therapy tools and office equipment at the Mission Viejo site are cleaned and sanitized every day. Jesse has brought joy and endless smiles to the staff who have the pleasure of working along side him each day".

We are very proud of Jesse and his accomplishments!

The Mission Viejo Rotary Club generously donated to Vocational Visions' Clubhouse Halloween Party, and the 2013 "Eat & Greet, Support Our Fleet" fundraiser. **Thank you Mission Viejo Rotary Club for your continued support!**

The City of Mission Viejo was recently honored with the California Disabilities Services Association's Large Employer of the year award for its commitment to providing jobs to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The city has been working with Vocational Visions for 18 years and has fourteen of our participants as employees.

"It's a big deal for us," City Manager Keith Rattay said, "They're awesome. They do a wonderful job for us. Many of them live here, so we're helping our own residents."

Congratulations City of Mission Viejo!

Dennis Wilberg/MV City Manager, Roland Fernandez/CEM Vocational Visions, David Leckness/City Council member, Cathy Schlicht/City Council member, Joan McKinney/Exec. Dir. Vocational Visions, Rhonda Reardon/City of MV Mayor, Frank Ury/City Council member

MISSION VIEJO Library Services

Participants Christine Swanson and Denise Grow work at the Mission Viejo Library. They are responsible for sorting and re-shelving books. They also retrieve books from the libraries book drop and re-sensitize them. Originally the book cart that was used for retrieving books from the book drop was difficult to push and pull over the cobblestone walkway at the Library. Library Manager, Kathleen Kelton approached the City of Mission Viejo requesting that they provide a more stable cart to assist their employees with disabilities with book drops and pickups. The City authorized the Library with financing for a new cart. The existing cart was customized by putting it on a platform with wheels that provide more maneuverability. The handle of the cart was also made more ergonomically friendly.

Mission Viejo's Library staff are all pleased with the new cart and thank Kathleen and the City of Mission Viejo for making it happen!

VOCATIONAL VISIONS

CREATING POSSIBILITIES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES SINCE 1974

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or current resident

HOW YOUR DONATIONS HELP!

$50 provides gas for a day of community exploration for twenty people.

$100 allows five men & women the opportunity to explore potential employment options.

$500 purchases adaptive technology in the form of touch screens & specialized keyboards.

$1,000 transports twenty participants to their jobsites for one month.

Vocational Visions has served over 3000 adults with intellectual/development and other disabilities since 1974.

Vocational Visions is a Registered 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Organization Tax ID# 95-2972669

Partner with Orange County United Way

Accredited by the Rehabilitation Accreditation Commission for six of our programs.

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