



# the INNER VOICE

January 2005  
Villa Family & Staff Newsletter

Providing Love, Care and Hope for Individuals with Disabilities and their Families

## DOTTIE'S NOTES

Dear Villa Family,

2004 has been an incredible year, from the sale of the Hope Chest, to the launching of the Speech and Language Center, to bringing back a high school after many years, to the tri-annual CARF accreditation of the vocational program, to the Board's formalizing of the 2004-2007 Strategic Plan, to mention just a few of the year's achievements. It has taken all of us working together as a team to make it all happen.

Also, on behalf of all 170 Villa staff, I want to thank all of you who helped to make the holidays so special: 1) Villa's parents, grandparents and siblings, for your generous holiday gift. This year it was a \$30 Wal-Mart gift card. It was a gift that Villa could not provide without you; 2) the Board of Directors sponsored its annual holiday party for Board members, major donors and the

management team at Mijares Mexican Restaurant; (The Board gave me a beautiful crystal cherub holding a heart. It has a special meaning for our children and adults at Villa; and, is now a companion to the painting in my office of the "guardian angel child" who has kept a faithful watch over Villa for the past eight years); 3) the dedicated staff who provide such good care and education for Villa's children, adults and seniors; and, 4) finally, but foremost, the children, adults and seniors we are here to serve, for their love and acceptance.

Now we look forward to 2005, expecting another exciting and challenging year of expanding our programs to serve more children, adults and seniors!

Happy New Year!



the  
INNER VOICE  
2116 East Villa Street  
Pasadena, California 91107

### Help Villa Esperanza save paper!

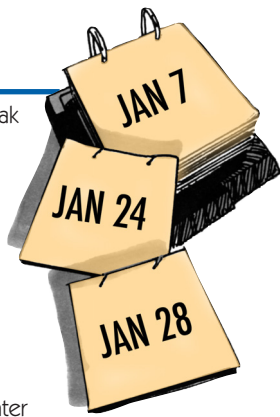
Have our newsletter sent to your email address each month. Contact [acho@villaesperanzaservices.org](mailto:acho@villaesperanzaservices.org) to get on the email list.



2004 HAPPENINGS!

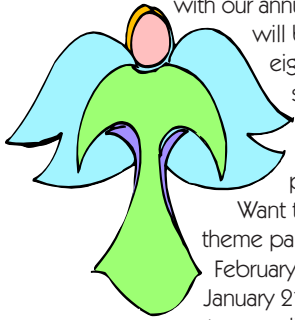
## DATES TO REMEMBER:

- 4** First day of School after Winter Break  
ADHC Motown Sing Along, 11am
- 7** ADHC Elvis Presley Celebration,  
11am and 1pm
- 11** Children & Youth  
Program-Minimum Day
- 17** Martin Luther King Jr. Day —  
All Day Programs closed
- 21** ADHC Hat Day, 11am
- 23-28** ADHC Professionals Week
- 24** Board Meeting, 3:30pm, Braun Center
- 25** Children and Youth Program-Parent Coffee Meeting, 9am  
ADHC Ladies Tea Party, 1:30pm
- 28** January B-Day Party at ADHC, 1:15pm



## CHILDREN & YOUTH PROGRAMS

Art Therapy is back! The Art Therapy Program will begin in January with our annual **Angel Frames Project**. The Art Therapists will be working with the children once a week for eight weeks. Each classroom will receive one hour sessions. We are so excited and look forward to seeing the beautiful artwork at the end of the year Art Show! If you would like to help with this project, please contact **Casey Gregg, ext. 17**.  
Want to go to Disneyland? Disney is offering special theme park tickets for a low price during the month of February and March. The deadline for this offer is January 21 so if you're interested, see Casey Gregg to fill out an application.



We welcome **Leticia Bonilla** to our program. She will be the new instructional aide in Room 1.

## ADULT PROGRAMS

### Dimensions:

January will be filled with exciting activities, including going to see the **Rose Parade floats**, taking a trip to the Staples Center in downtown Los Angeles to see **Monster. Inc on Ice**, and enjoying an ice skating excursion.

Congratulations to our clients **Kristie Allen** and **Steve Hjelte** for maintaining good behavior this past month. Keep up the good work!

Farewell to **Debbie Nishiyama**, who graduated from Dimensions and will be working at Foothill Workshop. We wish you luck in your new endeavor.

We also welcome clients **Neil Eishen, Patrick Murphy, Jonathan Prouty** and **William Carletti** to our program.



### Residential:

We would like to thank the families who attended the open houses for our residential homes. We would especially like to thank our staff who worked diligently to put the events together.

Some very fun events happened in December, including the Cavalia Show, attended by the residents of the Wynn House. This Cirque de Soleil-like show was enjoyed by all and we look forward to events like this in the future.

It's **Special Olympics time!** One of the clients' favorite events, the Floor Hockey CSO Championship will take place at San Diego Convention Center from January 28-30.

Farewell and good luck to staff member **Mallene Trapley**. Thank you for all your hard work.

### Vocational:

December was filled with fun festivities like the Holiday Party for Dimensions and vocational clients on December 12. Thank you to all who helped and showed up!

We welcome **Maggie Cruz** to her new position, Independent Placement job coach and **Mary Brouton**, case manager to the program.

Farewell to staff member **Prossy Bulyaba**, who will be joining our education staff. Good luck in your new position!

### West Region:

The parents of **Job Coach Sarah Bruno, Jim** and **Diane Bruno**, hosted a wonderful Christmas Party on December 10 at their lakeside home in Westlake Village. Even Santa was able to make it by boat loaded with "Team Esperanza" T-shirts for all our clients! A great big thank you goes out to the Bruno family!

The Las Virgenes Water District board of directors will vote January 11 on our West Region Proposal to provide landscaping services to the district families, with our partner American Landscape Management as our consultants. This project has been in development for a year, and we are excited by this opportunity and look forward to the challenge.

We are delighted to now serve new vocational client, **Ryan Rose** in Individual Placement at Petsmart in Westlake Village. Congratulations to our client and board member, **Brian Koster** who is transitioning to an Individual Placement at Mann Theatres.

Congratulations also go to our Individual Placement client, **Bryan Stone**, who has been promoted to floor supervisor at Mann Theatres in Agoura Hills.

### Care Management:

Please help those who cannot help themselves. Donations are greatly needed to provide food, clothing and shelter for those in need. We welcome grocery vouchers (Ralph's and Food-4-Less are preferred), clothes, blankets and canned foods. Monetary donations help pay for rent, assist those living in hotels, those that are homeless, or close to becoming homeless.

### ADHC:

It's an activity packed month at ADHC! Check out the Dates to Remember and join us for some very fun events.

Farewell to client, **Michael Denham**. Good Luck and stay healthy.

### Volunteer:

Villa would like to thank **Natasha Nguyen** and the students of **Swim Pasadena Club** for donating beautifully packaged gifts of canned food, blankets, toiletries, games, and men's and women's clothing to our Care Management clients during the holiday season. 100 students got together for this endeavor and put together wonderful gift packages for those in need.



If you have an idea for a project or would like to volunteer at Villa, please contact Anna Cho at (626) 449-2919 ext 62, or email her at [acho@villaesperanzaservices.org](mailto:acho@villaesperanzaservices.org).

### Other News:

Congratulations to **Nicola Keller**, our Executive Assistant and Office Manager! She was recently honored by the Kiwanis Club of Pasadena, and was presented with the "Distinguished Kiwanian Award," based on rigorous criteria including community service and Kiwanis. Nicola was also elected to serve on the 2004-05 Board of Directors and become the Chair for Community Services for the Kiwanis Club.

Congratulations to **Kathy Rojas**, Front Desk Receptionist, celebrating her First Anniversary with the VES team! Farewell to Assistant Director of Development, **Miki Shelton**. Miki is now Director of Development for the Ojai Music Festival. We wish her good luck in her new job.

## DID YOU KNOW...?

Villa has made it easier to donate to your favorite programs! **Just go online and click on the "Donate" link.** We now have a secure server that will process your donations in a snap, plus you'll save on paper and stamps! For monthly donors, we are also offering the option of donating directly from your credit card or bank account every month on the day you desire. Now how easy is that! For more information about these options, please see or contact Anna Cho at ext 62.



### Birthday Wishes:

- |                                  |                                    |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>07</b> Lisamonque Cruz        | <b>15</b> Montrey Taylor           |
| <b>09</b> Michelle De Los Santos | <b>16</b> Juana Yanez              |
| <b>10</b> Kelly White            | <b>22</b> Carol Cruz               |
| <b>11</b> Armando Jacquez        | <b>23</b> Ollie Jones              |
| <b>12</b> Robert Strong          | <b>27</b> Velkis Rosas             |
| <b>13</b> Desiree Martinez       | <b>28</b> Kenneth Barbosa          |
| <b>14</b> Latasha Ruff           | <b>30</b> Crystal-Denise Armstrong |



### Wish List:

ADHC: Coffee maker, blender, kitchen utensils, paint for art group, and new tablecloths.

West Region: Money for work shirts.

Children & Youth Program: Arts and Craft Supplies, Computers

Dimensions: Latch hook rugs kits, microwave, round table, arts and crafts

Residential: Wynn house needs living room furnishings; and Brown House would like a treadmill.

