



the INNER VOICE

October 2004
Villa Family & Staff Newsletter

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

NOTES FROM DOTTIE NELSON, CEO

This month I'd like to write about CARF which is the accreditation body that rehabilitation facilities must be accredited by every three years. Although the focus is on our vocational programs in Pasadena and Thousand Oaks, in effect they review the whole agency in their comprehensive evaluation. This year they have mandated many changes that we have integrated into our strategic plan. These changes are consistent with the vocational vision in the strategic plan that I outlined a few issues ago. Misty Stiles, Director of the Vocational Program in Pasadena and Robert Efford, Director of the West Region, have been meeting with the families of Vocational Program clients to explain the changes and CARF. Come to hear more about these topics and more at the Families Meeting before the Annual Client Awards Dinner on Sunday, October 17th. The meeting will be at 3:00p.m. in the Braun Center and the awards dinner starts at 4:00 p.m. at Skandia Hall.

As many of you know, Calamigos bought Villa's old ranch last October. Calamigos is a 100-acre resort in Malibu, not far from the ranch. They still call the ranch Villa Esperanza even though you wouldn't recognize it as they have completely remodeled it. The Calamigos owners have opened their arms to us in the use of their facilities including the old ranch where 15 Dimensions' clients and staff recently spent the weekend. When the West Region Warwick house is renovated by HUD later this year, the clients will be temporarily housed at the old ranch. Also, Villa's staff and their families will be spending the day on Saturday, October 16th at their expense. We are pleased that we have such wonderful new partners that will benefit our clients and staff!

Dottie Nelson
CEO, Villa Esperanza Services



the
INNER VOICE
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Visit us online at
www.villaesperanzaservices.org



VILLA ESPERANZA SERVICES JACKETS

Summer is over and cold weather is approaching. Show your support for Villa while staying warm. For a mere \$15 you can own or give a gift of a beautiful **Villa jacket!** Act now as only a few sizes are available. Please call the Development Dept at (626) 449-2919, ext. 62 for further details.

MACY'S SHOPPING DAY

Get started on your holiday shopping and beat the rush! The Macy's Shopping Day will be held on Thursday, October 28th at the 401 South Lake location. As you shop, Macy's will be holding a fashion show, a beauty event and food will be provided by Trader Joe's and Tony Roma's. There will also be lots of giveaways! The admission ticket is only \$10. Villa receives all the money from the ticket sales and you get discounts on women's, men's and kids' fashions, accessories, housewares and furniture. **You'll also have a chance a win a \$1000 shopping spree!** Contact the Development Dept at (626) 449-2919, ext. 62, for further details.



DATES TO REMEMBER:

- 4th** CARF Reception, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.
- 7th** Back to School Night
- 15-21st** Gourmet Coffee Week at ADHC
- 16th** All Staff and Family Day at Calamigos, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- 17th** Adult Awards Night, 4:00-6:00 p.m.
Adult Families' Meeting 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.



CHILDREN & YOUTH PROGRAMS

The Children and Youth Programs' Fall semester began with a great start! We welcome back all the staff, and we look forward to another great school year.

We bid a fond farewell to Leonora Barron, Director of the Children and Youth Program who was made a job offer she couldn't refuse. We wish her all the best and look forward to future collaborative efforts with her new agency, CCFS. We are very fortunate to have Casey Gregg to step in as Acting Director until we find a new director.

Instructional Aides are very important to the Program and we would like to welcome **Frank Carreon, Ollie Jones, Armando**

Jaquez and Ryan Roberts. We would also like to welcome the new students in room 5, in preschool, and all the students in our High School which opened its doors on September 7th.

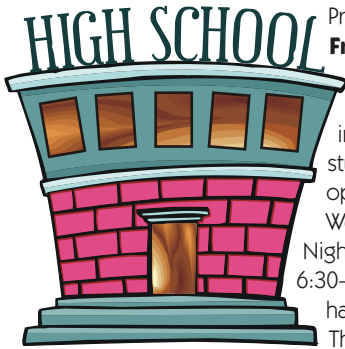
We invite all parents to our Back to School Night on October 7th. Visit the teachers from 6:30-8:00 p.m. to hear about the great things happening in the classrooms.

The next parent coffee meeting will be

held on October 26th at 9 a.m. Join us to get the latest information on the Programs.

Farewell and good luck to **Gaby Dimas**, Instructional Aide, and **Marland Reed**, Aide II, who left Villa after being with us for almost 5 years. They will truly be missed.

A special recognition to **Raymond Arranaga**, Instructional Aide, for a job well done. He has been incredibly cooperative and willing to help out wherever needed. Thank you **Raymond!**



ADULT PROGRAMS

News from Dimensions

Dimensions has catered three events for Ability First, and has prepared lunches for the Tournament of Hope Golf Committee's planning meetings. We appreciate and value all your hard work!

Aside from being hardworkers and enjoying their job, the Dimensions team also likes having fun. They will be going on several community outings. They will enjoy the last warm days of the year at the Arboretum, the Natural History Museum and a special outing on the Metro Rail. They will be celebrating Halloween on October 29th with a party filled with food, candy and fun activities.

Dimensions and everyone at Villa welcomes new clients, **Ivy Barr, Vicki Washington** and **Marrisa Jackson.** And good luck to **Kathryn Trimble**, as she graduates from Dimensions and moves to our Vocational Program!

Residential Program News



We welcome **Maria Zinovich** to the Brown House and farewell to **Joel Goodwin**, Independent Living Services client. We would also like to wish **Joel Polinsky** good luck. **Joel** is leaving Villa after seven years as our Brown and Stahl House behavior therapist.

Welcome, **Hector Quitzon**, Administrator to the Allen and Murphy Homes. **Hector** has been with Villa since 2002 working in the Dimensions program. We are happy to have him join our Residential Team.

News from the Vocational Program

Our Vocational Program hosted a Labor Day Social on September 3rd. The clients had a great time and enjoyed their day at the park. The Labor Day Social was a great way to thank and reward our clients for their hard labor in the crews they work in.

Welcome to **Prossy Bulyaba**, the new Independent Placement Job Coach.

Mark your calendars, the next Vocational Family/caregiver meeting will be held on December 16th, from 3:00-5:30 p.m. Plan to attend this informative meeting.



West Region News

Congratulations to the West Region staff for their wonderful work and for their September 16th appearance in "The Acorn". The article focused on their success in locating alternative housing in the area.

Welcome to **Stephanie Hughes**, new individual placement client and **Ashleigh Dillon**, new Independent Living Services client. Congratulations to **Jason Peretz** for his new job at Mann Theaters.

Care Management Outreach Collaboration (CMOC)

Johnnie Wall, Vice President of Care Management and Community Relations, and her CMOC team are busy networking and will be meeting with the City of Pasadena to coordinate flu shot clinics for Villa clients and staff in November. We will keep you informed for an exact date.

CMOC will also be providing information on the MENTORS Project to caregivers and contracted service providers. The MENTORS Project focuses on methods of outreach to various multi-ethnic clients. For more information on the training sessions, please contact CMOC at (626) 449-2919, ext. 51.

Welcome **Rebecca Rolfe**, new Care Manager.

We would like to thank Star Home Health Resources, Inc. for donating the printing of the CMOC brochures; and, the Volunteer Center of San Gabriel for donating three file cabinets to Dimensions and Care Management.

Johnnie Wall was recently named a member to the Advisory Board of the Salvation Army. Congratulations!



Adult Day Health Care (ADHC)

We welcome **Glen Allen, MSW**, new Program Director; **Keisha Brown**, social worker and **Christine Chung**, RN to the Adult Day Health Care.

We would like to thank all the ADHC volunteers for their valuable contribution, especially to **Linda** and her dog **Karoo** who visit the clients twice a week bringing joy and creating such a warm environment. Thank you!

DID YOU KNOW...?

Working side by side with our clients to help them find and maintain their independence, the **Vocational program in Pasadena has already placed thirteen clients into community based employment**, including places like, REI and Vons. In the next six months the Vocational Program is planning seven more placements, bringing the total to twenty of our clients employed and working in the community!

DID YOU ALSO KNOW...?

You can donate your car, truck or van to Villa. It is tax-deductible and the vehicles donated help provide the necessary transportation to our clients. For more information, please call Miki Shelton in the Development Dept., (626) 449-2919, ext. 62.

Other News

Our Adult Awards Night will be held on October 17th in Skandia Hall, 2031 E. Villa, from 4:00-6:00 p.m. Join us as we celebrate our adults' greatest accomplishments. Invitations will be mailed soon.

The INNER VOICE has gone through some changes. We would like to thank **Emily Tellez**, Graphic Designer, for donating her time to create a new layout for the Inner Voice. Thank you **Emily** for such a great job!

Staff September Birthday Wishes:



- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 01 — Richard Armstrong | 16 — Hector Quitzon |
| 01 — Dottie Nelson | 17 — Genny Guadalquivir |
| 01 — Ryan Roberts | 18 — Sarah Bruno |
| 03 — Sandra Mendibles | 21 — Margarita Santacruz |
| 05 — Thomas Corona | 23 — Arsenio Flores |
| 06 — Andrea Jones | 23 — Maria Mijangos |
| 08 — Deserie Areola | 25 — La Ronda Saxton |
| 11 — Libni Ambrose | 29 — Christine Chung |
| 12 — Jesus Delgado | 29 — Weldon Powell |
| 14 — Janell Lipkin | 29 — Javier Toyloy |
| 16 — Kristen Johnson | |



Wish List

- Children's Program:** Mats for quiet time, construction paper, play-doh, preschool theme books, boys dress-up clothes (sizes: 4,5 &6).
- Residential:** New Living room furniture for the Wynn and Chester Houses.
- ADHC:** Tool kit, plants and soil for the garden.

Help Villa Esperanza save paper!

Have our newsletter sent to your email address each month. Contact ehernandez@villaesperanzaservices.org to get on the email list.