



# HARBOR HAPPENINGS

2004 EDITION, VOLUME 2

## EXPRESSION THROUGH ART



*Councilwoman Janice Hahn cuts the ribbon and officially opens the new Exceptional Children's Foundation Art Center in San Pedro.*

With instruction in drawing, painting, printmaking, textiles, ceramics and photography, The Exceptional Children's Foundation Art Center Program uses art training to offer persons with developmental disabilities an outlet for expression. Through an HRC Program

Development grant, this innovative art program has recently opened its doors in San Pedro. At ECF, students like

*(continued on page 3)*

## PARENTS LEARN TO ASSIST THEIR CHILD TO BE SUCCESSFUL SOCIALLY

Harbor Regional Center recognizes the extra challenge that children with developmental disabilities may face in developing friendships, as well as understanding and interacting in social situations. To assist parents and others to learn how to help their child become successful in social situations, HRC offers a workshop by Rick Clemens, M.A., Director of Inclusive Education and Community Partnership entitled Friendship Focus.

The workshop focuses on the common barriers children with developmental disabilities may encounter when developing friendships, the strategies to overcome

*(continued on page 5)*

## CALIFORNIA BUDGET UPDATE Governor's Budget Points to New Challenges for Developmental Services

With the continuing budget deficit in California, and with some controversial proposals by Governor Schwarzenegger for reducing state services to balance the budget still pending, we can expect that the annual budget process will be as challenging this spring as in previous years. His administration has continued to develop proposals which will have an impact upon developmental services.

### Purchase of Services Standard

Historically, regional centers have each developed their own local service policies, to reflect their own communities' needs. This has caused some variations in how each of the 21 centers expend funds on various services, and has led some state administrators to speculate that greater controls on budget growth could be achieved in this area. Governor Schwarzenegger proposed that California adopt statewide standards for regional centers' purchase of services.

Harbor Regional Center's Board of Trustees has taken a position to support the concept of Purchase of Services Standards. Such standards should provide reasonable guidance to clients, families, service providers and regional center staff, in our mutual understanding of what can be considered appropriate purchases of service, and facilitate the provision of fair and equitable services to all clients throughout the state. At the time we go to press, it appears that the Legislature will not approve the proposal

*(continued on page 2)*

*California Budget Update  
(continued from page 1)*

for Purchase of Services standards, though this could change before the budget is finalized.

**Family Cost Participation  
Assessment Program**

Governor Schwarzenegger has also put forth a proposal for a system of co-payments for families whose minor children, ages 3 to 17 years, receive services from the regional center system. The latest proposal contains some significant differences from an earlier proposal which had failed to receive legislative approval. The minimum income level for families to be included in this co-payment, or "Family Cost Participation Assessment" proposal was doubled from last year's, so that only families with an income which is at least 400% of federal poverty level would be assessed a Family Cost Participation level. This co-pay would now only be applied to three types of purchased services: respite, day care, and camping. A sliding scale level of parental cost participation would start at 5% (at the minimum income level of 400% of poverty level), and range up to 80% (for the highest income group of 1300% of federal poverty level or greater). Determination of this income percentage would take into account the total number of family members, and the co-payment amount would be adjusted for the number of children with developmental disabilities.

The plan assigns responsibility for assessment of family income and cost participation level to the regional center, and requires the family to pay their share directly to service providers. While HRC's Board of Trustees has taken a position to support a fair and reasonable form of parental co-payment, we oppose the requirement that this financial assessment be administered by the regional center. (An existing parental co-payment program for minor children living outside of the family home is administered in Sacramento).

The Parental Co-Pay proposal, as presented by the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) in April, is posted online at their Web site <http://www.dds.cahwnet.gov> and on the HRC Web site [www.HarborRC.org](http://www.HarborRC.org) (Click on CA Budget Proposals: Standards and Co-Pay).

**Other Services – In Home  
Supportive Services (IHSS)**

In Home Supportive Services (IHSS), administered by the Department of Social Services through local county social service offices, provide support for many individuals who are aging or disabled to maintain their independence in their own homes. Federal funding has contributed towards much of the cost of this program, under Medi-Cal. Governor Schwarzenegger had proposed to eliminate some IHSS services which were not covered by these federal dollars (referred to as Residual Program). In a recent development, he announced that the Department of Social Services has submitted an application to the federal government which, if approved, would allow California to obtain federal money and allow these IHSS services to continue.

At this time it appears that the Legislature may support the above initiative for parental co-payment, but will introduce some modifications to what DDS has presented to them. None of the legislative positions taken at this point can be considered final. As the budget talk proceed, Legislators or the Governor may challenge each other's positions or introduce completely new proposals. We are in communication with our local legislators, and continue to express our hope that the state budget can be settled in a fiscally responsible manner, while maintaining the services which provide people with developmental disabilities and their families with the most critical support. Whatever the outcome of budget decisions, we pledge to continue to work with our community, and promote the best utilization of the resources we have available, on behalf of our clients and families. ■

*Expression Through Art  
(continued from page 1)*

Deveron Richard succeed artistically, and these successes develop better self-esteem.

When the first ECF Art Center studio opened its doors in Los Angeles in 1968, there were virtually no similar art programs for the developmentally disabled. It is now the model program for art centers across the nation that serve the developmentally disabled.

The Art Center fosters self-expression and creativity while encouraging and supporting maximum personal development through the medium of art.

Deveron has grown so much since his enrollment at EFC's Los Angeles Center in 1988. Deveron was ten years old before he started using words and for many years had a very limited vocabulary. His drawings became a way for Deveron to express himself. "Deveron now communicates well through language and is a much more confident person," according to Deveron's mother, Betty. Conversation with Deveron might include discussion about the holiday cards featuring his drawings and paintings that he has sold, exhibits of his artwork at the Warner Brothers Studio or the art show sponsored by Aaron Brothers where he was a spotlighted artist. He has even hobnobbed with celebrities at a gallery in Beverly Hills where some of his paintings were featured.

In addition to fine arts training, the new ECF Art Center in San Pedro will offer other types of classes. There will be instructions in academic subjects such as math, reading, computers and balancing a checkbook. Also offered will be classes in Basic Life Skills, such as health and hygiene, and Independent Living Skills, such as cooking.

One of the unique aspects of the ECF Art Center is that many clients who may have problems in other programs because of behavioral issues can succeed



here. The Art Center provides these clients with an activity – whether it is drawing, ceramics, or other kinds of mediums – that will bring success and enjoyment, and will work with their behavior challenges in a positive and successful environment.

*Deveron Richard shows a "fan" of his art work a sample of his drawing at the ECF Art Center grand opening celebration.*

Eric Myles is the Manager of the new San Pedro Art Center. His hope is for the center to become as successful as its predecessor and be known in the San Pedro Art community. He wants to see a gallery space where the public can come and see that, although all the artists have disabilities, they produce superior works of art. For more information about the Art Center in San Pedro, call Eric Myles, Art Center Manager at (310) 519-8527. You can also receive more information about the ECF Art Centers at [www.ECFArtCenter.com](http://www.ECFArtCenter.com) ■

## HRC RECOGNIZES PARENT MARIANO SANZ WITH AWARD FOR SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP



*HRC Board of Trustees President Mariano Sanz and his family.*

Mariano Sanz has served ten years as a member of Harbor Regional Center's Board of Trustees, and he is finishing his second term as President. At Harbor Regional Center's 30th Anniversary Celebration brunch, Mariano was honored with a Service & Leadership Award for his many contributions to HRC, our clients and their families.

Mariano was born and raised in Spain where he received a Master's Degree in School Psychology and a License in Family & Child Counseling. Sixteen years ago, Mariano moved to the United States to pursue a career and began teaching bi-lingual classes in Los Angeles. Since that time, he has received a second Master's Degree in School Counseling and is currently working as a counselor at Palos Verdes Intermediate School.

Mariano's journey as an advocate and leader for persons with developmental disabilities began when his first child, Cristina, was born. Twelve hours after her birth, Mariano learned that his daughter was diagnosed with Down syndrome. "In 1987, when Cristina was born there was still a perception, including my own, that someone with Down syndrome could learn to brush their teeth and become toilet-trained but probably not much else," relates Mariano, "the support my family received through the Down Syndrome Support Group and HRC helped change my perceptions of my daughter's future tremendously."

Because of the assistance they received, both Mariano and his wife became Mentor Parents through the Down Syndrome Group's Parent Support Network to educate and assist other parents. Mariano became a strong advocate for Cristina, attending all of her IEP and IFSP meetings. He has also served as an advocate for other students and their families in their IEP meetings.

When HRC needed an instructor to teach behavior modification classes in Spanish, Mariano eagerly took on this challenge. In 1991, Mariano was elected to the HRC Board of Trustees. A mandatory hiatus from the Board couldn't keep Mariano from staying involved. He felt that he could still make a difference, so became the HRC liaison for the Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) representing the interests of HRC clients at the state level. Mariano and Cristina have visited legislators and participated in "Grass Roots Days" to educate and promote the needs of people with developmental disabilities.

It has been 12 years since Mariano first became involved with Harbor Regional Center's Board of Trustees, and he has seen an explosion of growth in that time. At the beginning of his term, HRC served approximately 4971 clients and employed 100 staff members. Today, HRC is serving approximately 8634 clients and has over 250 employees. "These last 12 years have been very exciting. We have seen the rise of self-advocacy, new therapies, person centered-planning, supported living, full inclusion...The recognition by society of people with developmental disabilities as citizens with the same rights as anyone else." According to Mariano, "In the last few years, the budget issues have given us a tremendous challenge. The HRC Board of Trustees has the responsibility for both the stewardship of tax money and service to a population in great need. We need to do this responsibly." It's a challenge that this dedicated member of the HRC Board of Trustees meets with determination and the unique perspective of a parent of a child with a developmental disability. ■

*Parents Learn to Assist Their Child to Be Successful Socially (continued from page 1)*

these barriers, and how to arrange play dates. Parents will leave the workshop with practical ideas of how to assist in the fostering of friendships, and create fun and supportive play opportunities for their children.

Brenda Gertman has an 11-year-old son with the diagnosis of autism. "The workshop gave me ideas, to assist Yorel to become more successful socially, that I would never have thought of. Some of those ideas were as simple as sending birthday cards to classmates and getting his teacher involved. I gave permission for Yorel's teacher to give out my phone number to other kids and speak about my son's disability if there are questions from his classmates or their parents." Brenda added that the suggestions and ideas from the workshop – with persistence and work from the parent – are valuable.

Some helpful hints to help your child to develop friendships include:

**At home:**

- Watch to see where other children hang out, and what they enjoy doing, and talking about.
- Get your child involved in community activities.
- Try to create an environment in your home that attracts children by making it as fun and inviting as possible.
- Take a turn at hosting a slumber party, having a pizza dinner, or volunteering to be a driver for the carpool.
- Ask the other children for ideas about how to get and keep your child involved.

**At school:**

- Ask your child's teacher to help you identify after-school activities where the other children participate.
- Help your child reach out to other children by assisting with telephone calls, invitations to play, and choosing playmates.
- Get the other children's phone numbers and initiate interactions by inviting or

having your child invite friends over to the house, to the park, a party, etc.

- Let your child's teaching staff know that social interaction and friendships are important to you, and make it an I.E.P. goal. Be clear with the school staff that you have waived confidentiality, and that your name and phone number can be given out to other parents.
- Be active at school by getting to know the friends of your child from school and the parents of your child's classmates. Get a "homework buddy" system going.



*Parents discuss the importance of friendships and social interactions for their children with Rick Clemens, Director of Inclusive Education & Community Partnership at the Friendship Focus workshop.*

**To help ensure your child's playdates are fun and successful:**

- The activity should have understandable rules and clear boundaries.
- The activity should be dependent (not able to be played otherwise) on social interaction with another child.
- The game should include components that target the child's interests.
- The best activities are turn-taking activities. Activities such as watching videos and drawing or coloring are isolated activities.

The role of the adult is to facilitate the play, not to be involved in the play. Work with your child ahead of time and practice the night before so the child gains confidence. The most important thing to remember is that playdates should be fun, and the more opportunities you give your child for social experiences the better.

The "Friendship Focus" class will be offered again on September 30, 2004. For more information about this or other classes for parents or caregivers, speak to your HRC Counselor, check out the HRC Training & Event Catalog or log on to the HRC Web site at [www.HarborRC.org](http://www.HarborRC.org). ■

## HRC STAFF LEARN HOW TO MAKE THE MOST OF RESOURCES

### Early & Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment Program (EPSDT)

Harbor Regional Center staff, as well as others who work with our clients, are given many opportunities for additional training and education throughout the year. These workshops give participants beneficial information that can assist them to better meet the needs of our clients.



*HRC staff attends training on EPSDT given by Greg Hughes, RN from the Department of Health Services.*

Harbor Regional Center staff attended a training on Early & Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment services presented by Greg Hughes, RN, from the Department of Health Services. EPSDT can assist families of children with multiple medical issues,

who have Medi-Cal benefits, to receive the extra support they need to allow the child to remain in the family home.

### WHAT IS EPSDT?

The Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) program is one of the benefits available nationwide through the Medicare program, and administered by Medi-Cal in California. As part of the application process, children and young adults, less than 21 years of age, are examined (screened) by healthcare professionals in order to determine their healthcare needs. EPSDT Supplemental Services might include a variety of in-home support services such as in-home shift nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, medical social worker, and medically necessary transportation, supplies or equipment. These services would only be authorized if all other generic resources – such as insurance benefits – had been exhausted. Services must also be medically necessary, pre-authorized, and most cost-effective.

### WHAT ARE SHIFT NURSING SERVICES?

Shift Nursing Services give families nursing assistance for their children who

have multiple medical needs and who, without the assistance of this benefit, might require admission to a nursing facility. To be able to use shift nursing services, the child must have full-scope Medi-Cal with no share-of-cost. Nursing services are then approved at home for a cost similar to that of a nursing facility stay.

### WHO PROVIDES THE IN-HOME SERVICES?

A home health agency usually provides the family with nursing services. The California Department of Health Services, Medi-Cal Operations Division, In-Home Operations, is the state agency that has the responsibility for reviewing and authorizing the in-home shift nursing services.

### HOW DO I OBTAIN EPSDT IN-HOME SHIFT NURSING SERVICES?

If your child has Medi-Cal and continuous nursing care needs, the process for obtaining in-home shift nursing services can start once Medi-Cal is approved. The referral for services can be started by your regional center Counselor. If your child is under eighteen years old and is not eligible for Medi-Cal due to parent's income or resources, he or she can become eligible for Medi-Cal under the Home Community-Based Services Waiver. Institutional Deeming, part of the HCBS program, is a special Medi-Cal eligibility rule that considers only the personal income and resources of a person under the age of 18, or a married adult who is otherwise eligible for the Waiver. This allows a person who meets the criteria for the HCBS Waiver to be determined as eligible for Medi-Cal, regardless of his or her parent's or spouse's income and resources. Institutional Deeming is very helpful because typically, a family's health insurance or income will not cover the cost of needed services. Also, it allows the family to be evaluated and possibly to receive the shift nursing services.

Your regional center Counselor can assist you in the evaluation for the HCBS waiver program and help you receive Institutional Deeming, if needed. HRC can also help to find a nursing service agency to begin the process. ■

# FAMILY *matters*

*This is the story of a very special and brave young man as told by his mother Kristine. When Andrew recently passed away, his family decided that any expression of love for Andrew should be in the form of donations to HRC's Harbor Help Fund, to assist clients and their families who might be in need. More than \$4,000 was donated – a true expression of how deeply Andrew touched others and how much he is missed.*

## MY SPECIAL ANGEL

*By Kristine Ioimo  
HRC Parent*

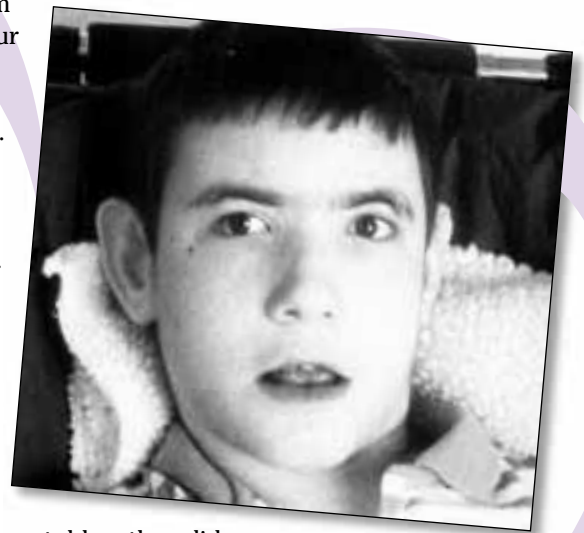
Andrew was born in May of 1985 and was taken from us 18 years later. Andrew's life was difficult from the beginning. He was born at Little Company of Mary Hospital in the Natural Birthing room, but that was the last "natural" thing in his life. The cord was wrapped around his neck three times and he had difficulty breathing immediately after birth. After a few days at home, Andrew seemed tired and had trouble eating. When he stopped breathing, Andrew was rushed to the hospital where it was discovered that he had an obscure condition called chylothorax, a tear in the lymphatic system, which caused the lymphatic fluid to spill into his lung cavity. He was in the hospital for months and came home swollen from the IV fluids, had to be given eight medications daily, was on oxygen, and required a Gastrointestinal-tube.

We are amazed at the incredible strength this fragile child had to hold on to life and keep on fighting. After only a few months, Andrew learned to nurse and to the amazement of his doctors, the G-tube was removed. As Andrew grew, his life continued to be full of pain and trials.

Andrew was in and out of the hospital with illnesses and surgeries. I also was going through the agony of trying to figure out what I had done wrong to cause this horrible thing to happen to our child. For my family, the support we received from family, friends, and our church kept us enveloped in love, prayers, and support. With their support and guidance, I eventually realized that this was not my fault.

In May of 2000, Andrew was hospitalized again and this time the doctors had to remove part of his left lung because of severe pneumonia. The doctors told us they did not expect him to live but he had such a strong will, he came home a month later. In retrospect, this was the beginning of Andrew's real decline in health. He now had to have breathing treatments around the clock. HRC's Pat Moore was so caring and assisted us in finding nursing care through Oxford Home Care. It was such a blessing. After 15 years of caring for Andrew, I almost didn't know what to do with this free time.

Without ever saying a word, this beautiful child touched every life he came into contact with. People would ask if he could communicate, and it was difficult to try to explain how he communicated so clearly with all of us who loved him so dearly. Andrew would talk to me in his special way with soft sounds, and give me his crooked little smile when I looked over. One Mother's Day, Andrew clearly said



*(continued on page 8)*

*My Special Angel  
(continued from page 7)*

“Mama” to me. I think this was his special Mother’s Day present. He never clearly said it again, but I will always cherish this memory.



Andrew was very people-oriented and loved the closeness and contact of others. Our oldest son Chris would spend so much time holding Andrew, talking to him and watching TV together.

Andrew also loved meal times because he could hold his cup and drink by himself. He liked touch toys and to display his stubborn streak. When Andrew was little, he was almost always in someone’s arms or lap or

being carried around with us. When he got too big to carry, his wheelchair would always be near the activity. We always took him with us when we could so that he could have as many positive experiences as possible.

Even in the last part of his life, Andrew kept fighting to stay with us. After nine days of Intensive Care at Torrance Memorial, we brought him home and let him have the peace and comfort of his own home. Andrew’s short life, viewed from the surface, was so difficult and painful. But he brought us such joy and taught us about God and the strength of the human spirit. I realized that the last few years had been so difficult but the journey was made easier with the tremendous support of Harbor Regional Center, the School District, friends, family and our church. As I was picking pictures for Andrew’s memorial, I began remembering all the good times with my precious son. Andrew fought the good fight and he finished the race with grace and beauty. ■

**RECOGNIZING EXTRA EFFORT!**

HRC is dedicated to providing **support, information** and **choices** to our clients and their families. Our staff, from the receptionists to our psychologists, strive to demonstrate our core values through their interactions with you.

You can help us recognize those individuals who have provided you with outstanding care and service. When you see an HRC staff member who is **demonstrating respect by treating people considerately, working collaboratively, looking for ways to be helpful, responding quickly and explaining any delays, listening, sharing information, or any other assistance you found helpful**, simply fill in this form and mail it to: **Kathy Scheffer, Public Information Specialist, 21231 Hawthorne Blvd., Torrance, CA 90503 or by e-mail at [Kathryns@hddf.com](mailto:Kathryns@hddf.com)**

We will make sure that the HRC Counselor, support staff, clinical staff, Resource Center staff or other members of the HRC team receive your note along with our special recognition.

Name of person you wish to recognize: \_\_\_\_\_

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

How that person demonstrated outstanding service or fulfillment of our core values: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**We appreciate your support in helping us acknowledge these outstanding individuals.**



# Client focus

## A FORCE FOR CHANGE

Deaka McClain graduated from Harbor College in 2001. She is now enrolled at California State University, Long Beach, is employed by Harbor College as an assistant at the Disabled Students Services office, lives in her own home and is an intern for Congresswoman Linda Sanchez. Deaka was born two months premature and weighed just 1 1/2 pounds at birth. She was diagnosed with cerebral palsy and as a child underwent many painful surgeries and therapy sessions. According to Deaka, "I have had to overcome many obstacles because of my diagnosis, but I never let anything get in the way of fulfilling my goals."

Politics became a passion while attending Harbor College. Her Political Science Professor, Dr. Loiterman, inspired her to use the political process to make a difference. Sue Steele, Harbor College Disabled Students Services Counselor has worked with Deaka for many years. "Through Deaka's influence, instructors have become more sensitive," according to Ms. Steele, "they are more apt to look at a person's ability not just their disabilities."

Deaka was the President of the "Abilities Unlimited" club at Harbor College for six years. She steered the club to "Club of the Year" titles twice and a "President's Award for Outstanding Leadership" for herself. Under Deaka's guidance, the club became a social gateway for its members, encouraging them to become part of the campus through such activities as the yearly talent show and campus sponsored health fairs. Deaka was the force behind the installation of a bus bench to accommodate people with disabilities at

the campus and spoke at a rally against college budget cuts at President's Square in Los Angeles.

Twice a week, Deaka realizes her dream of working in the political arena while interning at Congresswoman Linda Sanchez's office in Lakewood. "This is our first experience working so closely with a person who is diagnosed with a developmental disability. Deaka has been invaluable. She is able to give us important insight into the needs and problems of a person with a disability," states Bill Grady, District Director. Deaka frequently contributes ideas and concerns of people with disabilities, as well as working on projects such as the recent Senior Health Fair and Citizenship Day sponsored by the Congresswoman. Deaka sends a positive message whether she is answering phones, greeting people when they come to the office, working with vendors or representing the office in the community.

"If I have assisted people with disabilities to become less afraid to ask questions or be a part of something," Deaka related, "then I feel I have made a difference." This remarkable young woman hopes to continue to make a difference by graduating from California State University, Long Beach with a Bachelor's Degree and continuing to be involved in politics as a congresswoman or publicist. ■



*Congresswoman Linda Sanchez takes a moment with her favorite Intern Deaka McClain at her office in Lakewood.*

## AN EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH FOR PARENTS

To ensure that the training and information needed by parents reaches them where and when they need it most, HRC's clinical team has adopted a new approach to scheduling training presentations. The Educational Outreach for Parents series, hosted by local community support groups, is tailored to the interests and concerns that a particular support group represents, and is open to all interested parents or caregivers.

As part of this ongoing educational outreach program, Shoshanna Stauber, HRC's Speech-Language Consultant, recently spoke on language development to an HRC early

intervention support group (see accompanying article on page 11). Vickie Vantrese is a member of that group, and related that because the parents in the group have similar situations, needs and problems, a training tailored to their concerns was very beneficial. For Vickie, the presentation reaffirmed her understanding of ways to assist her child in developing language. And now she feels less anxious about her son's language.

These presentations are open to all, so even if you are not a member of the support group, you are welcome and encouraged to attend any session which interests you. For more information about these special trainings, please see the HRC Training & Events Catalog, mailed twice a year to your home, speak to your HRC Counselor or visit us on the Web at [www.HarborRC.org](http://www.HarborRC.org) ■



*Language development is the topic of this outreach presented by Shoshanna Stauber, HRC's Speech-Language Consultant, for an interested group of parents who attend the HRC Early Intervention Support Group.*

## LET THE TORRANCE LIBRARY ASSIST YOU

When the Torrance Library wanted to improve services for individuals with disabilities, they called on their community partners, including Harbor Regional Center, for information and ideas. On April 10, the Katy Geissert Civic Center Library unveiled new equipment and materials that will assist people with disabilities to better access library technology and take part in library services and programs.

The City of Torrance Library received a grant through the Library Services & Technology Act. The grant writing team toured the HRC Resource Center – including the Computer Center and the Assistive Technology Lab – to gain knowledge and ideas for improving their library. Sherry Leopold, HRC Resource Center Manager, participated in focus groups with the City of Torrance Library discussing ideas about how to utilize available resources and technology. HRC assisted with compiling demographic information and distributing surveys to HRC clients that inquired about their experiences with the library and any barriers to receiving services there.

The library's new resource program is intended to facilitate accessing library and community resources, and to assist older adults and others with disabilities to achieve independence in the use of information resources such as the library catalog and collections, and the Internet. HRC clients will be able to use hardware, software, and a range of assistive devices, as well as new materials such as descriptive videocassettes and Braille talking books.

The program technology will include a CCTV (closed-circuit television) to greatly magnify text, and adjustable height computer workstations equipped with both magnification and text-to-voice software that will read aloud the print displayed on the computer monitor. There will also be touch screens, adap-

*(continued on page 15)*

## PROMOTING LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT IN YOUR CHILD

*By Shoshanna Stauber  
HRC's Speech-Language  
Consultant*

You can help your child build language skills by communicating to them from the moment they are born. Let your child see how communication works by really listening to your child and responding to his message. Do not interrupt your child's communication attempts and be sure you are at your child's eye level. When speaking to your child, speak slowly and clearly and in short simple sentences.

Some additional activities which encourage speech and language development are:

### Birth to 2 years:

- Encourage your baby to make vowel and consonant sounds such as "ma" or "ba."
- Teach your baby to imitate your actions such as throwing kisses and imitate their actions in return.
- As you bathe, feed, or dress your child, talk about what you are doing, where you are going, who and what you will see.
- Identify colors, count items, use gestures, and introduce animal sounds.
- Read to your child and ask questions, point to familiar objects in the book, and encourage naming.

### 2 to 4 years:

- Use good speech that is clear and simple.
- Build and expand on what your child says such as "Want juice? I have juice. I have apple juice. Do you want apple juice?"
- Help your child understand and ask questions. Ask questions such as "Are you a boy? Do pigs fly?" Have them ask you questions.
- Cut out pictures and help your child make a scrapbook of categories such as things to ride on, fruits, or things to play with.

- Place familiar objects in a container and have your child remove the object and tell you what it is called and how it is used.
- Make up a new story or describe what was going on in photographs of familiar people.

### 4 to 6 years:

- Expand your child's vocabulary by introducing new words with definitions.
- Play games that help build vocabulary such as providing clues and having your child identify what you are describing such as "We use it to sweep the floor."
- The television can serve as a valuable tool. Talk to your child about what they are watching, have them guess what might happen next, talk about the characters (happy or sad, etc.), what is happening in the story, or act out a scene together.
- Take advantage of daily activities. When in the kitchen, encourage your child to name utensils and discuss the foods on the menus. ■

## LET US KNOW...

- I wish to receive HRC's quarterly newsletter, *Harbor Happenings*, by e-mail instead of through the U.S. Mail.
- I wish to receive HRC's Training and Events Catalog by e-mail instead of through the U.S. Mail.
- I no longer wish to receive these publications.

If you prefer, both of the above publications, and many others, can be reviewed on HRC's Web site, at [www.HarborRC.org](http://www.HarborRC.org)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Agency (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

# resource center

## WHAT'S NEW AT THE RESOURCE CENTER ?

By Dominique DeBorba  
HRC Parent and HRC Resource  
Center Family Support Assistant

Language is crucial to a child's ability to express thoughts and feelings, and to learn and think. It can have a significant impact on their overall educational experience. Frequently, parents ask us what they can do to assist their child to develop speech and language skills. Harbor Regional Center's Resource Center has many materials and resources available to supplement traditional speech therapy and to help promote communication. This issue of *Harbor Happenings* highlights five brand new videos that may help give information and guidance to our families who have children with language disorders.

### A Child's First Words

How speech and language develop in a child from birth to age four is chronicled in this informative video. There is also discussion about how the development of speech and language in children under age four can affect their ability to learn.

### Learning Language and Loving It

Based on the Hanen guidebook of the same name, this video provides an entertaining inside look at life in childcare settings. Viewers will see how early childhood educators creatively utilize the Hanen approach to promote interaction, language learning and emergent literacy in young children.

### It Takes Two to Talk – An Introduction

This video gives a personal and moving account of two mothers who have children with language delays as they participate in *It Takes Two to Talk – The Hanen Program for Parents*. There is discussion about how these moms felt when they

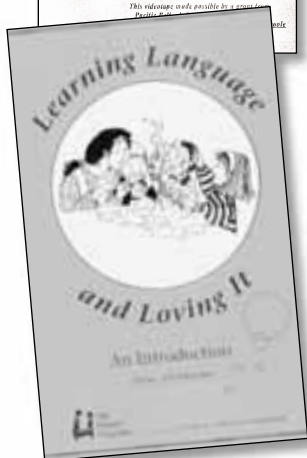
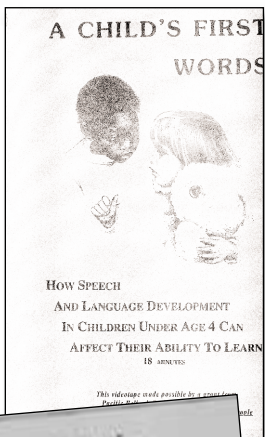
discovered that their children had language delays, and what they learned during the program to assist their children to become better communicators.

### The More Than Words Teaching Tape

How parents apply the strategies they learn in the Hanen Program for Parents of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder is explored. Parents are featured creating structured, predictable environments within which their children can learn to interact and develop more conventional and spontaneous communication in everyday situations.

### Enhancing Communication and Socio-emotional Competence

This video illustrates many of the principles and practices used and discussed in Dr. Barry M. Prizant's seminars on autism-related disorders and communication. These seminars offer a comprehensive framework and specific strategies for enhancing the language development of young children with autism/PDD spectrum disorders. There is discussion about communication, language and socio-emotional abilities with positive approaches to problem behaviors. ■



## ARTS AND SERVICES STUDENTS WIN AWARDS

On November 20th, student Alison Salo, of Arts and Services for the Disabled, won first prize in the State Council on Developmental Disabilities 2003 Poster Contest. With her acrylic painting, *Equal Rights*, Alison won the contest by best illustrating the theme Valued, Safe & Respected. Alison received a \$1000 prize for her efforts. Anna Mazzarini received an Honorable Mention certificate and \$100 for her submission entitled *Valued*. Congratulations to both women for their outstanding artistic achievements. ■

*The winning painting,  
Equal Rights  
by Alison Salo.*



## SAVE THE DATE! FRIENDS & FAMILY EVENT, 2004

**El Dorado Park, Long Beach  
July 24, 2004 from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

Harbor Regional Center presents Family and Friends Celebration 2004 to be held at El Dorado Park in Long Beach. This is an exclusive event for HRC clients of all ages and their families, along with HRC staff and service providers. Join us for an afternoon of outdoor fun, including music, moon bounces, carnival games, and much more.

Invitations, with more information concerning this wonderful event, will be mailed to HRC clients and service providers. For more information, contact Kathy Scheffer at (310) 543-0686, or e-mail her at [Kathryns@hddf.com](mailto:Kathryns@hddf.com)

## EL PERSONAL DE OFICINA DEL CENTRO REGIONAL HARBOR APRENDEN HA UTILIZAR LOS RECURSOS DE LA MEJOR MANERA

### Temprano y Periódico Encubrimiento, Diagnostico y Programa de Procedimiento (EPSDT)

El Personal de Oficina del Centro Regional Harbor y otros que trabajan con nuestros clientes les dan muchas oportunidades para entrenamiento adicional y educación durante el año. Estos talleres dan a los participantes información provechosa que puede ayudarles a mejor encontrar las necesidades de nuestros clientes.

Recientemente, El personal de oficina del Centro Regional Harbor participó en un entrenamiento en TPEDPP (EPSDT) servicios presentado por Greg Hughes, RN del Departamento de Salubridad. TPEDPP puede asistir a familias de un niño/niña con necesidades médicas múltiples a

recibir ayuda extra para permitir que el niño/niña permanezca en casa de su familia. Cualquier servicio médico/del oído/dental necesario para una persona menos de 21 años de edad que excede el plan de beneficios disponibles para la población general que reciben Medi-Cal, es considerado un TPEDPP (EPSDT), servicios suplementarios solicitados.

### ¿QUE ES TPEDPP (EPSDT)?

Temprano y Periódico Encubrimiento, Diagnostico y Programa de Procedimiento (TPEDPP) (EPSDT) este programa es uno de los beneficios disponibles a través del país bajo el programa de MediCare, el cual esta bajo el Medi-Cal en California. Como parte del proceso de aplicación, niño/niña/niñas y jóvenes adolescentes menos de 21 años de edad son examinados (auscultados) por un profesional de salud médica para establecer las necesidades médicas. TPEDPP (EPSDT) Servicios Suplementarios pueden incluir una variedad de servicios de ayuda en casa tales como enfermeras de turno que vengan a la casa, terapia física, terapia ocupacional, terapia de lenguaje, trabajador social médico y transporte médico necesario, provisiones médicas o equipo. Estos servicios podrían solo

## ! GUARDE LA FECHA! EVENTO PARA AMIGOS Y FAMILIARES, 2004

Parque El Dorado, Long Beach  
Julio 24, 2004 de la 2:00 p.m. a las 5:00 p.m.

El Centro Regional Harbor presenta la Celebración de Familias y Amigos 2004 en el Parque El Dorado en la ciudad de Long Beach. Este es un evento exclusivo para clientes del Centro Regional de todas las edades y sus familiares, también con empleados del Centro Regional y proveedores de servicios. Están invitados a juntarse con nosotros para una tarde de diversión en la comunidad incluyendo música, brincolin, puestos de juegos de carnaval, y mucho más.

Las invitaciones serán enviadas a clientes del Centro Regional y sus proveedores en la primavera con más información concierne a este evento. Para más información, por favor de comunicarse con Kathy Scheffer al (310) 543-0686, o por correo electrónico a [Kathryns@hddf.com](mailto:Kathryns@hddf.com)

ser autorizados si todos los otros recursos generales, tales como beneficios de seguro médico, han sido explorados y utilizados. Los servicios medicamente necesarios, lo más eficaz en costo y pre-autorizados.

### **¿QUE SON SERVICIOS DE ENFERMERAS DE TURNO?**

El TPEDPP (EPSDT) servicio de enfermeras de turno da a familias asistencia de enfermería para sus niño/niña que tienen múltiple necesidades médicas que de otra manera tendrían que ser admitidos a una casa de cuidados de enfermera sin asistencia de este beneficio. Para poder hacer uso de este servicio de enfermera de turno el niño/niña necesita tener Medi-Cal completo sin que tengan que contribuir costo alguno. Servicios de enfermera son entonces aprobados en casa, por un costo similar al que como si estuvieren en una casa de cuidados de enfermera.

### **¿QUIEN PROVEE EL SERVICIO EN CASA?**

Una agencia de servicios de salud en casa usualmente provee a la familia con servicios de enfermera. El Departamento de Salubridad Social, División de Operaciones de Medi-Cal, Trabajador En-Casa, es la agencia del estado que tiene la responsabilidad de revisar y autorizar que el servicio en casa de enfermera de turno sea proveído.

### **¿COMO YO OBTENGO TPEDPP (EPSDT) SERVICIO DE ENFERMERA DE TURNO EN CASA?**

Si su niño/niña tiene necesidades de cuidado de enfermera de turno continuo, el proceso para obtener servicio de enfermera de turno puede empezar si su niño/niña tiene Medi-Cal o ya que el Medi-Cal sea aprobado. La aplicación para servicios puede ser empezados por su Trabajador Social del Centro Regional. Si su niño/niña/niña es menor de dieciocho años de edad y no es elegible para Medi-Cal debido al ingreso de salario de los padres o recursos, el o ella puede ser elegible para Medi-Cal bajo la Dispensa de

Servicios de Casa en la Comunidad. Estimado Institucional parte del programa HCBS, es una regla de la parte especial de elegibilidad del Medi-Cal que considera solo ingreso personal y recursos de una persona menor de 18 años de edad o adulto casado que de otra manera es elegible para dispensa, para determinar como elegibilidad para Medi-Cal, indiferentemente del ingreso de sus padres o de su esposo/esposa. Estimado Institucional es muy benéfico porque seguro de salud médica o ingreso no cubre el costo de estos servicios necesarios. También, le permite a la familia ser evaluada y posiblemente recibir servicios de enfermera de turno.

Su consejero del Centro Regional le puede ayudar a usted a ser evaluado para HCBS dispensó, si en caso de que sea necesario. HRC puede también ayudar a encontrar una agencia de servicios de enfermera para empezar el proceso. ■

---

*Let the Torrance Library Assist You  
(continued from page 10)*

tive keyboards, joysticks and other computer input tools. A scooter and other mobility appliances, a variety of hand-held magnifiers, a portable assistive listening device, and a special reaching and page-holding apparatus will also be available for patron use.

As Phillip Johnston Ross, City of Torrance Senior Librarian states, "The team was very grateful for HRC's assistance and we are very excited about this project." The library staff is thrilled about the training they have received and the technology they will have available to ensure a wonderful new experience at the Katy Geissert Library. For more information on library services, call (310) 618-5950. ■

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

- Mr. Mariano Sanz  
*President*
- Mrs. Karen D. Kinnebrew  
*Vice-President*
- Mr. Robert F. Bethel  
*Treasurer*
- Dr. Bobbie I. Rendon-Christensen  
*Secretary*
- Mr. Robert A. Irlen  
*ARCA Representative*
- Ex-officio Member
- Mr. George Bird  
*Past President*
  
- Ms. Rebecca Barrios
- Mr. Wesley T. Dale
- Ms. Kristine Engels
- Byron D. Lane, Ph.D.
- Mr. Bruce McKinley
- Mr. Vincent E. Pellerito
- Mr. W. John Rea
- Mrs. Patricia Wainwright
  
- Patricia Del Monico  
*Executive Director*

**BOARD MEETINGS**

No meeting in June  
 July 20, 2004 – 8:00 a.m.  
 No meeting in August  
 September 21, 2004 – 6:30 p.m.  
 October 19, 2004 – 8:00 a.m.

The Board of Trustees of the Harbor Developmental Disabilities Foundation, Inc. meets regularly once a month on the THIRD Tuesday of the month.

Board meetings alternate between morning and evening times to provide opportunity to people in the community to participate. Morning meetings are from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and evening meetings are from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The Board does not meet in June, August or December.

All regularly scheduled business meetings of the Board are open to the public and visitors are welcome to attend both morning and evening meetings of the Board. The meetings are held in Conference Room A1 & A2 at Harbor Regional Center.

**Harbor Happenings** is a publication of Harbor Regional Center, a program of the Harbor Developmental Disabilities Foundation, Inc.

- Editors .....Kathy Scheffer  
Nancy Spiegel
- Family Resource Center  
Information.....Dominique DeBorba
- Translation. ....Connie Garcia
- Photography ..... Kathy Scheffer  
Nancy Spiegel
- Production Design .....Janas Communications



HARBOR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES FOUNDATION, INC.  
 21231 Hawthorne Boulevard, Torrance, California 90503  
[www.HarborRC.org](http://www.HarborRC.org)

Non-Profit Org.  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
 Torrance, CA  
 Permit No. 28



**IN THIS ISSUE**

- Expression Through Art.....1
- Parents Learn To Assist Their Child To  
Be Successful Socially.....1
- California Budget Update – Governor’s Budget Points  
To New Standards for Developmental Services .....1
- HRC Recognizes Parent Mariano Sanz With  
Award For Service & Leadership .....4
- HRC Staff Learn How To  
Make The Most Of Resources .....6
- Family Matters .....7
- Client Focus.....9
- Resource Center.....12