



# BEACON

VOL. XXXIII, NO. 2

Serving People With Developmental Disabilities Since 1954

Winter 2011

## Special Edition - Annual Report 2009 - 2010

### Many Recognized at Annual Awards and Installation Luncheon

Over 100 guests were in attendance at The Arc of Ventura County's Annual Awards and Installation Luncheon that was recently held at Spanish Hills Country Club in Camarillo. President Pauline Powers presided over this special event, and presented awards to 23 individuals and businesses in recognition of their achievements and contributions.

The agency's Outstanding Community Service Award was presented to Colleen Janssen, Marketing and Community Outreach Specialist with Rancho Simi Recreation & Park District and Ride On Therapeutic Horsemanship in Newbury Park in appreciation of their partnership to provide enriching and rewarding volunteer opportunities for program participants. Oxnard College Professor Thomas Barth and Suzi Bonilla, parent volunteer, also received Outstanding Community Service Awards in appreciation of their fundraising efforts and exceptional assistance in support of the agency's program participants. The Hazel Kay Benefactor Award, established by the Board of Directors, in memory and tribute to the generosity of the longtime volunteer, was presented to the City of Oxnard for their service and contributions in support of the agency's mission.

Participant of the Year Awards were presented to Chris Clark, CeCe Darquea, Erick Fults, Matias Gonzales, Denise Percy, Jim Rosso, Carl Russakoff, Ronnie Wood, and David Wright in recognition of their accomplishments. Employee of the Year Awards were presented to Maggie Baca, Debbie Echevarria, Shannon Franco, Rogena Howard, Stacy Munoz, Jeff Smith, and Marietta Williamson.

The Richard M. Bateman Award, the agency's highest recognition of an employee, was presented to Luz Martinez of Oxnard. Luz began

her career at The Arc of Ventura County over 9 years ago when she was hired as an instructor in the Supportive Services for Independent Living (SSIL) Program. She is responsible for providing participants with the necessary tools and supports to live independently. Luz is credited for going above and beyond her job responsibilities to ensure that the individuals she supports are living in the best environment possible, and that they are active and contributing members of their community. She serves as a mentor to her peers, and instills the importance of supporting each other as friends and neighbors. The agency is extremely proud to honor Luz Martinez as the recipient of the 2010 Bateman Award. The agency presents the award annually as a memorial tribute to Richard M. Bateman, an Arc job counselor and one of the victims of the tragedy at the Oxnard EDD Office in 1993.

The event also included the installation of the 2011 Board of Directors, which was conducted by Shirley Dove, member of the board of directors of The Arc of the United States and The Arc of California. Officers installed included Pauline Powers, President; Robert Hogan, First Vice President; Gene West, Treasurer; Katy Garrison, Recording Secretary; and Celso Ovalle, Immediate Past President. Rodger Embury and Sandy Waterbury were installed as Area Vice Presidents. Directors installed included Eve Liebman, Kathy Raffaelli, Mara Rupert, and Harriet Weigel.



From top clockwise: President Pauline Powers with Luz Martinez; Erick Fults and Wendy Beaulieu; Maria Cannon with Curtis Cannon, City of Oxnard – recipient of the 2010 Hazel Kay Benefactor Award; and Debbie Echevarria.



## The Arc of Ventura County...Now and Forever

By Fred W. Robinson,  
CEO

“A great organization is one that delivers superior performance and makes a distinctive impact over a long period of time.” (Peter Drucker)

The Arc of Ventura County certainly fits that description. Since 1954, we have been supporting people with developmental disabilities and their families, providing quality services and supports, and making a distinctive impact on the quality of life for the people we serve. It’s a legacy of accomplishment for which we can all be proud, and it will continue well into the future.

These past few years have been very difficult on all of us. We have never experienced a recession as precipitous and rapid as the current one. We have been confronted with dramatic reductions in state support that has forced us to make some of the toughest decisions we have ever had to make. We have not buckled. With leadership from our Board of Directors, and support from our dedicated management team and staff, we have not only endured, but we continue to thrive and grow. Despite the loss of over \$1 million in state support, we continue to be fiscally sound.

Our success has been assured with continued support from our Foundation and a commitment to increased fund development. I am forever grateful for the foresight of our Board

who established our Foundation over twenty years ago. It was established for the very purpose it now serves – to ensure that The Arc never succumbs to a dramatic decrease in state support, and the effects of a severe economic downturn. We encourage everyone to continue supporting our two thrift stores and the fund development activities of our Foundation. We extend our sincere appreciation to their Board, which has demonstrated sound fiscal management during this crisis rarely seen in the nonprofit sector.

Our development staff has also aggressively pursued new funding opportunities with great success. We recently concluded our multi-year grant from the Weingart Foundation in the amount of \$400,000, which enabled us to upgrade our information and technology systems, implement new case management software, and establish an in-depth employee training curriculum. Just recently, we were awarded a \$50,000 grant from the Walmart Foundation and The Arc of the United States to develop a new transition program for students leaving the educational system and moving into the community as fully included and productive citizens. We continue to secure numerous grants to support health and wellness programs, as well as multiple grants from the Department of Transportation to keep our vehicle fleet up-to-date as we develop even greater opportunities for the individuals we serve.

Hopefully, the economy will soon turn around. Some limited signs of recovery are now emerging. Additional reductions in state support appear imminent. However, with your support, I am confident we will persevere. We look forward to the time the State will once again honor the promise of the Lanterman Act, and fully support us as we move forward to assist the people we serve gain full and meaningful lives. Please join us as we move The Arc forward, now and forever.

## Ring in the New Year with AT&T

The AT&T Pioneers is a nationwide network of over 325,000 AT&T employees and retirees volunteering their time to improve their communities. November 2011 marks the Pioneers’ 100th Anniversary!

The local Pacific Chapter, representing Ventura County and the San Fernando Valley, invited 25 people from The Arc of Ventura County to be their guests at the 2011 Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena. We were greeted warmly with hot coffee, hot chocolate and doughnuts on that early cold morning of January 1 and had premier seating on the balcony of the AT&T building on Colorado Boulevard.

Thank you AT&T Pioneers Pacific Chapter for this once in a lifetime opportunity to enjoy the Rose Parade in person! Happy 100th Anniversary!



Left: Mark Alonso, Melissa Houlihan and Kristine Slack.



Right: Taylor Cross and Alejandra Rodriquez enjoying the view.

# Many Recognized at Annual Awards and Installation Luncheon

Congratulations to our 2010 Annual Award recipients and the 2011 Board of Directors. We applaud their achievements, as well as dedication and commitment to The Arc of Ventura County and those we serve.



## Please Support Our Thrift Stores

Your used clothing, household items and merchandise are always needed and make a difference in the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities.

Please call **(800) 228-1413** to schedule a pick-up of your donations (please note that the thrift stores are unable to pick-up appliances or furniture). All donations are tax-deductible.

You may also drop-off your donations at one of the following thrift store locations:

**Oxnard**  
625 North Oxnard Blvd.  
Oxnard, CA 93030

**Ventura**  
265 E. Main Street  
Ventura, CA 93001

Hours of Operation: Monday – Saturday – 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
Sunday – 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

*The thrift stores are owned and operated by The Arc Foundation of Ventura County, Inc. Established in 1989, the Foundation is a separate 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation created to raise funds to support The Arc of Ventura County.*

# Ojai Enrichment Center Appreciates Helping Hands

The agency's Ojai Enrichment Center is located on a peaceful and picturesque site that includes a beautiful orchard. With the OEC participants involved in a variety of activities in the community, maintaining the orchard was no longer a top priority. Staff recognized the value of the orchard, but with little knowledge, time or resources to invest in its survival, the search began for a qualified and experienced individual that would provide their expertise at no cost – a volunteer!

Charles Duncan, a member of the Ojai Valley Master Gardener Projects group, responded to our call for assistance. Duncan is an amazing individual who knows so much about trees and their specific challenges. He and his small band of wonderful volunteers with the Master Gardeners have been very active in the orchard. They replaced the entire irrigation system and installed separate valves for the citrus trees. The new system will save water and make sure what we do use goes to the trees themselves. Duncan also leads free workshops for the community to attend at the Ojai Enrichment Center on Fruit Tree Pruning and Water Wise Irrigation. These hands-on workshops are very informative and well attended.

On November 6, a major volunteer effort was organized that included Duncan, seven volunteers with the Master Gardeners, and over 30 active members, their families, and civilians from Navy Base Ventura County to spread cardboard and mulch throughout the orchard. This



was a major project that also involved lifting out and repositioning hoses for easier accessibility, as well as digging up the hard soil for the layering of the cardboard, with wheelbarrows in tow to bring out the mulch. This project could not have been completed without the manpower and assistance from Navy Base Ventura County. Their hard work will keep down the grass in the orchard that surrounds the 43 citrus and fruit trees and allow them to once again be healthy and productive. The orchard looks beautiful!

Our sincere gratitude to the amazing volunteers for all their help and to the generosity of Larry Hartmann for his time and donations towards the improvements, as well as to Starr Market and Hilford Allied Moving & Storage for their

gifts of cardboard for the project. Our special thanks to Patricia Neff, administrative assistant at the Ojai Enrichment Center, for all of her work and efforts to ensure that the beauty of the Ojai Enrichment Center is everlasting.

## Recent Grants Received

Our sincere appreciation to the following grant makers for their partnership and support of our efforts to enhance the quality of life for those we serve:

**Camarillo Health Care District** - \$5,000 in support of Diabetes Education and Prevention Training at the agency's Skyway Program in Camarillo.

**City of Simi Valley** – Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding in the amount of \$140,000 to improve the exterior and landscape at the Community Connections East Program (see article on page 10).

**City of Thousand Oaks** – Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding in the amount of \$7,400 for the After School Program in Newbury Park.

**City of Ventura** - \$3,000 grant to support efforts to improve the health and wellness of individuals attending the agency's programs in Ventura.

**Department of Transportation** - \$311,079 for the purchase and maintenance of handicap-accessible vehicles and Travel Instruction.

**Livingston Memorial Foundation** - \$1,000 grant for the Hepatitis B and Tuberculosis Prevention Program.

**Swift Memorial Health Care Foundation** - \$6,000 grant for the Hepatitis B and Tuberculosis Prevention Program.

**The Wood-Claeyssens Foundation** - \$20,000 grant to support the purchase of six portable lifts that will be used throughout the agency's Community Integration Programs.

# California Budget Alert

*Cynthia S. Burton, CEO/President – PathPoint*

*Steve Miller, Executive Director – Tierra del Sol*

An open letter to those whose lives are touched by developmental disabilities: **Please take the time to consider the implications of this letter.**

The purpose of this letter is to urge everyone to recognize the depth of the crisis we now face, and to become actively engaged in defending the basic safety net of services that people with developmental disabilities and their families depend upon.

California is poised to dismantle the protections afforded in the Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act and greatly reduce or eliminate community program services. It is critical to realize that nearly all direct services and supports provided in California are delivered by local, community-based nonprofit organizations (like The Arc of Ventura County), not by State offices or by Regional Center personnel. In many cases, these nonprofit organizations were founded by parents and other local community members who accepted their role in creating alternatives to the State-operated institutions that characterized California's public policy regarding the developmentally disabled as recently as 1970.

As parents organized into nonprofit organizations they began to raise money and hire local community members to work as direct support staff for their sons and daughters. California recognized the vast improvement in the quality of life offered by local community services and the enormous savings to tax payers offered by a service system based upon service delivery by local nonprofit organizations. In 1970, California began to convert the vast majority of its publicly funded service delivery system to a model based primarily upon contracting with local nonprofit organizations.

By contracting with local nonprofit organizations, rather than building and operating public facilities, California has saved billions of tax dollars over the last 40 years, while providing extraordinary services to its citizens with developmental disabilities.

But, because California did not establish a system for routinely assessing and adjusting its rates of reimbursement to its nonprofit partners, these rates have fallen further and further below the actual costs of providing the direct services that people need. As a result, local nonprofits have worked as hard as possible to raise additional funds to supplement State payments, and have stretched their operations as thinly as possible to survive. This "stretching and struggling" has characterized the nonprofit service provider community for more than 20 years.

But, as the recent UCLA study concludes, the non-profit community as a whole is now "on the ropes" with little reason for hope. Nonprofits have been hurt badly by the recession. Private fundraising has suffered, and, unlike the financial and manufacturing sectors, the public response has been cuts in funding rather than "bailouts." (see website address below).

The proposed \$750 million reduction in California's funding to the developmental disabilities community, on top of the previous years of cuts and freezes, will lead to the collapse of the nonprofit organizations the State relies upon to deliver services.

There is simply nothing left to cut. For the most part, these organizations are made up of large numbers of low wage direct service staff supervised by a small corps of managers who also work for far less than their public or private sector counterparts.

Given the undeniable needs of people with developmental disabilities served by these organizations, there is simply nothing left to take away. These community-based organizations are being left to sort out how long they can continue to spend money they don't have to meet California's legal and ethical obligations. If, when, we fail, who will take our place? Will California step back in and create a new system of residential and day service direct care? Where would those funds come from, and is a costly and bureaucratic State system what we hope for?

To repeat, the purpose of this letter is to forewarn everyone who cares about the current and future welfare of people with developmental disabilities. If we permit the collapse of the nonprofit organizations that provide the actual services, we will have lost everything. Consumers, family members, friends, policy makers, the organizations that you depend upon now depend upon you.

Without delay, contact your own State Assembly member and your State Senator. The message right now is simple:

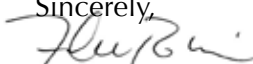
**"Please stop! Just for a moment, and consider how deeply you cut last year and how seriously the safety-net has already been weakened. This new cut is too deep. The risks to people's lives are too real to make these cuts without first understanding their consequences and searching for alternatives."**

# Annual Financial Report 2009/2010

## CEO's Message

I am pleased to present this Special Edition of the Beacon containing The Arc of Ventura County's Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2009/2010. For all of us at The Arc of Ventura County, it is a reflection and culmination of the growth and development in our programs, spanning over 56 years. More importantly, it represents a partnership of families, participants, members, staff, the Board of Directors, funding agencies, and the community in meeting our mission to provide quality services for people with developmental disabilities.

Our accomplishments are extraordinary. They have been made possible by the hard work of our dedicated Board members, volunteers, staff, and the people we support. Working together, we have made a difference. However, we cannot take our accomplishments for granted. As we face the prospect of even more reductions in state funding, I encourage each of you to be a strong voice on behalf of individuals with developmental disabilities. Please help us to preserve the legacy that we have worked so hard to create.

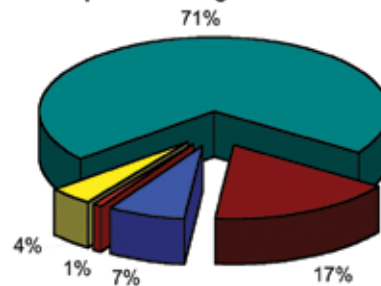
Sincerely,  
  
 Fred W. Robinson

**Administrative Expense Percentage to Programs FY2009-2010**



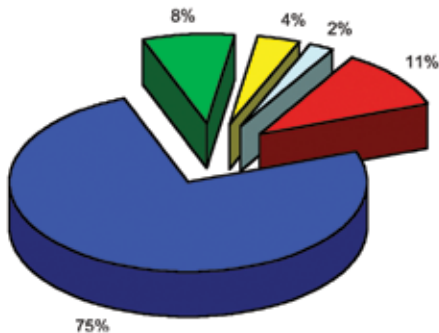
87.96% Program Services	\$ 10,583,113
11.72% General and Administrative	1,410,051
0.32% Fundraising	38,544
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 12,031,708</b>

**People Receiving Services 2009-2010**



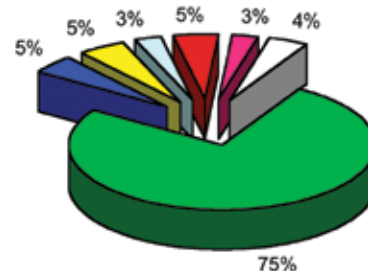
71% Community Integration Services	478
17% Independent Living Services	117
7% Supported Employment Services	49
1% Residential Services	6
4% Services for Children	28
<b>Total</b>	<b>678</b>

**Expenses FY2009-2010**



75% Salaries Wages and Benefits	\$ 8,985,985
8% Rent, Utilities and Facility Maintenance	994,162
4% Depreciation	470,275
2% Interest	270,956
11% Other Expenses	1,310,330
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 12,031,708</b>

**Revenues FY2009-2010**



76% Program Service Fees	\$ 9,369,419
5% Adult Education	568,487
5% Production Contracts	629,677
3% Government Contracts Services	330,489
5% Donations-The Arc Foundation	601,036
3% Other Donations and Grants	340,537
4% Other Income	506,974
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 12,346,619</b>

The audited financials for Fiscal Year 2009/2010 are available for the public's viewing at the agency's Administrative Offices, located at 5103 Walker Street, Ventura, CA 93003, as well as on the agency's website.

**The Arc of Ventura County**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2010**  
**With Comparative Totals for the Year Ended June 30, 2009**

	2010	2009	Percent of Financial Position 2010	Percent of Financial Position 2009
<b>Assets</b>				
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$ 1,865,127	\$ 1,757,893	13.11%	12.34%
Accounts Receivable - Net Allowance of \$8,000	1,013,152	1,107,603	7.12%	7.77%
Unconditional promises to give	280,589	282,155	1.97%	1.98%
Deposits & Prepaid Expenses	274,876	250,041	1.93%	1.75%
Investments	144,275	115,459	1.01%	0.81%
Notes Receivable	985,910	623,456	6.93%	4.38%
Interest Receivable	28,972	16,096	0.20%	0.11%
Property & Equip. - Net Accum. Depreciation	<u>9,638,123</u>	<u>10,095,327</u>	<u>67.73%</u>	<u>70.85%</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b><u>\$ 14,231,024</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 14,248,030</u></b>	<b><u>100.00%</u></b>	<b><u>100.00%</u></b>
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>				
<b>Liabilities</b>				
Accounts Payable	\$ 60,982	\$ 76,075	0.43%	0.53%
Accrued Expenses	-	-	0.00%	0.00%
Accrued Payroll & Payroll Taxes	337,304	338,258	2.37%	2.37%
Accrued Leave Pay	244,995	303,380	1.72%	2.13%
Line of Credit	-	-	0.00%	0.00%
Mortgages & Notes Payable	<u>3,756,070</u>	<u>4,013,555</u>	<u>26.39%</u>	<u>28.17%</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<u>4,399,351</u>	<u>4,731,268</u>	<u>30.91%</u>	<u>33.21%</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>				
Unrestricted	9,329,538	9,070,957	65.56%	63.66%
Temporarily Restricted	<u>502,135</u>	<u>445,805</u>	<u>3.53%</u>	<u>3.13%</u>
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<u>9,831,673</u>	<u>9,516,762</u>	<u>69.09%</u>	<u>66.79%</u>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b><u>\$ 14,231,024</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 14,248,030</u></b>	<b><u>100.00%</u></b>	<b><u>100.00%</u></b>

**The Arc of Ventura County**  
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2010  
With Comparative Totals for the Year Ended June 30, 2009

	2010	2009	Percent of Support & Revenue 2010	Percent of Support & Revenue 2009
<b>Support and Revenue</b>				
<b>Support</b>				
Contributions	\$ 682,028	\$ 1,730,419	5.52%	11.91%
Special Events, net	7,446	3,567	0.06%	0.03%
Grant Income	<u>252,099</u>	<u>439,476</u>	<u>2.04%</u>	<u>3.02%</u>
<b>Total Support</b>	<u>941,573</u>	<u>2,173,462</u>	<u>7.62%</u>	<u>14.96%</u>
<b>Revenue and Gains</b>				
Tuition	\$ 9,291,971	\$ 9,775,481	75.26%	67.27%
Sales of Goods and Services	960,166	1,147,897	7.78%	7.90%
Educational Support	566,149	1,141,370	4.59%	7.86%
Rent	107,353	115,888	0.87%	0.80%
Transportation Revenue	73,794	75,473	0.60%	0.52%
Interest	47,268	38,042	0.38%	0.26%
Salary Subsidies	2,338	66,405	0.02%	0.46%
Investment Income	23,224	(29,146)	0.19%	-0.20%
Gain of Disposal of Assets	311,192	2,440	2.52%	0.02%
Gain on Sale of Securities	3,654	-	0.03%	0.00%
Memberships	1,502	1,895	0.01%	0.01%
Benefits Reimbursements	1,734	671	0.01%	0.01%
Miscellaneous	<u>14,701</u>	<u>21,183</u>	<u>0.12%</u>	<u>0.15%</u>
<b>Total Revenue and Gains</b>	<u>11,405,046</u>	<u>12,357,599</u>	<u>92.38%</u>	<u>85.04%</u>
<b>Total Support and Revenue</b>	<u>\$ 12,346,619</u>	<u>\$ 14,531,061</u>	<u>100.00%</u>	<u>100.00%</u>
<b>Expenses</b>				
Program Services	\$ 10,583,113	\$ 11,735,452	85.72%	80.76%
General and Administrative	1,410,051	1,494,094	11.42%	10.28%
Fund-raising	<u>38,544</u>	<u>38,588</u>	<u>0.31%</u>	<u>0.27%</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<u>\$ 12,031,708</u>	<u>\$ 13,268,134</u>	<u>97.45%</u>	<u>91.31%</u>
Change in Net Assets	<u>\$ 314,911</u>	<u>\$ 1,262,927</u>		
<b>Net Assets, Beginning</b>	<u>9,516,762</u>	<u>8,253,835</u>		
<b>Net Assets, Ending</b>	<u>\$ 9,831,673</u>	<u>\$ 9,516,762</u>		

# Roster of Giving

Donations Received through December 31, 2010

## General Donations

Mr. Greg Andrews  
Mr. Melvin Bloom – In honor of Penny Balicki and Patty Schulz  
Cars 4 Causes  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Ceniseroy  
Ms. Malinda Pennoyer Chouinard  
Ms. Gail Cole  
Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell Conlee  
Mr. Laurence Deniston  
Mr. Anthony Diaz  
Edison International's Employee Contribution Campaign  
Mr. and Mrs. Rodger Embury  
Ms. Valerie Garges  
Ms. Jacquelyn Hellstrom  
Bob Hogan, Hogan Insurance Services  
Ms. Janelle Hritz  
Ms. Vera Hughes  
Ms. Jane Johnson  
Knights of Columbus, Council #9969  
Knights of Columbus, Council #750  
Knights of Columbus, Council #5272  
Knights of Columbus, Council #8072  
Kroger - Ralph's Grocery Co.  
Mr. George Kroll  
Mr. Paul O'Hop  
PCC Network Solutions  
Ms. Kathleen Peterson  
Mr. and Mrs. John Rupert  
Sheeler Moving and Storage  
Ms. Jacey Sisneros  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Soliz  
Ms. Edith Wald  
Mrs. Diane White  
Mr. and Mrs. Jim White  
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Workman

## In-Kind Donations

Area Board 9  
Ms. Terri Barnard  
Mr. Mike Bellamy  
California Highway Patrol  
Mr. and Mrs. Dan Coleman  
Mr. and Mrs. Orval Garrison  
Law Offices of John I. Gilman  
Ms. Leslie O'Brien  
Mr. Maurice Portnoy  
Mr. Kevin Schindler  
Season Ticket  
Mr. and Mrs. Mel Sheeler  
United Blood Services

## 2009 Annual Appeal Donations

Ms. Miyo Akitomo  
Mr. Jim Arimura and Ms. Chiyoko Touozaki  
Mr. and Mrs. Howard Bales  
Dr. and Mrs. Chris Bartelson  
Mr. Michael Barth and Ms. Muriel Norton  
Mr. and Mrs. Gail Beltramo – Honoring Pauli Powers  
Mr. and Mrs. Stan Berman  
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Beyer  
Mr. and Mrs. Bartley Bleuel  
Ms. Charleen Boxx  
Mr. and Mrs. Stanly Bryant  
Mr. and Mrs. Merle Burkett  
Mr. and Mrs. John Carabajal  
Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Chen  
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Christensen  
City National Bank  
Mr. James Daniels  
Mr. and Mrs. Curt Davison  
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Defreece

Mr. and Mrs. William Deniston  
Ms Miriam Dumer  
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Dunham  
Mr. and Mrs. Lance Eaton  
Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Eaton –  
In memory of Joan Willet  
Mr. and Mrs. Rodger Embury  
Esquivel's Roofing Company –  
In memory of Rachele Carabajal  
Ms. Maud Etchart  
Mr. and Mrs. Faragher  
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Ferber  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Ferrin  
Ms. Linda Fisher  
Ms. Marilyn Foraker  
Ms. Valerie Garges  
Mr. and Mrs. Spencer Garrett  
Mr. and Mrs. Orval Garrison  
Ms. Geneva Goodman  
Ms. Carolyn Greene  
Mr. and Mrs. Trusten Hart  
Ms. Carol Hartkopf  
Dr. and Mrs. Brian Henderson  
Ms. Ines Hendrick  
Ms. Nancy Hendrickson  
Mr. and Mrs. Gerri Hickenbottom  
Mr. and Mrs. Doug Hoff  
Hogan Insurance Services  
Ms. Alma Ikeler  
Mr. William Johnston  
Knights of Columbus, Holy Cross Council 9969  
Mr. George Kroll  
Ms. Eve Liebman  
Mr. Robert Lacy  
Landegger, Baron, Lavenant and Ingber  
Mr. Zhong Liu and Ms. Jean Jin Xiao  
Ms. Dorothy Loebel  
Mr. and Mrs. David Lopez  
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Lopez  
Ms. Alicia Loya  
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Luna  
Ms. Rose Lunn  
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Luxford  
Ms. Colette Mahmod  
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Mann  
Ms. Jane Marcus  
Ms. Dicie Marshall  
Ms. Patricia Martino  
Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Mason  
Ms. Barbara Menke-Best  
Ms. Lillie Messner  
Ms. Sally Miller – For the La Luna Home  
Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Mason –  
Designated to Heritage Valley  
Ojai Valley Green Coalition  
Mr. and Mrs. Brian O'Hop  
Ms. Roberta Orvis  
Ms. Eloise Palmer  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Percy  
Mr. and Mrs. Joe Piroso  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Piroso  
Pleasant Valley Lions Club  
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Powers  
Ms. Lillian Pressel  
Mr. Thomas Ragan  
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Rigsby  
Ms. Heidi Ritterbush  
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Robinson  
Mr. and Mrs. Lee Rosenboom  
Mr. and Mrs. Salvador Ruvalcaba  
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Ryan  
Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Salinas

Mr. and Mrs. Mike Silacci  
Mr. and Mrs. Ron Stearns  
Mr. and Mrs. Dave Stork  
Mr. and Mrs. Ron Tamillo  
Mr. and Mrs. John Velthoen  
Ventura County Sheriff's  
Association  
Ms. Virginia Viola  
Mrs. Maureen Wachold  
Ms. Mary Walker  
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Waters  
Mrs. Doris Watlington  
Mr. and Mrs. Gene West  
Ms. Joanne Woolard  
Mr. and Mrs. Hank Workman  
Mr. and Mrs. Louis Yparraguirre  
Mrs. Rose Zachowski  
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Zapata

## 2010 Ladies Tea Donations

Miyo Akitomo  
Paso Almonds  
Bessie Bales  
Robin Bales  
Mary Barkemeyer  
Patricia Bullough  
Geraldine Cowley  
Betty Defreece  
Lynn Decker-Mahin  
Auggy Donlon  
Linda Fisher  
Jean Hart  
Judith Henderson  
Gerri Hickenbottom  
Mrs. Barbara Hoff  
Monica Koszela  
Beverly Lanning  
Jo Ann LaRochelle  
Rose Lunn  
Lillie Messner  
Roberta Orvis  
Eloise Palmer  
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Carol Piroso  
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Mrs. Shirley Shapiro  
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Roberta Smith  
Jean Thomson  
Ruth Truman  
Valerie Weinstein  
Germaine Williams  
Janice Willis  
Mrs. Jane Workman  
Mrs. Judith Yparraguirre  
Rosa Zapata

## For the After School Programs

Ms. Jean Bolt  
Ms. Karen Finch  
Ms. Wendy Kelley  
Leather and Lace  
Motorcycle Club  
Mr. and Mrs. Steven Yinger

## For the Aktion Club

Kiwanis  
Mr. Ralph Reyes  
Mr. Gary Tollison

## For the Community Connections East Program

Executive Women International  
Mr. and Mrs. Brian Henderson  
Rotary Club of Simi Sunrise  
Simi Valley Hospital

## In Memory of Cathleen Holland

Mr. and Mrs. Steven Bloch  
Mr. and Mrs. Mardy Cobb  
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Ferber  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Franklin  
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Murphy  
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Roth  
Ms. Diane Schuster

## For the Community Connections West Program

Ms. Rosalee Asbell  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Piroso –  
Designated to Barry Pond Day

## For the Heritage Valley Program

Mr. Jeff Cole  
Ms. Calla Dominguez  
Ms. Sherry and Ms Deanna Hodges  
Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Mason  
Santa Paula Super Store

## For the LaLuna Care Home

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Bales  
Mr. and Mrs. Doug Hoff

## For the Ojai Enrichment Center

Ms. Bautista  
Ms. Susan Broidy  
Ms. Tina Chappel  
Ms. Joanie Chiarodit  
Ms. Margaret Elliott  
Ms. Heather Green  
Hamilton Healing  
Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Memel  
Ms. Toni Mitchell  
Ms. Cecelia Nguyen  
Ojai Film Festival  
Ojai Foundation  
Ms. Gianna Piccardo  
Ms. Robyn Posin  
Ms. Nancy Byrd Radding  
Ms. Andre Ripa  
Ms. Donna Santoro  
Ms. Diane Silvester  
Ms. Marilyn Solas  
Soul Centered  
Ms. Jennifer Wilson  
Ms. Terri Wolfe  
World Family Foundation  
Yoga Jones and Balanced Wellness

## In Memory of Pam McAvoy

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Bales  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bowden  
Mr. James Buatti and  
Ms. Colleen McAvoy  
Ms. Lois Chooljian  
Mr. Sol Chooljian and  
Ms. Laura McAvoy  
Mr. and Mrs. William Deniston  
Ms. Shirley Dove  
Mr. and Mrs. Miguel Duran  
Ms. Carol Durst  
Mr. and Mrs. John Given

Ms. Sarah Heath  
 Mr. and Mrs. William Hux  
 Mr. and Mrs. William Kearney  
 Mr. Bruce Kremetz and Ms. Heather McAvoy  
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 Dr. and Mrs. Mark Lisagor  
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 Mr. and Mrs. Doug McAvoy  
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 Mr. and Mrs. Perter Newman  
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 Dr. Gilbert Onaka and Dr. Lynn Wan  
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 Mr. and Mrs. Fred Robinson  
 Ms. Angela Sarafian  
 Saticoy Lemon Association  
 Mr. and Mrs. Doug Schulz  
 Soroptimist International of Camarillo  
 Honorable Steve Stone and Ms. K. McLean  
 Mr. and Mrs. Michael Williams  
 Mr. and Mrs. Gary Wolfe

**For the Oxnard Multi Cultural Center**

Mr. and Mrs. Barry Hickenbottom  
 Ms. Doris Morgan  
 Mr. Thomas Ragan

**For the Simi Valley Program**

Assisted Home Hospice Foundation  
 Mr. and Mrs. Frank Beyer  
 Mr. and Mrs. Brian Henderson  
 Milgard Manufacturing, Inc.  
 Simi Valley Hospital  
 Waste Management  
 Westlake Village Rotary

**For the Skyway Day Program**

Ms. Michael and Claudia Bishop  
 Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Chen  
 Ninh Pham Ha  
 Hagle Tree Farm  
 Milagro Fine Art  
 Mr. and Mrs. Carl Smith  
 Ms. Roslyn Stewart

**For the SSIL Programs**

Mr. John Renard

**For the TIL East Program**

Mr. and Mrs. Steve Brown

**For the TIL West Program**

Ms. Julie Andrada  
 Mr. and Mrs. Lou Cunningham  
 Ms. Chris Miyaski  
 Ms. Terry Patterson  
 Mr. and Mrs. Doug Schulz  
 Wholesale Design Warehouse

**For the Ventura Program**

Ms. Miyo Akitomo  
 Oxnard Home Depot  
 Ventura Elks Lodge, #1430  
 Ventura Elks Lodge, #1443  
 Ms. Debbie Walton

**For the Strawberry Fields 5K & Triathlon**

Athlete Services, LLC  
 Mr. and Mrs. Howard Bales  
 Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Chen

John Paul II Polish School  
 Ms. Roberta Orvis –  
 In honor of Doris Watlington  
 Ms. Dorothy Schupbach –  
 In honor of Doris Watlington  
 Smokey's House of BBQ

**Memorial Donations**

**In Memory of Jerry Biggs**

Ms. Shirley Dove

**In Memory of Connie Burrige**

Ms. Roberta Orvis designated  
 to the La Luna Care Home

**In Memory of Karen Cargile**

Ms. Shirley Dove

**In Memory of Valerie Clark**

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Bales  
 Benton, Orr, Duval & Buckingham  
 Ms. Faye Campbell  
 Ms. Betty Daly  
 Mr. and Mrs. William Deniston  
 Ms. Shirley Dove  
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 Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Kirby  
 Ms. Wendy Lindley  
 Ms. Cynthia O'Leary  
 Dr. and Mrs. Art Peters  
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**In Memory of Gary Dowler**

Ms. Rose Zachowski

**In Memory of Lois Graham**

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Bansbach  
 Mr. and Mrs. John Garabedian  
 Ms. Dot Graham and Family

**In Memory of Elise Herron**

Ms. Rose Zachowski

**In Memory of Donna Jensen**

Ms. Shirley Dove

**In Memory of Beverly Kellogg**

Mr. and Mrs. Gary Kellogg

**In Memory of Ann Koszela**

Ms. Monica Koszela

**In Memory of Annie Lerma**

Ms. Shirley Dove

**In Memory of David Mason**

Fairbairn Family  
 Mr. and Mrs. Winston Jones  
 Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Mason  
 Mr. and Mrs. Fred Robinson  
 Charmaine, Frank, and Rene' Thorley

**In Memory of Sheila Mellman**

Mr. Stephen Smith

**In Memory of Susan Newhard**

Ms. Shirley Dove

**In Memory of Gary Owens**

Ms. Shirley Dove

**In Memory of Mary Scalvini**

Ms. Joanne and Ms. Janice Wilkinson

**In Memory of Mavis Schanuel**

Ms. Roberta Orvis

**In Memory of Amy Spiva**

Ms. Shirley Dove  
 Mr. and Mrs. Fred Robinson

**In Memory of Ty Stork**

Mr. and Mrs. William Deniston

**In Memory of Elaine Youger**

**Shambaugh**  
 Ms. Shirley Dove

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 Mr. and Mrs. Bill Misener  
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in honor of Amy Miller

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Misener  
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 Louis and Judith Yparraguirre  
 Margo Yunker  
 Rose Zachowski  
 Mr. and Mrs. Eduardo Zapata

## 2010 Annual Appeal

Our sincere appreciation to  
 the following donors who  
 responded to the agency's  
 2010 Annual Appeal:

Miyo Akitomo  
 Jim Arimura and Chiyoko Toyozaki  
 Mr. and Mrs. Howard Bales  
 Chris and Linda Bartelson  
 Michael and Muriel Barth  
 Frank and Cecilia Bellinghiere  
 Gail Beltramo  
 in honor of Pauline Powers  
 Stan and Marsha Berman  
 Mr. and Mrs. Robin Bernhoft  
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 Charleen Boxx  
 Merle and Janet Burkett  
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 Mr. and Mrs. Lou Cunningham  
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 Mr. and Mrs. William Deniston  
 Daryl and Judy Dennis  
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 in honor of Joan Willet  
 Maud Etchart  
 Mr. and Mrs. T.A. Faragher  
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 Orval and Katy Garrison  
 Jeanie Gerrard  
 Mr. and Mrs. Richard S. Hambleton, Jr.  
 Judy Hansen  
 Mr. and Mrs. Trusten Hart  
 Carol Hartkopf  
 Nancy Hendrickson  
 Barry and Gerri Hickenbottom

# Simi Valley Program's Landscape Project Near Completion

Thanks to a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) award last year from the City of Simi Valley, the landscape renovation project at the agency's Community Connections East Program is near completion.

The agency received a \$140,000 grant from the City of Simi Valley, with leveraged funds from The Arc Foundation of Ventura County, for improvements to make the property safe for all individuals served at our site on Cochran Street. The property, which the agency purchased in 2006, is situated on 1.3 acres and included a large amount of turf area and narrow walkways that were inaccessible for many of the individuals we serve that use a wheelchair or walker.

The landscape project included the installation of ADA compliant walkways and seating areas; reconfiguration and installation of a drip irrigation system; installation of free standing shade structures and planters; and planting of low water usage plants and shrubs, as well as drought tolerant trees.

The project will increase the amount of hardscape in order to accommodate areas for playing basketball or relaxing under the new pergola, and will also include wider walkways for easier accessibility. Not only is the new landscape beautiful and more visually appealing, the addition of low maintenance and drought resistant plants will reduce our use of natural resources.

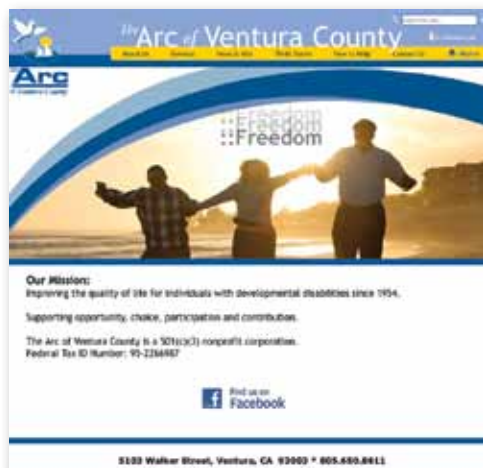
Once again, our sincere appreciation to the City of Simi Valley and The Arc Foundation of Ventura County for making this project a reality. An Open House will be scheduled during the summer for all to come out and see the amazing transformation of the Community Connections East Program.



Before



After



## Your OnLine Connection to The Arc of Ventura County

Visit The Arc of Ventura County on the web at [www.arcvc.org](http://www.arcvc.org). You will find a copy of this newsletter, as well as information on our programs and services, becoming a member, employment opportunities, and links to other important resources in the area of developmental disabilities.

Your suggestions and comments to improve our site are always welcome. Send them via email to Julie Duran at [jduran@arcvc.org](mailto:jduran@arcvc.org) or call (805) 650-8611, Extension 27.



## Grant Award for Transitioning Youth from School to Adult Life Funded by the Walmart Foundation



stated Pauline Powers, president of the Board of Directors. "This grant award will enable the agency to provide much needed, inclusive higher education supports to adolescents transitioning into adulthood."

The Walmart Foundation School-to-Community Transition Project aims to increase transition outcomes and to build inclusion and involvement of youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities in independent living, employment, post-secondary education or vocational training, as well as community, social and civic affairs.

"The Sub-grants for the Walmart Foundation School-to-Community Transition represent dynamic, new and innovative projects of chapters of The Arc – they will set a high standard in best practice for youth to adult transition initiatives for years to come," said Peter V. Berns, Chief Executive Officer of The Arc of the United States.

"The Walmart Foundation is committed to improving the lives of people with disabilities and ensuring they have opportunities to live better," said Margaret McKenna, president of the Walmart Foundation. "Our recent grant to The Arc reinforces our commitment by supporting programs of The Arc across America."

For more information on the Community Access Network Project, please contact Lisa Emery Fisher, Project Administrator, at (805) 650-8611, Extension 34 or by email at lemery@arcvc.org.

Thanks to a \$3 million grant from the Walmart Foundation, The Arc of the United States has awarded grants to 45 local chapters of The Arc across the US in support of a new initiative designed to help youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

The Arc of Ventura County is pleased to be included among the 45 grant recipients of the Walmart Foundation School-to-Community Transition Project. The agency has been awarded a \$50,000 grant in support of the Community Access Network (CAN) Project, a specialized curriculum providing a comprehensive and inclusive community college experience for young adults with developmental and intellectual disabilities.

The goal of the CAN Project is to assist cognitively diverse young adults to transition from education to community employment. Students will receive assistance to explore and plan for transition into the world of work. Through vocational education, The Arc of Ventura County will assist the students in the process of finding a career that coincides with their individual interests and talents; matching personality assets to career characteristics. The students will also receive training to research career choices and employment opportunities; matching vocational skills to career choices.

"We are very excited to have been selected as a recipient of the Walmart Foundation School-to-Community Transition Project,"

## Join the Arc Family!

Become a member of The Arc of Ventura County. Active membership dues are only \$20 per person (or \$200 for a lifetime membership). Benefits of membership include:

- Membership with The Arc of Ventura County, as well at The Arc of California and The Arc of the United States.
- Receipt of publications that keep you up-to-date; from "The Beacon" to state and national publications.
- Invitations to The Arc of Ventura County's General Membership and Annual Meetings to vote on critical issues.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

- Classification:  Self-Advocate  Professional in the field of Developmental Disabilities  
 Concerned Citizen  Parent/Relative of family member with Developmental Disabilities  
 Staff

Please indicate the type of membership you prefer:

- Life \$200 One vote; all local, state & national publications. (May be paid in 4 quarterly installments.)  
 Active \$20 Single or family equals one (1) vote; all publications.  
 I would also like more information about how I can volunteer

Complete and return this form with your check payable to The Arc of Ventura County, 5103 Walker Street, Ventura, California 93003. For more information, contact (805) 650-8611, Extension 0.



Administrative Offices  
 5103 Walker Street  
 Ventura, CA 93003  
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 1-800-501-4444  
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<b>Vice President</b>	Bob Hogan
<b>Recording Secretary</b>	Katy Garrison
<b>Treasurer</b>	Gene West
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Individuals interested in volunteering to serve on the Board of Directors or Board committee, please contact Julie Duran, Executive Assistant at (805) 650-8611, Extension 27 or by email at [jduran@arcvc.org](mailto:jduran@arcvc.org).

## 2010 Service Award Recipients

Congratulations to the following employees who achieved a milestone anniversary at The Arc of Ventura County:

<b>Thirty-Five Years</b> Lucy Patino	<b>Fifteen Years</b> Elva Cortez Rachel Gutierrez	<b>Ten Years</b> Anita Garcia Rona Liwanag Jennifer Lozano Miguel Martinez	<b>Five Years</b> Yesenia Acosta Maria Alonso Victoria Galietta Yesenia Gonzales Valerie Wiggins
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**Twenty Years**  
Fred Robinson

Thank you for your ongoing commitment and dedication to your work to improve the quality of life for those we serve.

*Martha Jensen, Chief Administrative Officer; Fred Robinson, CEO; and Lucy Patino, Facility Secretary*

