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WINTER
VOLUME 22
ISSUE 1
2010



Village SPIRIT

OUR MISSION IS TO PROTECT, FOSTER, DEVELOP AND ADVANCE THE RIGHTS AND INTERESTS OF PEOPLE WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES.

Valley Village: Memories from 2009 By Debra Donovan

Welcome to 2010, a new year and a new decade. The end of 2009 has left me feeling many varied emotions. Relief, for Valley Village making it through one of the most challenging fiscal years in recent state history. Frustration, that once again our state government has failed to execute a sound financial plan. The Governor released his projected budget on January 8, 2010. While there are few new cuts being proposed to the Department of Developmental Services this year, temporary cuts implemented last year that were due to sunset June 30 will likely remain in effect for another year. Gratitude, for the persevering staff and supportive families and friends at Valley Village who keep the faith that we will maintain and support our programs at the high standard we have set. And great sadness, over the loss of Fred Chapa, a man who dedicated almost three decades of his life to the people that we serve, their families, and staff at Valley Village.

Fred for me was a teacher, mentor, and friend for the past 20 years and I will miss him. A lesson Fred taught me and a quote I heard many times from him was, "it is what it is, it's all a process". He was a man of action and never dwelled too long on things that didn't go his way when he was implementing new programs. He just found another way and moved on. It was through his unrelenting efforts to maintain quality and care for our clients that led to the expansion of Valley Village programs over the years. He wanted to keep clients who had been brought into the program under the Valley Village umbrella and serve them safely for the rest of their lives. Fred's legacy will live on in the lives of those touched by Valley Village.

The new decade promises to be historic. Valley Village continues to be a leader in the care of developmentally disabled

people. I am optimistic that Valley Village will thrive in its endeavor to develop services that will enable our clients to age in place at Valley Village. The Board of Directors and leadership team at Valley Village has worked hard to develop a strategic plan for the next several years that will see the organization grow with the people we serve. I look forward to implementing those goals along with the help of our staff, families, and friends.



Board of Directors President's Message



KITTY COOPER
President

Greetings and Happy New Year. May 2010 bring each of us happiness, good health and prosperity. My wishes for Valley Village clients, staff and volunteers are the same. As for our organization, may it continue to be strong, responsive to the changing needs of those we serve, and innovative as we look into the future.

As noted elsewhere in this newsletter, sadly, we lost Fred Chapa, our former executive director who led Valley Village for 27 years. His vision and perseverance brought us to where we are today. For Fred's loving family and friends, I wish peace and comfort in the knowledge that his spirit lives on in the good that Valley Village does.

For Valley Village, the year just passed presented significant challenges. Of major concern was the uncertainty of government funding for our programs. Fortunately, through good leadership and hard work a crisis was avoided. But we must remain ever

vigilant to avert threats to our funding and ensure that we operate efficiently. Recent State and Federal funding issues have made it very clear that we must step up our private fund raising efforts. Thank you to all who contributed to our annual appeal and who support our annual Showtime! Luncheon (planning for this year has begun). But we must do more. Board members and staff are looking for ways to increase our presence in the community and develop new sources of contributions. Please share with us any ideas you may have.

Again this year, building our Board membership is a major goal. If you have even the slightest inkling that you might like to become a member of the Board of Directors or know someone else who you think would be a good candidate, please contact **Jenny Daniels Freese, Development Director, (818) 587-9450 X120** to find out more. Board members need not be related to any Valley Village client, although parents and/or family members provide a personal perspective that is vital to Valley Village fulfilling its mission and staying on course.

Again, best wishes for 2010. Please join us in making this the best year ever for Valley Village.

News Highlight



Councilman Dennis P. Zine and Bob Saget at Showtime! 2009

Save the Date!

If you've never attended a Valley Village luncheon, 2010 is the year! Join us Saturday, June 26, 2010, and experience an afternoon of laughing, loving, living and giving to the clients of Valley Village, through Valley Village.

Tickets will go on sale in May and will stay at their 2008 price - just \$85. Be sure to sign up for our e-newsletter at www.ValleyVillage.org to receive updates on events and Valley Village news.

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DEBRA DONOVAN

Thank You For Participating



In November, our Annual Appeal letter was sent out to all of our friends, parents, community leaders, and organizations. We asked for help to restore funding for services (listed below) that the government considers to be 'optional', but are crucial to supporting a healthy life for the whole person. We've raised over \$50,000 to help cover these costs.

Thanks to your generosity, we're able to continue providing the following services:

- Adult dental services
- Audiology services
- Optometric and optician services
(the cost of eye glasses and fittings)
- Podiatric services
- Psychology services (psychological evaluations)
- Speech therapy services

Our clients were also very grateful for you signing, and returning the enclosed holiday card in your appeal packet. The signed cards were delivered and brightened their holiday season!

Valley Village Beginnings: The Valley Parent Group

Prior to 1970 there were NO Public School services for the "Trainable Mentally Retarded" in the San Fernando Valley. A few families, after being turned away from local public schools, negotiated classroom space at the then CA. State College at Northridge, now CSUN, to hold classes for their children who were developmentally disabled.

Early in 1970 the college determined it could no longer accommodate the 90 to 100 children on their campus, expansion was on the horizon. By June 1970 "The Valley Parent Group for the Trainable Mentally Retarded" (VPGTMR) was formed, made its presence and the needs of their children known, again, to the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD)

These parents worked closely with LAUSD, which led to the opening of East Valley School, September 1970, West Valley School, January 1971 and Diane Leichman, secondary school, in September 1971.

NEXT edition: VPGTMR evolves into VALLEY VILLAGE

Aloha Luau Party

Since we could not afford to send all of our clients to Hawaii, we brought Hawaii to them! Valley Village Day, Residential, and Afterschool program clients were given the opportunity to enjoy the afternoon of Saturday, September 26, 2009 at the Aloha Luau party. The opportunity was provided by guests from our annual luncheon, Showtime! 2009.

The money raised, thanks to the help of our wonderful auctioneers, Councilman Zine and dear friend Bob Saget, covered the cost of food for over 300 guests, entertainment, and decorations. The day was spent socializing with friends and family, eating a delicious lunch, enjoying a show put on by professional Hawaiian dancers, and dancing to all the hits with the DJ!



**For every \$1 contributed to
Valley Village, .88¢
goes to direct care costs.**

Contributions made to Valley Village Programs through the 2009 Annual Appeal

Shomrei Torah Synagogue
Kristen Abbott
Karen Abbott,
in honor of Wesley Falk
Mr. and Mrs. Steven Acosta
Jean Adams
Anna Akhnokh
Susan Anderson,
in memory of Mary Simonian
Christina Anthony
Mr. and Mrs. Tim Bailey,
in honor of Sandra Lee Bailey
Mary Banner
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Barkley
Dr. and Mrs. Robert Behringer
Howard Berry
Mr. and Mrs. Beuerman,
in honor of Irma Beuerman
Mr. and Mrs. Blum
Eugenie Ruth Boruski
Henry Bronet
Bud and Althea Brown
Mr. and Mrs. Burgess
Dorothy and LeRoy Bushong
Jeannette Butler
Jeanette Campbell
Jeannette Cayen
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Coglianesi
Kitty & Don Cooper

Dick and Val Crouch
Mr. and Mrs. Leopoldo Daulo
Ruth Deel
Dr. and Mrs. Andrew Dixon
Mr. and Mrs. David Donovan
Mr. and Mrs. Murray Dorfman
Glen Drake, *in honor of Alison
Dixon on behalf of her deceased
sister Jane Dixon Drake*
Thomas and Mary Emerson
Judith Espinoza
Mr. and Mrs. Israel Fatoorechi
David Finkelstein, *F&W Food
Services*
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Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Freeman
Friends of Valley Village
Mr. and Mrs. Armand Garden
Gelb Enterprises
Darl Gibson
Henry and Jane Goichman
Mr. and Mrs. Ross Goldware
Mr. and Mrs. Salvador Gomez
Janet Greer
Robert Gustafson
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Harris
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hay
Mr. and Mrs. Harry Holgate
Mr. and Mrs. Huerta

Mr. and Mrs. Pat Joyce
Priscilla Klain
Aaron Lazaroff,
in honor of David Lazaroff
Lee Hamer Memorial Charities
Roberta and Jeffrey Lerner
Glenna Lotspeich
Karen Mainer
Joan McArthur
Mr and Mrs. Dennis McMahon
Lee and Nicky Metlin
Corinne Miller
Manouchehr Mostafiz
Robert Murashige and
Marsha Richards
Mrs. Mary Oliver,
in memory of Mark Oliver
Gay Lyn Parrish,
in memory of Fred Chapa
Mark Pracher
Nick Ramirez
Dorri Raskin and Florence Raskin
Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Rector
Dorothy and Jules Rosenthal
Larry and Marlys Sack
Shelly Samborsky
Mary Sandorf
Judy Scheuer
Carson Schreiber

Paulette Schreiner,
in honor of Guerrmo
Mr. and Mrs. Dr. E.G. Schugel
Ellen Shapiro
Robert and Madeline Sharples
William Shepherd
Ellen and Gregg Simon
Mr. and Mrs. Rex Skinner
Joan Soper
June Stanton
Yu-Fang and Ko-Shun Sun
April Swaine,
in honor of Brian Edwards
Mindy Sweat, *in honor of
Drewe and Mary Dixon*
Mr. and Mrs. Gunnar Sydow
Dot and Orlando Tamburri
Bob and Edith Tannenbaum
Mr. Leo Theriault
Gary Tritt
Larry and Dorothy Trusty
Mr. and Mrs. Ron Van Deest
Alfredo and Douglas Vasquez
Ann Walker
Martha Waugh
Bert and Sam Weiner
Charles Weinstein, Ph.D.
Ida and Ron Weiss
Elsie Wolfe
Wendy Lee Wong

FOUNDATION GIFTS

General Donations

Dorothy and Bryan Bach,
in honor of Sharon Sackin and Marc Weisel
Mr. and Mrs. Russell Hawthorne, *in memory of Robbie*
Althea and Krishan Kapur
Dr. and Mrs. Jonathan Rapp
Mary Sandorf

Annual Appeal

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Barkley
Mr. and Mrs. Dick Bartus
Susan Basler
Dorothy and LeRoy Bushong
Jeanette Campbell
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Coglianesi
Kitty & Don Cooper
Faye Deane, *in memory of
Ben and Rob Deane*
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Diamond
Dickter Family
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memory of Jane Dixon Drake*
Mr. and Mrs. David Donovan
Guenther and Laura Engel
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Engel
Mr. and Mrs. Derrick Fisher
Mr. and Mrs. David Fung
Darl Gibson
Mr. and Mrs. Ross Goldware
Mr. and Mrs. Russell Hawthorne,
in memory of Robbie Hawthorne
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Marla and Steven Kort
Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Labins
Glenna Lotspeich
Robert Murashige and
Marsha Richards
Marla Press
Mary Sandorf
June Stanton
Gary Tritt
Helen Vestuto
Martha Waugh
Fred Weiner, D.D.S.
Barbara and Dwight Wheeler
Mr. and Mrs. Ed Zimmermann

Contributions Made in Memory of Fred Chapa to the Fred Chapa Client Vacation Fund

Mr. and Mrs. Dick Bartus
Mr. and Mrs. Beuerman
Josephine Bird
Mr. and Mrs. Blum
Joyce Brady
Henry Bronet
Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Broudy
Bud and Althea Brown
Dorothy and LeRoy Bushong
Jeanette Campbell
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Joan Schulman
Barbara Smith
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Shirley Sydow
Martha Waugh
Fred and Sue Weitkamp
Mr. and Mrs. Zeitlin
Mr. and Mrs. Ed Zimmermann

Contributions made through Valley Village between July 1, 2009 and January 11, 2010

United Way, Inc., from Kaiser Permanente
Whole Foods Woodland Hills, 5 cent Bag Refund from shoppers
GoodSearch.com
SuperValu Inc., % donated from grocery sales at Albertsons
Shomrei Torah Synagogue, in honor of Lauren Rubin
Mary Banner
Mary Banner, for the Afterschool Program
Mr. and Mrs. Steve Beilinson
Lee Hamer Memorial Charities,
2010 Showtime! Luncheon Sponsorship
Jeanette Campbell
Margarita Clement
Kitty & Don Cooper, Macy's Shop for a Cause 2009
Kitty & Don Cooper
David and Elizabeth Criss
David and Elizabeth Criss, for Emily Criss
Ruth Deel, towards Altano House and Ceramic Class
Ruth Deel, for Altano House
Ruth Deel, for Patio Furniture for Altano House
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Diamond
James Domit
Mr. and Mrs. David Donovan
Sylvia Dorfman, in memory of Dr. Eugene Dorfman
Guenther and Laura Engel
Friends of Valley Village, Macy's Shop for a Cause 2009
Marsha and Michael Goldenfeld,
in honor of Judi Broudy's 70th Birthday
Mr. and Mrs. Ross Goldware,
in honor of Nancy Dubois 80th Birthday!
Mr. and Mrs. Salvador Gomez
Connie Gonzales
Connie Gonzales,
in appreciation for bringing David home from the day program
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hay, *in honor of Phillip Motherspaw's CFO of
the Year Nomination from SFVBJ*
Mr. and Mrs. Pat Joyce
Robin Kellogg, Macy's Shop for a Cause 2009
Mr. and Mrs. John Kendryna
Mr. and Mrs. John Kendryna,
in memory of Judy Chamberlain and Lana McCracken
Mr. and Mrs. John Kendryna, in honor of Sam Kendryna's 96th Birthday

Mr. and Mrs. John Kendryna, *in honor of Mary and Ronald Harris
30th Wedding Anniversary from Carol Kendryna*
Marla and Steven Kort, Macy's Shop for a Cause 2009
The Lawrence Frank Foundation,
Grant for sensory chair for ADC Winnetka
Aaron Lazaroff, in honor of David Lazaroff
Aaron Lazaroff, in memory of Beth Lazaroff
Aaron Lazaroff, in memory of Anne Schneider
Roberta and Jeffrey Lerner, for Client Dental Needs
Roberta and Jeffrey Lerner, for the Adult Day Care Center
Sheba Levine, in memory of Norman Levine
Glenna Lotspeich
Joan and Leslie Millard, in honor of Leslie
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Mines, in honor of Judi Broudy's 70th Birthday
Ron and Judi Prejean, Macy's Shop for a Cause 2009
Ron and Judi Prejean
Dorothy and Jules Rosenthal, *in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph
Freeman's 50th Wedding Anniversary*
Janet Rosmarin
Dolly Saget, in honor of Eddie Freeman
Mary Sandorf
Mary Sandorf, in memory of my sister Olive
Marion Schwanbeck
Myung Soon Han
June Stanton
June Stephenson
Adam Sun and Annie Lin, Macy's Shop for a Cause 2009
Evelyn Swanson, for Charlie Sandorf's Gladstone home
Ted Theodore
Jo Anne Tschantre, Macy's Shop for a Cause 2009
Martha Waugh
Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Weintraub,
in honor of Judi Broudy's 70th Birthday
Adell White, in memory of Rose Saginaw
Adell White, *in honor of 50th Wedding Anniversary of
Joan and Joe Freeman*
Mr. and Mrs. Ed Zimmermann, Macy's Shop for a Cause 2009
Mr. and Mrs. Ed Zimmermann, *in memory of Grace and Charles
Zimmermann*
Mr. and Mrs. Ed Zimmermann
Councilman Dennis P. Zine



Fred and Yolanda Chapa

In-Kind Donations

Alberta Bellisario
Cindy Burt
Adell Campbell,
Reading & Radio Resource
Kitty & Don Cooper
Costco, Canoga Park
Elias Duran
Roger Galeana,
Artistic Countertops
Sachi Hamai
Cathy & David Kort
J. Michael Paulson & Family
Dr. Michael Schneier
Sean Solimon
Starbucks, Canoga Park
Diana Troung

Contributor lists comprise those who have given to Valley Village or the Valley Village Foundation. Please contact us at (818) 587-9450 x120, or info@valleyvillage.org, if we have made any omissions or other errors.

Valley Village honored 35 employees in 2009 for years of service to our clients.

15 years

Alice Gray
Barbara A. Smith
Priscilla Toledo

10 years

Benita Arreguin
Cynthia Cofield
Wilma Coreas
Raquel Gonzalez
Alvaro Guardado
Cesario Gutierrez
Sandra Gutierrez
Edda G. Larco
Ivonne Morales
Anna C. S. Przbyla Nhan
Georgianna Noteware
Yanira Rivas
Jose R. Villacorta
George Anthony Walker
Rebecca Walker

5 years

Luz E. Urena De Aguiniga
Luisa Alvarado
Allison Chapin
Norma Diaz
Maria Gonzalez
Rafael Guerrero
Dora Guimet
Timothy F. Holly Jr.
Alice M. Jackson
Timothy A. Jimenez
Aracelly J. Lopez
Jose Meza
Luis Olarte
Kim Pettus
Lennie L. Roque
Elizabeth Y. Sandoval
Gilbert Servin



Marilyn Robinson at Showtime! 2009

Cheryl Kobashigawa
Marla Kort
Steven Kort
Mariana Krasnoshtein
Alex Krasnoshtein
Megan Krasnoshtein
Leah Krasnoshtein
Sharon Lazaroff Taubar
Jennifer Ligouri
Erika Lopez
Vanessa Lopez
Janet Lustig
Giovanny Marquez
Monica Mokrynka
Brenda Navas
Jamie Palacios
Judi Prejean
David Reyes
Marilyn Robinson

Cassie Romero
Debra Sanderson
Carson Schreiber
Howard Sefflin
Sevan Serafino
Ron Smith
June Stanton
Patty Sztapka
Monique Tate
Rafael Tomik
Vanessa Verboiesen
Joy Wabi
Susie Warmbrand
Scott Weber
Dwight Wheeler
Ed Young
Jacqueline Young
Dolores Zimmermann

Valley Village Volunteers

Eddie Aguilar
Vartan Akchyan
Zara Akchyan
Caitlind Alexander
Tamika Bacon
Robert Bartels
Dick Bartus
Nijetha Baskar
Pushpa Baskar
Steve Beilinson
Jennifer Beltran
Brian Blake
Jamie Bowie
Joyce Brady
Henrietta Burgess
Dennis Burgess
Jeanette Capaldi
Joanna Carcamo
Margarita Clement
Kitty Cooper
Nadeem Deeb
Larry Diamond
Emily Donovan
Andie Donovan

Linda Elliott
Jennifer Encarnacion
Guenther Engel
Laura Engel
Sara Fawcett
Jose Flores
Joellen Fricioni
Gwen Friss-Weber
Suleth Garcia
Candy Gonzalez
Krystal Gonzalez
Florine Goodman
Janet Greer
Max Haghghi
Jason Hansen
Donna Harney
Angel Herrera
Sandra Herrera
Jennie Huh
Ramesh Jayakumar
Leela Kapur
Susan Karhroody
Kiwanis Club of Northridge
Kiwanis Club of Canoga Park

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Valley Village Foundation's Mission Statement:
To Provide for the Future Financial Viability of Valley Village



Guenther Engel Remembers Fred Chapa

On behalf of the Valley Village Foundation Board of Directors I wish to thank all of you, who donated to the Foundation through the year-end appeal, for your generosity and for your continued unwavering support

It is with a sad heart that I write this article. As most of you probably know by now, Valley Village's first Executive Director Fred Chapa passed away on December 15, 2009. He was a man of vision and patience, always seeing the possibilities of what Valley Village's future could be. "Can't" was not a word he believed in and because of that, his accomplishments were many. He was a man who could charm people in his humorous way and could get them to rise to their highest capabilities. He has touched many lives over the years that he was at Valley Village. We have lost a courageous leader and, I with many others have lost a dear friend.

He would want us to look to the future, and keep Valley Village strong. I believe this is the legacy he leaves as witnessed by his accomplishments as Valley Village's Executive Director during the past 27 years. In what follows is a short history of the growth of Valley Village during the time Fred was the Executive Director.

During the early 1980's, when Fred was hired, Valley Village (VV) was known as the Valley Parent Group for the Trainable Mentally Retarded (VPGTMR) and already had their first house, a home for 6 young ladies that was acquired, repaired and painted by a group of parents

As the VPGTMR grew they opened a thrift shop to make some money to support the on-going operations. After adding 5 more homes in the very late 70's and early 80's the VPGTMR encountered a new major problem and a new challenge, which was to build up their depleted funds that was caused by the purchase of the additional homes. About this time Fred met a HUD consultant who became instrumental in assisting the VPGTMR in acquiring additional homes thru HUD and this resulted in another growth spurt in the late 80's and early 90's when more homes were purchased.

In the mid 1980's VPGTMR began the first of many new programs including an after school and day camp program for school aged special needs children. The Adult Development Center was also added to meet day service needs for adults with developmental disabilities.

In 1987 the VPGTMR changed its corporate name to Valley Village. In the early 90's Valley Village opened their first 12 Bed Nursing Facility and a semi-independent living program. Valley Village also moved the administration office and the Adult Development Center to a newly purchased building in Winnetka. In the late 1990's Valley Village added the first, Adult Day Health Center (ADHC) in the West Valley across from the Valley Village Office.

During the early 2000's Valley Village closed the Thrift Shop. Records showed that it earned over 1 million dollars through the dedication and loyalty of volunteer parents and friends. In the following years a second ADC and a second ADHC were opened in the East Valley at Sunland.

Finally in 2002 the latest program opened - a 6 Bed continuous nursing facility, staffed 24/7 by licensed nurses for very medically fragile patients and because of Fred's foresight grew into an 8-bed facility. The State allowed only 6 of these continuous nursing facilities to open statewide and Valley Village was one of three selected in southern CA.

Let's summarize where Valley Village is today thanks to Fred Chapa's leadership and dedication to the developmentally disabled clients who are serviced by Valley Village.

- *After School Program*
- *Residential Program*
 - *14 homes*
 - *3 condos*
 - *12-Bed Nursing Facility*
 - *8-Bed Continuous Nursing Facility*
- *Adult Development Centers at 2 locations*
- *Adult Day Health center at 2 locations*

Valley Village now serves approximately 400 developmentally disabled clients in the various programs listed above.

Fred's caring and empathy for our clients leads me to believe that he developed a vision for Valley Village. His innate ability to see an opportunity and be able to act on it allowed him to achieve his many accomplishments at Valley Village.



Fred Chapa and Guenther Engel



20830 Sherman Way
Winnetka, CA 91306
www.ValleyVillage.org

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Board and Committee Meetings

FEBRUARY

February 28
Legacy Group Brunch

MARCH

March 25
Valley Village
Board Meeting
6:30 pm
Boardroom
20830 Sherman Way,
Winnetka

MAY

May 27
Valley Village
Board Meeting
6:30 pm
Boardroom
20830 Sherman Way,
Winnetka

JUNE

June 26
Showtime!
10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Sheraton Universal Hotel

JULY

July 22
Valley Village
Board Meeting
6:30 pm
Boardroom
20830 Sherman Way,
Winnetka

To update your
address or add
friends or
reltives to the
mailing list,
please call us at:
(818) 587-9450
x120.