



TMI

TOWARD MAXIMUM INDEPENDENCE

A NON-PROFIT AGENCY ASSISTING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES TO LIVE, WORK AND PARTICIPATE IN THEIR COMMUNITIES.

ISSUE #34

AUGUST 2001

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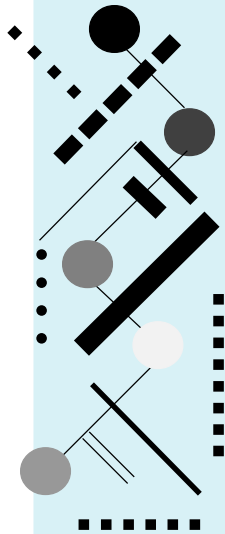
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THIS NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED QUARTERLY FOR PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS, FAMILY, FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES OF TMI, A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION.

THE ANSWER MY FRIENDS IS CINCO DEE MARKO: TMI'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY RECAP BY MARK SAVERINO

FOR ALL THOSE HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE WHO WERE LUCKY ENOUGH TO HAVE FOUND TIME TO ATTEND OUR TWENTY-YEAR CELEBRATION ON MAY 5TH, ALL I CAN SAY IS "OH BOY!" IT WAS TRULY A FABULOUS DAY. WE HAD PLENTY OF GAMES, RIDES AND DUNK TANKS FOR ALL THE KIDS AND ADULTS WHO CAME BY. WE HAD A WONDERFUL BAND, "BUFFED OUT" AND NOT ONLY WAS THEIR MUSIC TERRIFIC, BUT THEY GAVE ME THE THRILL OF A LIFETIME BY ALLOWING ME TO PLAY KEYBOARD WITH THE BAND FOR A COUPLE OF SONGS WHILE MY DAD SANG LEAD VOCALS. "PICNIC PEOPLE" DID A FABULOUS JOB PROVIDING THE FOOD AND DRINK, AS WELL AS SUPERVISING THE ACTIVITIES. WE WERE ALSO BLESSED WITH AN APPEARANCE FROM ROD LUCK WHO CAME ON HIS DAY OFF TO RECEIVE AN AWARD FROM US, GIVING US THE OPPORTUNITY TO FORMALLY THANK HIM FOR ALL THE INTERVIEWS ON KUSI NEWS PROMOTING OUR WORK AT TMI. SPECIAL THANKS TO PAM TAMKIN WHO HELPED BRING THE EVENT TOGETHER. SPECIAL AWARDS WERE GIVEN OUT FOR FIFTEEN YEARS OF SERVICE TO GEORGIA MCWHORTER, BONNIE STANLEY AND PHYLINDA CLARK-GRAHAM. A TWENTY YEAR SERVICE AWARD WENT TO ME! WE ALSO HONORED CYNTHIA SHOTT AND HER FAMILY FOR TWENTY YEARS OF RECEIVING SUPPORT FROM TMI. THANKS TO ALL WHO CONTRIBUTED THEIR EFFORTS IN HELPING WITH THE EVENT AND TO ALL WHO CAME AND ENJOYED IT. IT WAS TRULY A WONDERFUL DAY IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD.





SpotLight

An Intimate Look

INTERVIEW BY SANDY BURKE

I MET WITH SHIRLEY DEVINNEY FOR THE VERY FIRST TIME, FINDING HER A VERY WARM AND GRACIOUS LADY. WHEN I SUGGESTED INTERVIEWING HER FOR THE TMI NEWSLETTER, SHE BECAME QUITE EXCITED ABOUT THE IDEA:

WHY DON'T YOU TELL ME A LITTLE BIT ABOUT YOURSELF, SHIRLEY.

WELL, I AM AMERICAN INDIAN (CHEROKEE AND BLACKFOOT) AND FRENCH. I HAVE 3 BROTHERS; 2 OLDER AND 1 YOUNGER. I AM THE KIND OF PERSON WHO ENJOYS CHALLENGES AND ADVENTURE. I LOVE FUN THINGS LIKE DANCING, ARTS & CRAFTS, GAMBLING, WALKING, DINING OUT, SOCIALIZING AND USING MAKEUP AND PERFUME. I LIKE GOOD LOOKING MEN WITH GOOD HEARTS, PERSONALITY AND GREAT SMILES. MY FAVORITE FOODS ARE MEXICAN AND ITALIAN. I LIKE ALL KINDS OF MUSIC AND ENJOY COLLECTING STUFFED ANIMALS. (I LOVE ANIMALS!)

I LIVE IN THE HEART OF HILLCREST AND HAVE BEEN IN THIS AREA FOR THE PAST 6 YEARS. I LOVE MY HOME AND I LIKE KEEPING IT NEAT AND CLEAN. I LOVE TO GO OUT WITH FRIENDS AND MEET NEW PEOPLE. MAYBE, ONE OF THESE DAYS, I WILL MEET SOMEONE SPECIAL. I SURE HOPE SO - YOU NEVER KNOW!

IN WHAT AREAS DO YOU FEEL TMI HAS HELPED YOU?

OVER THE YEARS, TMI HAS SENT SOME VERY NICE PEOPLE TO HELP SUPPORT ME - LIKE YOU! (A BIG SMILE ON HER FACE.) YOU ARE PRETTY COOL, SANDY! (I FOUND MYSELF SMILING BACK - IT'S IMPOSSIBLE NOT TO LIKE THIS LADY.) THE PEOPLE AT TMI ARE GREAT! MY SUPPORT PERSON ASSISTS ME IN PAYING MY BILLS AND COMES BY TO SEE IF I AM DOING OK. I DO TAKE CARE OF MY OWN NEEDS, HOWEVER, ON A DAILY BASIS. THE TMI SUPPORT PERSON I USED TO HAVE HELPED ME GET MY SECTION 8, SO MY RENT IS NOW A LOT CHEAPER AND I'M VERY HAPPY

ABOUT THAT! I WOULD ALSO LIKE EVERYONE TO KNOW THAT I DO KNOW I HAVE CERTAIN "ISSUES" - I AM A LITTLE "SLOWER" THAN OTHERS IN CERTAIN AREAS. YET, I AM LIVING BY MYSELF AND TAKING CARE OF MYSELF THANKS TO TMI AND OTHER AGENCIES. I AM VERY PROUD OF MYSELF AND THANK THE LORD AND OTHERS FOR HELPING ME BE INDEPENDENT.

I THINK I AM A REALLY BEAUTIFUL PERSON WITH A VERY GOOD HEART, AND I ALSO THINK EVERYONE IS BEAUTIFUL IN THEIR OWN WAY. I'M VERY POLITE AND WELL-MANNERED AND ENJOY DRESSING WELL. I THINK IT'S IMPORTANT TO LOOK NICE, AND IT MAKES ME FEEL GOOD ABOUT MYSELF WHICH KEEPS ME SMILING!

THIS INTERVIEWER WOULD HAVE TO AGREE - SHE SURE KEPT ME SMILING!

STATE BUDGET CONCERNS

BY CONNIE SAVERINO

AS RECENTLY AS LATE JUNE WE HAD HOPES OF A RATE INCREASE IN DDS FUNDED PROGRAMS, BUT THEY VANISHED WITH THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE DECISION TO ELIMINATE THE \$24.3 MILLION PROPOSAL IN AN EFFORT TO SECURE A BUDGET RESERVE. GOVERNOR DAVIS AND LEGISLATORS AGREED TO KEEP \$2.5 TO \$3 BILLION IN RESERVE. CURRENTLY THE RESERVE STANDS AT \$2.2 MILLION. WE THANK SENATOR WES CHESBRO WHO FOUGHT TO KEEP THE RATE ISSUES ALIVE! LETTERS OF DISAPPOINTMENT TO THE GOVERNOR LETTING HIM KNOW THAT WE WILL BE BACK AGAIN NEXT YEAR ARE WARRANTED. AS THIS GOES TO PRINT WE STILL DO NOT HAVE A FINAL STATE BUDGET. DEMOCRATS AND REPUBLICANS CANNOT AGREE ON WHAT TO CUT OR WHERE TO GAIN THE ADDITIONAL NEEDED RESERVE. SAN DIEGO REGIONAL CENTER HAS SECURED A LINE OF CREDIT WITH UNION BANK FOR OVER \$15.1 MILLION WHICH SHOULD CARRY US TO LATE AUGUST FOR DDS FUNDED PROGRAMS BEFORE OUR OWN LOC WOULD HAVE TO KICK IN. THE LAST TIME THE BUDGET TOOK THAT LONG TO PASS WAS 1991. SEE NEWSLETTER INSERT FOR ADDRESSES OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND THE GOVERNOR.

COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT

BY CES COORDINATORS

THIS SUMMER CARF (THE COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION OF REHABILITATION FACILITIES) CAME TO REVIEW THE SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM. THE PROGRAM RECEIVED HIGH MARKS AWARDING US OUR 3RD ACCREDITATION. THIS JULY SAN DIEGO REGIONAL CENTER WAS IN TO DO THEIR ANNUAL QUALITY ASSURANCE REVIEW OF OUR I.W. PROGRAM AND DID VERY WELL

NEW SITES/NEW OPPORTUNITIES

BOLLWEEVIL HAS COME ON BOARD WITH ANOTHER LOCATION EMPLOYING 3 INDIVIDUALS IN THE INTEGRATED WORK PROGRAM DOING SETUP AND JANITORIAL, AND 1 INDIVIDUAL IN SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT BUSING TABLES.

WEINERSCHNITZEL IN SPRING VALLEY IS A NEW I.W. SITE, EMPLOYING 3 INDIVIDUALS FOR GROUNDS CLEANING. EVERYONE IS SO PLEASED TO BE WORKING!

NEW SUPPORTED SITES INCLUDE CARLS'S JR, SMART N FINAL, LAW OFFICES-CHULA VISTA, KOBAY CORP., JOB OPTIONS, ALBERTSONS-EL CAJON AND ENCINITAS, RITE AIDE-CARLSBAD, LEGOLAND AND SAVON-VISTA.

I'LL VOLUNTEER

BETH PROGRAM IN BONITA IS A NEW VOLUNTEER SITE THAT PROVIDES HORSEBACK RIDING LESSONS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES. OTHER VOLUNTEER SITES ADDED ARE MCCALLISTERS THRIFT STORE, BARGAIN BUNGALOW, LEMON CREST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, SALVATION ARMY, ST. VINCENT DE PAUL'S, U.S. DEPT. OF FORESTRY, GRANITE HILLS CONVALESCENT, ARBOR HILLS NURSING CENTER AND COMMUNITY CENTER SENIOR LUNCH PROGRAM. THANKS TO ALL SITES FOR ALLOWING US TO GIVE BACK TO THE COMMUNITY!

SUMMER VACATIONS

BRENDA Z., WHO RECEIVES SUPPORT IN OUR INTEGRATED WORK PROGRAM, IS TRAVELING TO CHINA WITH HER FAMILY FOR A 6 WEEK VACATION

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

COMMUNITY LIVING

BY REBECCA TREIBER

SPRING AND SUMMER SEASONS BRING ABOUT A LOT OF ACTIVITY, CHANGES AND NEW GROWTH AND CLS HAS CERTAINLY HAD THEIR SHARE.

YOU SAY GOODBYE, AND I SAY HELLO

THIS JULY WE ARE SAYING GOODBYE TO A WELL-RESPECTED AND LONG-TIME EMPLOYEE OF TMI, PHYLINDA CLARK-GRAHAM. "PHYL" HAS RESIGNED FROM HER POSITION AS CLS COORDINATOR TO EMBARK ON A NEW JOURNEY AS A SAN DIEGO REGIONAL CENTER SERVICE COORDINATOR. WE WILL MISS YOU TERRIBLY AND WISH YOU THE VERY BEST! JUST AS WE ARE SAYING GOODBYE, WE ARE ALSO WELCOMING A NEW COORDINATOR, LOURDES RAMIREZ, WHO IS A REFRESHING ADDITION TO THE CLS TEAM. OTHER ADDITIONS TO THE PROGRAM INCLUDE GILDA ARAUZ, SONDRRA BURKE, DARYL GIVENS AND NICOLE SPRATT. WITH ALL OF THE NEW EMPLOYEES JOINING TMI, LONG-TIME EMPLOYEE COLLEEN THORNTON HAS STEPPED UP TO THE CHALLENGE OF MENTORING. CLS COORDINATORS DEVELOPED A CREATIVE POSITION FOR COLLEEN TO BE THE OFFICIAL MENTOR OF ALL NEW EMPLOYEES - WHAT A JOB!

CONGRATULATIONS

DAVID G. COMMANDS A LOUD ROUND OF APPLAUSE FOR MOVING FROM THE SUPPORTED LIVING PROGRAM TO INDEPENDENT LIVING. A LOT OF HARD WORK AND DEDICATION HAS PAID OFF. WAY TO GO!

IRMA A. FULFILLED A LONG-TIME DREAM OF VACATIONING IN TEXAS. IRMA TOOK A WEEK OFF FROM HER JOB AT WALMART AND TOOK HER CHILDREN TO VISIT RELATIVES THERE. THEY HAD A GREAT TIME AND A SAFE TRIP.

ACTIVITIES A-PLENTY

A NUMBER OF PEOPLE FROM TMI ATTENDED THE PEOPLE'S FIRST CONFERENCE HELD AT THE MARRIOTT IN MISSION VALLEY OVER THE MOTHER'S DAY WEEKEND. IN JUNE, SEVERAL PEOPLE WENT TO THE SILVERGATE YACHT REGATA; A BOAT RIDE THAT LASTED ALL DAY.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

PROGRAM NEWS

FAMILY SUPPORT

BY MARK SAVERINO

FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES HAS HAD SEVERAL CHANGES SINCE THE LAST NEWSLETTER. WE WELCOMED NEW FOSTER PARENTS, ELIZE AND MARTIN RODRIQUEZ AND, IN ADDITION, WE WELCOMED OUR NEW SOCIAL WORKER, DORIS IVORY, WHO HAD PREVIOUSLY WORKED FOR TMI IN OUR SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM.

FAREWELL TO FRIENDS

WE SAID GOODBYE TO OUR DIRECTOR OF FAMILY SUPPORT, KIM TROTTER, AS WELL AS OUR SOCIAL WORK ASSISTANT, GRETCHEN BARBEE. KIM HAD BEEN WITH TMI FOR OVER FIVE YEARS, WORKING AS A SOCIAL WORKER UNTIL LAST YEAR WHEN SHE WAS PROMOTED TO DIRECTOR. SHE PLAYED AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE FOSTER PARENT PROGRAM. GRETCHEN HAD ONLY BEEN HERE A SHORT TIME, BUT HER PRESENCE WAS FELT BY ALL THE FAMILIES SHE WORKED WITH. WE THANK THEM BOTH FOR THEIR EFFORTS AND WISH THEM GOOD LUCK IN THEIR NEW POSITIONS.

TEMPORARY FIX

SO, WHO IS FILLING IN AS DIRECTOR OF FSS? WELL, IT'S ME! SINCE I HAVE THE NECESSARY CREDENTIALS AND EXPERIENCE, I HAVE BEEN APPOINTED TO LEAD FAMILY SUPPORT UNTIL WE ARE READY TO SEARCH FOR A NEW DIRECTOR. I AM IN THE PROCESS OF MEETING ALL THE FAMILIES AND HAVE ENJOYED THE CHALLENGE OF WORKING MORE DIRECTLY WITH THE PROGRAM. SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR TWO SOCIAL WORKERS, MARGIE BARDER AND DORIS IVORY FOR WORKING VERY HARD TO KEEP THE PROGRAM GOING WHILE I LEARN MORE ABOUT IT.

OTHER NEWS

WE HAVE RECENTLY INCREASED THE MONTHLY STIPEND FOR OUR FOSTER FAMILIES AND HAVE ALSO HIRED A NEW SOCIAL WORKER, WENDE WEST, WHO WILL BE WORKING PRIMARILY WITH OUR FAMILY FOCUSED SUPPORT PROGRAM. WELCOME, WENDE!

WE ARE CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR RELIEF STAFF FOR OUR FOSTER PARENTS. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED, PLEASE CONTACT GARY MILLER AT EXT. 311. WE ARE ALSO INTERESTED IN RECRUITING NEW FOSTER PARENTS. IF YOU KNOW OF ANYONE WHO IS INTERESTED, PLEASE CONTACT ME AT (858) 467-0600, EXT. 325.

COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT - CONTINUED

TO MEET HER RELATIVES FOR THE FIRST TIME! WOW! WE WISH HER A SAFE AND HAPPY TRIP.

CONGRATULATIONS

SARA S. IS A NEW FACILITATOR IN EAST COUNTY AND EVELYN S. IN CENTRAL SAN DIEGO. WE ARE HAPPY TO HAVE YOU WORKING WITH US. ALAN P. WAS PROMOTED TO PRODUCE CLERK AT ALBERTSONS - WAY TO GO, ALAN!

SAYING GOODBYE

ONE OF OUR IW FACILITATORS, KERRY BARAJAS IS LEAVING TO TAKE ON A NEW, EXCITING POSITION CONTINUING HER WORK WITH PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES. WE WILL MISS YOU.

WE ARE ALSO SAYING GOODBYE TO HUGH MICHAELS WHO WORKS AS A JOB DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR. HUGH JOINED TMI IN NOVEMBER 2000 SO HE HAS ONLY BEEN WITH US A SHORT TIME. HE IS LEAVING TO GO BACK TO GRAD SCHOOL TO SEEK HIS MASTERS IN REHABILITATION COUNSELING WITH SPECIAL FOCUS ON MENTAL HEALTH. HIS LONG-TERM GOAL IS TO OPEN AN AGENCY OFFERING SUPPORTS TO PEOPLE WITH PSYCHIATRIC DISABILITIES. WE WISH HIM WELL IN HIS ENDEAVORS.

SUCCESS AND GROWTH

TMI'S POINT OF TRANSITION PROGRAM IS GEARING UP FOR A NEW YEAR OF INCOMING STUDENTS. IT IS THE FIFTH YEAR OF THE PROGRAM!

COMMUNITY LIVING - CONTINUED

EVERYONE HAD A GREAT TIME AND ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO THE NEXT TRIP.

THE SUPPORTED LIVING GROUP WENT OFF WITHOUT A HITCH. THE GROUP CONTINUES TO MEET MONTHLY IN THE TMI CONFERENCE ROOM. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SUPPORT GROUP, FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ROY VALUET AT EXT. 554.

THE EAST COUNTY SUPPORT GROUP IS BUZZING AGAIN AND HOSTED A BBQ ON JULY 17TH! EVERYONE HAD FUN AND, FROM WHAT WE HEAR, HAD THEIR FILL OF GREAT "FIXINS!"

UNTIL NEXT TIME . . .



THOUGHTFUL LIVING

By Simone Ferber

THIS MONTH'S ARTICLE MAY MAKE YOUR HEAD SPIN. YOU MAY ALREADY KNOW A BIT OF THE INFORMATION I AM WRITING ABOUT AND THEN AGAIN, YOU MAY JUST LEARN SOMETHING NEW!

ZESTIFY TO SIMPLIFY

SPEEDY CLEANING:

- DON'T SWEAT THE SMALL SPOTS. VERTICAL SURFACES DON'T GET AS DIRTY AS HORIZONTAL ONES. UPPER SHELVES HAVE LESS DUST THAN LOWER ONES.
- WHEN CLEANING A ROOM, ALWAYS WORK FROM THE TOP TO BOTTOM. TO REACH THOSE HIGH PLACES, STICK A DUSTER IN THE END OF A VACCUUM HOSE - THAT'LL DO IT!

KITCHEN MAGIC:

- DEVELOP A LIST OF FIVE MEALS YOU CAN PREPARE IN LESS THAN 30 MINUTES. KEEP THOSE INGREDIENTS STOCKED IN YOUR CABINET.

LAUNDRY LESSONS:

- IF A 9 YEAR OLD CAN PLAY VIDEO GAMES, THEY CAN OPERATE A WASHING MACHINE.

SHOPPING:

- AVOID SHOPPING ON MONDAYS WHEN STOCK IS AT ITS LOWEST. BEST DAYS TO SHOP ARE TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY - YOU'LL GET FULL SHELVES AND EMPTY AISLES.

DAILY To-Do's:

- KEEP A PROJECT BY THE PHONE SO YOU CAN WORK WHILE YOU TALK.
- WHEN YOU NEED TO CALL A BUSINESS SERVICE, THEIR BUSIEST TIMES ARE 10:00 AM -2:00 PM AND 5:30 PM-7:30 PM - SO MAKE YOUR CALLS IN BETWEEN THOSE TIMES.

RENEW, REUSE AND RECYCLE

- DON'T THROW AWAY YOUR OLD SHOWER CURTAIN - LET THE KIDS USE IT AS A FLOOR MAT FOR FUN CRAFT OR PAINTING PROJECTS. TAKE IT CAMPING, OR USE IT IN THE BACK SEAT WHEN YOU TAKE YOUR FURRY COMPANIONS FOR A CAR RIDE.
- REPAINT OLD DRESSERS AND AFTER, SPEND LITERALLY A FEW CENTS AT HOME BASE AND

ADD A FEW DRESSER KNOBS.

- REMEMBER TO SHOP AT FLEA MARKETS, GARAGE SALES OR CHURCH BAZAARS - YOU'D BE SURPRISED AT THE "TREASURES" YOU MAY FIND!

BACKYARD SANCTUARIES

YOU CAN CREATE A SAFE HAVEN IN YOUR OWN YARD FOR WILDLIFE. PROVIDING A VARIETY OF PLANT SPECIES AND TERRAIN IS THE KEY IN PROVIDING THE ECOSYSTEMS THEY NEED.

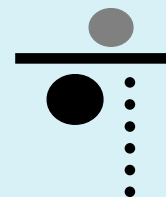
- FOR COVER, GROW TREES/HEDGES FOR BIRDS AND OTHER WILDLIFE (NO - NOT YOUR NEIGHBORS) TO NEST AND HIDE.
- FOR FOOD, KEEP TRAYS OF FRUIT, NUTS AND SEEDS. PLANT AN OAK TREE WHICH WILL PROVIDE BEAUTY AND FOOD!
- FOR WATER, PROVIDE BIRDBATHS OR PONDS. ONCE THEY'RE THERE, ANIMALS WILL REMEMBER AND WILL DEPEND ON YOU, SO YOU'RE IN FOR THE LONG HAUL!

SAVE ENERGY AND MONEY

- TURN OFF THE LIGHTS WHEN LEAVING A ROOM
- USE THE SMALLEST POSSIBLE APPLIANCE FOR ANY COOKING
- DEFROST FOODS IN THE REFRIGERATOR - IT USES LESS ENERGY THAN USING THE MICROWAVE, OVEN OR RUNNING HOT WATER - JUST THINK AHEAD.
- TURN FANS OFF IF YOU'RE OUT OF THE ROOM FOR MORE THAN 5 MINUTES
- DECIDE WHAT YOU WANT BEFORE OPENING THE FRIDGE. DON'T LET THE COOL AIR ESCAPE!
- KEEP CURTAINS AND WINDOWS CLOSED DURING THE HOTTEST PART OF THE DAY

UNTIL NEXT TIME . . . REMEMBER THIS:

"ALWAYS SET A HIGH VALUE ON SPONTANEOUS KINDNESS."
- SAMUEL JOHNSON



Staff's Corner

A HUGE VOID TO “PHYL”

BY MARK SAVERINO

AFTER BEING HERE AT TMI FOR TWENTY YEARS AND SEEING SO MANY PEOPLE STAY WITH US FOR SUCH A LONG TIME, YOU BEGIN TO ASSUME THAT WE WILL ALL GROW OLD TOGETHER AND SOME DAY ALL RETIRE FROM THE WORK THAT WE DO. WHENEVER A LONG-TERM STAFF LEAVES, IT MAKES US REALIZE THAT NOT ALL THINGS STAY THE SAME. CHANGE IS SOMETIMES NOT ONLY INEVITABLE, BUT ALSO NECESSARY TO KEEP THE WORLD INTERESTING. AFTER FIFTEEN YEARS, PHYLINDA CLARK-GRAHAM, ONE OF OUR CLS COORDINATORS, WILL BE LEAVING US TO JOIN THE WORK FORCE OF SAN DIEGO REGIONAL CENTER. “PHYL” HAS SPENT MANY YEARS WORKING PRIMARILY IN THE SUPPORTED LIVING AREA AND HAS WORKED WITH THE VERY FIRST INDIVIDUAL TO RECEIVE TMI SUPPORTS FOR OVER EIGHT YEARS. IT IS TOUGH TO SAY GOOD-BYE TO SOMEONE WHO HAS BEEN PART OF OUR HISTORY, AS WELL AS PART OF THE “HEART” OF TMI. HER GREATEST ATTRIBUTE IS HER GENUINE CARE AND CONCERN FOR THE INDIVIDUALS RECEIVING SUPPORTS. SHE HELPED US START SUPPORTED LIVING AND HELPED WITH OUR TWENTY-YEAR CELEBRATION IN MAY. WHO COULD FORGET THAT DRENCHED LOOK WHILE SHE SAT IN THE DUNK TANK AT CINCO DE MARCO? THROUGHOUT THE YEARS SHE HAS BEEN PART OF A COMBINED EFFORT TO ASSIST INDIVIDUALS TO LIVE IN THEIR OWN HOMES IN COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT SAN DIEGO COUNTY. THANKS, PHYL, FOR ALL YOU HAVE CONTRIBUTED. GOOD LUCK! YOU LEAVE A HUGE VOID TO FILL!

FAREWELL TO ANOTHER

BY LOUANNE MILLER

AFTER TWELVE YEARS AT TMI, KAREN CASTELLANOS IS LEAVING TO ENJOY MORE TIME WITH HER THREE CHILDREN. KAREN WAS ONE OF THE FIRST JOB COACHES HIRED BY TMI IN 1989

AND LATER BECAME THE FIRST COORDINATOR IN INTEGRATED WORK - A POSITION SHE HELD FOR ELEVEN YEARS. KAREN WILL BE REMEMBERED MOST FOR HER “BUBBLY PERSONALITY” AND COMMITMENT TO ASSISTING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES TO BECOME FULLY INCLUDED IN THEIR COMMUNITIES. AS KAREN ENTERS THIS EXCITING NEW PHASE IN HER LIFE, WE WISH HER CONTINUED SUCCESS IN ALL OF HER FUTURE ENDEAVORS. SHE WILL BE GREATLY MISSED BY ALL WHO HAVE HAD THE PLEASURE OF KNOWING AND WORKING WITH HER.

ALL ABOARD!!

BY ROGER ORSTAD

WE WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME THE FOLLOWING EMPLOYEES TO TMI:

COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT

AMEL BAHUR, CHAD BARRETT, BARBARA CARTER JEAN FORDHAM, LYNETTE HABRUN, CHRISTOPHER KENNARD, JUDY MANSOUR, VENUS MATOS, SUMMER SAMPLE, AUBREY SAVERINO, SARAH SEAMONS, EVELYN SEWELL, JACQUELINE TAGGART, PAMELA TANNAHILL

COMMUNITY LIVING

GILDA ARAUZ, SONDRRA BURKE, KELLEY MUNDY, PENNY PEAK, NICHOLAS SPRATT, BARBARA WILLIAMS

ADMINISTRATION

LOURDES RAMIREZ, CLS; DORIS IVORY, FSS

NORTH COUNTY EXPANSION

BY JOSEPH NACARIO

CES'S SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM IS EXPANDING THEIR SERVICES IN THE NORTH COUNTY. TMI HAS PLACED INDIVIDUALS WITH MANY EMPLOYERS IN THE NORTH COUNTY, SUCH AS VONS, ALBERTSONS, SAVON, LEGOLAND, MARSHALL'S PARTS, EDWARDS CINEMA, ROSS STORES AND WALMART. THESE PLACEMENTS HAVE BEEN THE RESULT OF “WORD OF MOUTH” REFERRALS FROM BOTH SDRC AND THE DEPT. OF REHABILITATION. COORDINATOR BRENT RAMSEY WILL BE WORKING MOST DAYS IN THE ESCONDIDO OFFICE AND WILL CONTINUE WORKING CLOSELY WITH SDRC AND THE DEPT. OF REHAB. IN DEVELOPING REFERRALS. N.CNTY. LOCATION: 1900 SUNSET RD, STE. E, ESCONDIDO, CA 92025; (760) 839-5285.

EMPLOYER HIGHLIGHT: VONS GROCERY STORE

BY JOSEPH NACARIO

MANY OF YOU WHO SHOP AT VONS GROCERY STORES ARE OFTEN GREETED BY FRIENDLY EMPLOYEES. "HELLO, HOW ARE YOU TODAY?... MAY I HELP YOU FIND SOMETHING?... WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO SHOW YOU WHERE IT IS?... WOULD YOU LIKE HELP WITH CARRY OUT?" WELL, CHANCES ARE THAT YOU HAVE BEEN ASSISTED BY ONE OF MANY TMI SUPPORTED EMPLOYEES WITH "SUPERIOR SERVICE" WHO ARE EMPLOYED AS VONS COURTESY CLERK ASSOCIATES THROUGHOUT SAN DIEGO COUNTY. TMI HAS BEEN VERY FORTUNATE IN FORMING A STRONG PARTNERSHIP WITH VONS OVER THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS. THE FRUITION OF THAT PARTNERSHIP IS PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES WORKING WITHIN THEIR COMMUNITIES IN VALUED POSITIONS. THE FOLLOWING EMPLOYEES HAVE BEEN PLACED AND ARE LISTED WITH THEIR EMPLOYMENT START DATE AND LOCATION:

TRACY - 6/90; VONS-RANCHO BERNARDO
ANGEL - 6/98; VONS-LA MESA
JESSIE - 8/99; VONS-SAN DIEGO
MOHAMMAD - 10/99; VONS-BONITA
DAVID - 11/99; VONS-EAST COUNTY
SAM - 1/00; VONS-ESCONDIDO
MARGO - 4/00; VONS-SAN DIEGO
RASI - 6/01; VONS-OCEANSIDE

VONS EMPLOYEE, TRACY F., HAS BEEN EMPLOYED 11 YEARS AT THE RANCHO BERNARDO LOCATION AND HAS THIS TO SAY. "I LIKE TO WORK AT VONS AND GET SHOPPING POINTS FROM THE SECRET SHOPPER. I LIKE THE CUSTOMERS AND MY COWORKERS." DAVID F. HAS WORKED AT THE ESCONDIDO LOCATION FOR OVER ONE YEAR AND SAYS, "I LIKE THE EXERCISE FROM WORKING HARD AND HELPING CUSTOMERS WITH CARRY-OUT. WORKING HELPS ME PAY FOR MY COLLEGE EDUCATION AT PALOMAR COLLEGE."

PAT CAMPBELL, VONS HUMAN RESOURCES REPRESENTATIVE FOR NORTH COUNTY, REPORTS; "WE HAVE AN OUTSTANDING RELATIONSHIP WITH TMI. THEY HAVE REFERRED MOTIVATED APPLICANTS WHICH HAVE BECOME GREAT EMPLOYEES. THEIR JOB COACHES GIVE GREAT SUPPORT. IT ALSO CONFIRMS THAT WE AT VONS HAVE A COMMITTED EFFORT IN DIVERSIFYING OUR WORK FORCE AND REACHING OUT TO THE COMMUNITY." MR. CAMPBELL RECENTLY

RECEIVED A SPECIAL RECOGNITION BY CALIFORNIA STATE SENATOR DEDE ALPERT FOR VONS COMMITMENT TO THE EMPLOYMENT OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES. VONS ASSISTANT MANAGER, SCOTT ROWELL, HAS POSITIVE FEEDBACK FOR HIS EMPLOYEE, DAVID "SAM" F. "SAM IS VERY DEPENDABLE. HE HAS A STRONG UNDERSTANDING OF HIS RESPONSIBILITIES AND HIS JOB."

TMI STAFF AGREE THAT THE VONS MANAGEMENT AND CO-WORKERS ARE VERY SUPPORTIVE TOWARD THEIR EMPLOYEES. VONS MANAGERS HAVE PURCHASED PAGERS FOR HEARING IMPAIRED EMPLOYEES AS AN ACCOMMODATION TO NOTIFY THEM DURING THEIR SHIFT BY SPECIAL NUMERIC CODES.

TMI VIEWS THE VONS CORPORATION AS EXEMPLARY IN ITS COMMITMENT TO THE EMPLOYMENT OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES. IT CERTAINLY SEEMS THAT THE VONS CORPORATE MOTTO OF "SOARING WITH SUPERIOR SERVICE" TO IT'S CUSTOMERS ALSO EXTENDS TO THEIR EMPLOYEES AS WELL.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECRUITMENT

BY CONNIE SAVERINO

CURRENTLY, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF TMI IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FROM INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN SITTING ON THE BOARD AND WHO HAVE A COMMITMENT TO THE AGENCY'S MISSION AND VALUES. PRIMARY AREAS OF NEED INCLUDE LAW, BUSINESS, FINANCE AND AS ALWAYS, WE ARE SEEKING PARTICIPATION FROM PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AND FAMILY MEMBERS. THEY DO NOT NEED TO BE SUPPORTED BY TMI. LETTERS OF INTEREST CAN BE SENT TO JOHN LARSON, TMI BOARD CHAIR, 4740 MURPHY CANYON ROAD, STE. 300, SAN DIEGO, CA 92123.

THE TIME COMMITMENT IS REASONABLE WITH QUARTERLY BOARD MEETINGS. BOARD MEMBERS ALSO SIT ON AT LEAST ONE ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE WHICH MEETS ONCE BETWEEN BOARD MEETINGS.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR WANT TO HAVE AN INFORMATION PACKET SENT TO YOU, PLEASE CONTACT CONNIE SAVERINO, CEO AT (858) 467-0600, EXT. 304.

OUR MISSION

IT IS THE MISSION OF TMI TO SUPPORT THE VALUE, RIGHT AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF ALL PEOPLE WITH THE SUPPORT OF THEIR ADVOCATES, TO MAKE INFORMED CHOICES REGARDING HOW THEY LIVE, WORK AND EXPRESS THEIR MEMBERSHIP IN COMMUNITY.

WE ACCOMPLISH THIS BY PROVIDING PERSONALIZED SUPPORTS TO PEOPLE IN THEIR OWN HOMES, WORKPLACES, SCHOOLS, FAMILIES AND NEIGHBORHOODS.

■ TMI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

TOM COLLIGAN
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