

## Golden Gate Region

**Social Vocational Services (SVS)** is a leading provider of services for people with developmental disabilities in the State of California. Founded in 1977 SVS today offers Day, Residential and Supported Living Programs to more than 300 clients in the Golden Gate Region.

The Golden Gate Region represents SVS Community Inclusion Services in Daly City, South San Francisco, Foster City, San Carlos and our Residential and Seniors programs.

SVS provides clients with the training and support necessary to live and work in the community of their choice. Because of the individualized nature of its services, SVS can meet the needs of clients with a broad range of disabilities and service needs.

### Inside this issue:

Introduction	1
Daly City	2
South San Francisco	3
Foster City	4
San Carlos	5
Regional Directors	6
Residential Programs	7
Seniors Programs	8



### Special points of interest:

- SVS Golden Gate Region Supports over 300 clients
- SVS Golden Gate Region Upgrades services and facilities
- SVS Golden Gate Region Invests in GPS tracking technology
- SVS Golden Gate Region Welcomes new clients



A very memorable group activity at the California Academy of Science, Steinhart Aquarium

SVS San Carlos - Community Inclusion Service clients : Romolo Rios, Debrah Canon, Michael Herzenberg, Rita Rann, Victor Toribio and Edmond Terry

## DALY CITY COMMUNITY INCLUSION SERVICES (CIS)

The goal of many clients is to secure a job and earn their own spending money.

Social Vocational Services supports clients to realize this goal is by developing jobs and placing clients in positions with the help of the Department of Rehabilitation and the Golden Gate Regional Center.

We have clients that work at contracts with GAP, a Highway 280 rest stop, and Candlestick Park. Our largest contract is with Candlestick Park.

This is quite an accomplishment. California's Department of Parks and Recreation contracts solely with SVS to ensure that the picnic grounds, trails, restrooms, and general park facilities are always kept clean and in operating order.

Client, Bill Stein, started working at the park many years ago. This was a new challenge for Bill, yet he was willing to learn and accept constructive feedback from his job coach.

With dedication from staff Bill has developed his work skills, and is now a very productive worker at Candlestick Park.

Bill states, "I love my job. I like working here. Why would I want to change that?" This sentiment is shared by all of Bill's teammates at Candlestick Park.

Clients appreciate the opportunity to work for the park system. They get paid to be outdoors enjoying the park, animals, and coastline, while still collecting a paycheck twice a month.

The SVS Daly City Program Office has a wide variety of clients with diverse goals. Our mission is to work with clients so they may achieve these goals and live rich and fulfilling lives.



Steve Makrynassios and Bill Stein, a SVS Supported Employment work crew, maintain the walking trails and public facilities at Candlestick Park for the Department of Parks and Recreation

## CLIENT PROFILE

### GOLDEN GATE REGION CONTACT DETAILS

**DALY CITY**  
Program Office

**dal@svsinc.org**  
**(650) 757 4977**



Tak Cheung is an eager recycler

Tak Cheung is part of the Community Inclusion Service at Social Vocational Services. He has taken the initiative and started making recycling popular among the other clients as well as staff. Tak started his recycling project on his own by approaching other clients and staff after lunch and collected their empty cans and bottles.

Tak was able to take these items to a recycling center and refund them for money. Soon, his actions became contagious and both clients and staff started saving all their cans and bottles to recycle. Tak has spread his positive actions throughout the entire program and in turn encouraged all at SVS Daly City to participate in this recycling project.

Through Tak's initiative, recycling has become an integral part of the SVS Daly City program. Tak's personal campaign is an extraordinary example of how all people are capable of changing the world in their own unique and positive ways.

## SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO COMMUNITY INCLUSION SERVICES (CIS)

The South San Francisco CIS program is located in a spacious and bright facility that radiates to everyone a warm and cheerful welcome.

Daily and weekly schedules are designed to ensure that each client has an opportunity to choose a fulfilling experience in every specialty room in the facility. Group rotations also guarantee that clients

enjoy diverse and non-redundant activities daily. At least once a week, each group visits various public venues. There they explore the diversity of their region.

In addition to an excellent program location, SVS has dedicated professional staff who give their best to assist our clients reach their personal goals.

This Program Office has developed a series of interactive rooms: the Recreation Room, the Salon, Multi Purpose Room, Multi-Sensory Room and Quiet Room. These offer stimuli and activities that are innovative and offer effective training tools.



Jeffrey, Alicia, Emilio and Albert, visit local library

Every community outing has a continuing activity. For example : during a trip a local recreation park clients collected wild flowers. Once back in the SVS program facility, they arranged some of the flowers and utilized the rest for a decorative art project.

## STAFF REPORT

The South San Francisco program supports and enhances the confidence of clients and ensures they are part the SVS community and participate in program activities.

A key goal is to educate clients so they may improve their everyday life. For example, when a client is not responsive to an activity or becomes agitated and may cause disturbance among peers, the staff will encourage the client to choose a constructive alternative.

This process allows the client to unwind and engage in a more fruitful means of communication and in turn supports the client to explore the diversity of the SVS facility and the potential of the activity program.



Jeffrey Cleland browsing through DVD's

### GOLDEN GATE REGION CONTACT DETAILS

### SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO Program Office

ssf@svsinc.org  
650) 877 7255

## CLIENT PROFILE

Fred has been working part time in our facility as a greeter and receptionist since November 1998, he has forged many friendships with clients and staff. He is a good conversationalist, friendly and has a charming smile.

Fred is aware of his physical limitations and is willing to ask when he needs assistance with mobility, performing difficult chores, or someone's help in setting the television channel to his favorite show. He is an independent man who is very involved in his community and planning his long term goals.

Fred Grabawski is turning 40 this year birthday and is eagerly organizing a special event to celebrate his birthday with his SVS community.



Fred Grabawski

## FOSTER CITY COMMUNITY INCLUSION SERVICES (CIS)

SVS Foster City is working hard to integrate clients into every aspect of the greater community. We have a unique program with clients in their mid twenties, through to our seniors.

stimulate and educate clients, while also expanding their perspective and helping them to gain independence and self-esteem.

Our program staff enthusiastically develop a diverse range of stimulating activities ranging from in house projects, to field trip adventures.

The San Francisco Bay Area, with its vast selection of recreational and cultural diversions is proving to be the perfect host for our clients.

From local community centers, to the Exploratorium, the San Francisco Zoo and the multitude of museums and historical centers, there is always something to



Tuyeth Huynh enjoys the Tet Festival and visits the various food stalls

Clients regularly visit the San Francisco Zoo, Grace Cathedral and local art and history centers. Recently a group attended the Chinese New Year celebration at Stanford University in Palo Alto, and the San Francisco Academy of Sciences.

As the seasons change clients are enthusiastic to

participate in more community integration opportunities and look forward to the learning experiences that Summer will bring.

## STAFF REPORT



Richard Cunningham and Clyde Morton learn about the 1906 San Francisco earthquake

In recent months our group visited Grace Cathedral in San Francisco and the memorable Cable Car Museum.

At Grace Cathedral the clients were able to go on a self-guided tour of the facility, and although they appreciated the stained glass windows and painted murals, the aspect most clients enjoyed most was being able to walk the Cathedral Labyrinth in the outside court yard.

Clients and staff alike were enthralled by San Francisco Cable Car Museum. A highlight was the meticulously restored cable cars from years past. Clients learned about the Great Earthquake, watched a documentary about San Francisco's History and were able to see the cables in motion to better understand how the cable car works.

Although the winter days were chilly, clients report being fully engaged by the opportunity to learn more about San Francisco.

## GOLDEN GATE REGION CONTACT DETAILS

**FOSTER CITY  
Program Office**

**fos@svsinc.org  
(650) 357 1901**

## CLIENT PROFILE

**Luisa Sequiera:** Luisa has been with SVS for 8 years.

Although a little shy at first, once she knows you, Luisa will always greet you with a smile.

She loves listening to music, playing cards and going into the community.

Early Spring Luisa and her SVS group attended a Tet Festival at Stanford University. This event was very exciting. Luisa loved watching the dragon dance (though she was a bit reluctant to get too close to them).



Luisa and SVS clients visit the Tet Festival



Luisa Sequiera completes a geometric puzzle

## SAN CARLOS COMMUNITY INCLUSION SERVICES (CIS)

In the past year clients at San Carlos CIS, both the ADC and the Behavior programs, have increased their involvement in a variety of client directed activities.

Clients are responding enthusiastically to our innovative arts and craft projects including: stained glass workshops, canvas based projects to display in the Art Gallery, a two day group Jell-O preparation, and St. Patrick's Day Bingo, which everyone enjoyed.

Program participants are also utilizing community based centers. A highlight is access to a grand piano for our classical pianist, indoor basketball courts, and a light weight room. Clients are also regularly visiting our local libraries, museums, zoo and many other educational resources.

While clients are working on staying fit and expanding their world view, they are also engaged in fun outings. Recent activities are : film days, miniature golf, learning about the local duck population and bowling.



Client, Pamela Ashcraft volunteers in a local garden center

A significant milestone is that clients are volunteering at the Second Harvest Food Bank, and a local garden center.

Volunteering teaches clients to help others and to dedicate some of their time to the community. As clients participate in these engaging activities it is evident they increase their socialization skills and work better as team participants. San

Carlos will continue to grow through staff training, community integration, increased variety of activities and dedicated personnel.

## STAFF REPORT

SVS is committed to empowering clients to co-design their activities. The program has groups of six clients and two staff who meet weekly to develop the activity schedule for the following week.

Client lead programming ensures that clients have the opportunity to make independent choices throughout the program. As clients interact more dynamically their overall socialization improves too.



Clients, Maria Zarate, Larry Messimore, Deborah Canon and Salvador Mendoza visit the SF Exploratorium

A major activity has been to create a spring exhibit for the corridors. Everyone collected leaves and made flowers. All clients enjoyed this project and a seasonal activity will be undertaken throughout the year.

Clients gain considerable fulfillment from visits to the Exploratorium. This hands-on museum of art, science and human perception is rich in tactile interactive experiences and is always engaging.

## CLIENT PROFILE

Michael Herzenberg, or as he would like to be called, M.H, has been in the Behavior Management Program for 5 years. He is a gentleman full of character, he brightens any room he enters and enjoys the day program.

Michael engages with his peers, staff and others in the community. At the San Mateo Community Center, he enjoys playing basketball, and light weight lifting with his group.



Michael Herzenberg with his SVS group visit the California Academy of Science, Steinhart Aquarium

Mr. Herzenberg had a memorable day with his SVS group at the Aquarium in San Francisco. There he explored the aquatic exhibitions and learned about ocean life and its sea creatures.

He is a socially confident and a busy individual who finds time to volunteer at the Second Harvest Food Bank. For the upcoming year, Mr. Herzenberg expects to progress with his personal goals and seek employment through Social Vocational Services.

### GOLDEN GATE REGION CONTACT DETAILS

**SAN CARLOS**  
Program Office

[sca@svsinc.org](mailto:sca@svsinc.org)  
(650) 631 6890

## Meeting the Challenges by Duy Nguyen, SVS Regional Director

Social Vocational Services is dedicated to providing clients with the very best programming and facilities.

With a diverse population of people with developmental disabilities, SVS continues to create new initiatives that respond to the needs of individual clients.

Clients have specific interests and expectations and it is vital we connect with the whole person.

Social Vocational Services is upgrading its facilities and developing new programming in order to provide services that support clients as they learn and grow.

One new improvement is an exercise room. Many clients are non-ambulatory and remain in their wheelchairs for much of the day. The SVS exercise room with its padded floors is a safe environment for clients to leave their wheelchairs, physically move around and stretch their bodies.



St Patrick's Day was celebrated at the San Carlos program with arts, cooking and cultural activities. Client Abraham Mann enjoyed in the Jell-O activity

The recreation / games rooms with indoor basketball hoops and various, interactive activities are integral to ensuring clients well-being. Not only are these activities fun, but they improve hand-eye coordination and teamwork.

In the arts and craft activities centers, clients recently completed an egg decorating project which was used for a Spring Egg hunt.

St Patrick's Day was an ideal opportunity to combine a range of learning and recreational activities.

The new computer lab is equipped with two computers, DSL service, printing services, educational and instructional software. Staff are trained to assist clients to use the computers for research and personal enjoyment.

SVS Golden Gate Region is working closely with community partners and welcomes new clients to join our program.

## The Year Ahead for SVS By Cynthia Perkins, SVS Regional Director

The year ahead may prove to be challenging and rewarding, yet SVS will ensure quality client experience remains our priority. As part of our commitment to providing quality services to all clients we are implementing positive changes throughout the Golden Gate Region programs.

We believe our program's success is based on constant improvement. SVS will continue to expand its inventory of community based activities, keeping in mind the needs, abilities and preferences of clients.

SVS is once again at the cutting edge of innovation within the disability services sector. SVS has invested in the latest GPS tracking communication tool. E-Trace is a "Global Positioning System" that allows SVS to have visual and data records of client groups in the community. The E-Trace device is built into the mobile phones that accompany staff on CIS field trip activities. The phone is light weight, yet allows SVS to maintain pin point accurate communication with our staff and clients. Through new technology SVS ensures quality control and the highest caliber of service.



SVS Foster City visited Grace Cathedral in San Francisco and clients David Nannarono and Usha Devi were enthralled by their classic Labyrinth

Our focus is to provide meaningful activities to all clients. With help from the newest addition to SVS, Lylie Fisher (Director of Public Relations and Community Development), clients will benefit from enhanced social, civic and employment programs.

This year SVS will host a Residential Care Providers Event. The event's focus is to increase awareness and communication between SVS, clients, care

providers and families. Through enhancement of community partnerships, SVS will continue to support clients with their goals for greater independence and quality of life.

### GOLDEN GATE REGION CONTACT DETAILS

#### REGIONAL DIRECTORS

**Duy Nguyen**

**dnguyen@svsinc.org**

**Cynthia Perkins**

**cperkins@svsinc.org**

## RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMS

### Adult Residential Facilities

The SVS Group Homes has a clear vision, to support clients to minimize the daily challenges and obstacles in their lives.

The Group Homes, for many years, have been a safe harbor for clients. The role of the SVS staff is to enable clients to overcome isolation, live in a integrated community home and participate in the fullness of living.

The SVS staff in Group Homes work closely with clients to ensure they receive the support to become increasingly self sufficient. Clients come from diverse backgrounds and experiences so the need to develop practical skills for everyday living is important. The SVS staff are well-trained and have the necessary resources to assist clients.

Hacienda ARF with its new facility interior is just an example of SVS's desire to provide the best service for its residents. The residents are happy and enjoy activities like their group outing to Malibu in Burlingame. The SVS Group Homes provide professional, client-centered services utilizing a holistic approach.

### Independent Visions (IV)

The Supportive Living Program serves Golden Gate Regional Center clients who have the desire to live independently.

The process towards independent living requires a team of dedicated SVS staff. The program staff initially meet with the client, and develop a clear vision of the client's expectations and abilities.

Living independently has considerable challenges. The role of SVS staff is to support clients so they can prepare themselves for living in the community.

Once the assessment is complete SVS staff

conduct a search for appropriate housing. Each client has unique requirements, ranging from employment, proximity to friends and family, accessibility to public transport and social activities. We focus on finding affordable, safe and clean housing to accommodate the individual needs of each client.

Support staff are hired according to client needs. The staff actively work with the client on specific life skills. The goal is for clients to become self reliant and responsible for their own cooking, cleaning, registering for college, gaining employment and personal finances.



Client on left : Andrew Bixler, with SVS ISF staff Robert Glees

### GOLDEN GATE REGION CONTACT DETAILS

ADULT RESIDENTIAL  
mnavarro@svsinc.org

INDEPENDENT VISIONS  
mdupree@svsinc.org



SVS clients : left Donald Fields and right Calvin Fitch



SVS Client : Danny DeLaRosa learning cooking 101

## FOSTER CITY—SENIORS PROGRAM

Mr Stanley Cheu just celebrated his 65th birthday in February of 2007, and has been with the SVS Senior Inclusion program for 3 years.

Stanley loves to get up and dance whenever he hears music start to play. He is quite the entertainer, and enjoys talking and mingling with his peers at the Foster City SVS program.

He is a very friendly man who always has a smile on his face and a hug for a friend. Stanley is a dynamic member of our community and we look forward to his arrival each day.

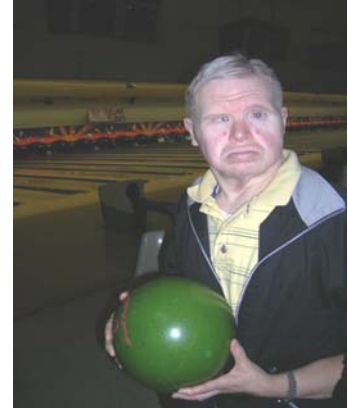


Stanley Cheu

Recently, the Senior Inclusion program spent a day at a local bowling rink in Redwood City.

Balls were rolling, pins were flying and it was a great time for all. Clients had so much fun they are enthusiastic to have further bowling trips. When planning their weekly activities these seniors will definitely include regular bowling trips in their schedule.

Mr Ricky Resendiz is a natural bowler and was very proud of his overall performance. We all celebrated the great team spirit and terrific achievements for all the players.



Ricky Resendiz, enjoys a bowling activity

**GOLDEN GATE REGION  
CONTACT DETAILS**

**FOSTER CITY SENIORS  
tbates@svsinc.org**

**SVS MISSION**  
Our mission is to design and deliver vocational and residential services to persons with disabilities that will result in the full participation in all aspects of community life.  
**SVS VISION STATEMENT**  
To create environments in which people with disabilities can help themselves to gain the support, the belief and the confidence that they need in order to have a fully productive and meaningful life.

**Social Vocational Services  
Corporate North Office  
131 Stewart Street, Suite 500  
San Francisco Ca 94105**  
Phone: (415) 896 5777  
Fax: (415) 896 5797  
E-mail: [fisher@svsinc.org](mailto:fisher@svsinc.org)  
Website: [socialvocationalservices.org](http://socialvocationalservices.org)

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Torrence, CA  
Permit No. 143

