

THE DESERT ENTERPRISE



**Second Half
issue
Jan- Jun
2018-2019**

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President

Laurie Formentera
Vice-President

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Steve Paulson
Sandy Price
Shannon Santamaria
Dr. Harry Taylor

Executive Director:
Jenni Moran

**Desert Haven
Wants...**



Interested in supporting the mission of DHE by employing those whom we serve, donating your time or financial resources, or joining our team as an employee...

**Call us today
661-948-8402**

Accredited Agency



Commission on
Accreditation of
Rehabilitation Facilities

AV SUBARU SHARES THE LOVE WITH DHE



Above, DHE Executive Director Jenni Moran and consumers of the agency's Project Independence Program, accept the check presented by CEO Mike Sullivan (far right) and General Manager Sean Homayoun (back left).

At right, thanks to our friends at Lamar Advertising, DHE was able to share some love back with AV Subaru with a week long showing on the digital located at the Ante-



In August 2018, Desert Haven was selected by Subaru Antelope Valley to participate in Subaru's "Share the Love" program as a Hometown Charity. Over the past 10 years, through the Share the Love event, Subaru of America and its participating retailers have donated nearly \$100 million to charity, with

customers choosing between four national and over 1,170 hometown charities."

During the "Share the Love" event, for every new vehicle purchased or leased, Subaru donates \$250 to the purchaser's choice of participating charities. On April 15, 2019, during a special celebration held at the local dealership, DHE's Executive Director was presented with a check for \$25,725 by CEO of LA Car Guys Mike Sullivan and General Manager of Subaru Antelope Valley Sean Homayoun. Citing the years of rate cuts and rate freezes endured by service providers throughout the State of California, Moran stated, "It is because of the wonderful relationships and partnerships among businesses, like AV Subaru, and other interested individuals, who truly care and demonstrate corporate citizenship and boundless generosity, that Desert Haven has been able to survive and continue to provide vital services to persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities. There simply are not enough words to express the depth of our gratitude for this incredible gift." Desert Haven will use the funds to assist in the purchase of a mid-size bus, with multiple wheelchair bays, to transit several consumers, who must use a wheelchair for mobility, to and from their vocational training sites.

QH KNIGHTS VISIT UPDATED COMPUTER LAB FUNDED BY GRANT



In May 2018, the QH Knights of Columbus surprised Desert Haven with a \$10,000 grant awarded by the Columbian Foundation of the Knights of Columbus. Months prior, DH Executive Director had submitted a grant request in the amount of \$10,000 to purchase new computers for the computer lab in the Project Independence Day Training Activity Center. The funds were used to purchase twelve new computers with oversized monitors. In March, the Knights stopped by to see the lab in operation...and to present the annual donation from their annual "Tootsie Roll Drive". We are thankful, beyond words, for the support of the QH Knights of Columbus.

How are we doing?...Keeping a finger on the pulse of our consumers

Following is a summary of performance in DHE's key program areas, based upon a review of data for the second half of the 2018-19 fiscal year:

Work Readiness Services: Food Service, Housekeeping, and Off-Site Hab Crews

- ✓ Sixty-four percent of consumers placed in the Work Readiness program were trained on jobs new to them.
- ✓ The availability of paid work averaged 69% for all consumers in the Work Readiness program.
- ✓ A total of forty-nine off-site hab crews were developed or expanded in the second half of the fiscal year.
- ✓ Five consumers obtained individual, community-based employment from the Work Readiness Program during this review period.
- ✓ One hundred percent of consumers placed in the Work Readiness program expressed satisfaction with DHE's services, as did 100% of the customers utilizing the off-site hab crew service.

Community Employment Services: Supported Employment - Individual Placement

- ✓ A total of 6.0 individual placements were achieved for the second half of the year for consumers seeking community employment.
- ✓ Hourly earnings exceeded minimum wage with an average of \$12.95 per hour for consumers in individual placement.
- ✓ Four consumers working within the community transitioned into follow-along status this review period, while another transitioned into competitive employment, working completely independently.
- ✓ Consumers within active job search averaged 4.0 months of job seeking for the job of their choosing.
- ✓ One hundred percent of responding consumers placed in program expressed satisfaction with DHE's services, as did 100% of employers responding to the survey.

Day Training Activity Services: Project Independence

- ✓ Forty-four percent of consumers in the DTAC program achieved individual ISP/IPP goals.
- ✓ Two consumers graduated from the DTAC program into the Work Readiness Program this review period.
- ✓ Consumers in program had opportunity to participate in a total of 86 diversified, meaningful community outings.
- ✓ Thirty-nine percent of consumers in the program demonstrated skill acquisition and retention in a key area.
- ✓ One hundred percent of consumers placed in program expressed satisfaction with the services offered.

NEW JOBS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY

The following employers have recently hired consumers into regular jobs within their business:

Individual Placements

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| ✓ Walmart Neighborhood Mkt | Grocery/GM Stocker Cart Attendant |
| ✓ Don Sal Cocina & Cantina | Dishwasher |
| ✓ Birds & Animals Unlimited | Kennel Cleaner |
| ✓ Chick-fil-A | Dishwasher |

Please show your appreciation to these businesses for supporting persons with developmental disabilities in achieving their career aspirations.

NEW CREWS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY

The following companies and corporations have recently contracted with DHE for the listed outsource services within their business:

Off-Site Habilitation Crews

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| ✓ 15th Street Homeowner's Association | Grounds Maintenance Crew |
| ✓ City of Lancaster Code Enforcement | Clean out/Board up 16 Properties |
| ✓ FPI Management Co | |
| Palmdale Park Apts | Janitorial Crew |
| Copper Square Apts | Janitorial Crew |
| ✓ Ironwood Properties | Pressure Wash Crew |
| ✓ Michaels Stores | Header Card Replacement Crew |
| ✓ Minuteman Press | Magazine Relabeling Crew |
| ✓ Private Residences | (14) Grounds Maintenance Svcs |
| ✓ Valley Bible Church | Grounds Maintenance Crew |
| ✓ Valley Oasis (Lancaster) | |
| Kayla's Place | Janitorial/Porter Service Crew |

STATE OF THE STATE

California State Budget Update

Despite a full court press for an across-the-board rate increase of 8% for all services, to serve as an initial down payment until rate reform can begin, Governor Newsom and the California State Legislature again failed the system, authorizing the following in the State Budget for 2019-20:

- ◇ Suspension of the mandatory furlough days (Uniform Holiday Schedule), but only until January 1, 2022;
- ◇ Continuation of the half-day billing policy, which means that a program may only bill for a half day for a consumer if he or she is not in attendance a minimum of 65% of the program day (at least 4.5 hours for DHE), despite programs having to maintain and pay staff for the entire day to ensure ratios are met; and
- ◇ No provision for a quirk fix for the local minimum wage increases.

The one bit of silver lining in the budget was the provision for an across-the-board rate increase, effective January 1, 2020, to certain types of programs, which translates into the following for DHE:

- ◇ Work Readiness will receive an increase of 8.2%;
- ◇ Supported Employment will receive an increase of 7.6%; however
- ◇ Project Independence will receive no increase.

While these increases will be most welcomed by service providers, they will remain in place for just two years, with a sunset date of December 31, 2021.

QH Knights of Columbus Come Through for DHE



Once again, our faithful friends from the QH Knights of Columbus have come through in a very big way on behalf of persons with intellectual disabilities, raising \$4,222 in a single weekend, through the annual tootsie roll drive. Standing outside local supermarkets, this mighty band of brothers collected funds from hundreds of Valley residents, who demonstrated their commitment to Desert Haven and their devotion to the Knights. Over the years, the Knights have raised more than \$80,000 for DHE through the drive.

ANNUAL INSTALLATION AND AWARDS CEREMONY

DHE Recognizes Efforts of Business Leaders, Consumers and Staff Members



Above, NLACRC Executive Director George Stevens accepts Desert Haven's highest honor, the Henstra Award



At right, Rite Aid accepts the Contractor of the Year Award, for large, for-profit site.



At left, Ironwood Properties accepts the Contractor of the Year Award, for mid-range, for-profit site.



At right, the BLVD Association accepts the Contractor of the Year Award for mid-range non-profit or public entity site.



At left, Valley Oasis accepts the Contractor Award for large non-profit or public entity site



Above left, Bridget Howitt accepts the Volunteer of the Year Award



Above right, Roberta Terry accepts the Distinguished Service Award

On May 29, 2019, Desert Haven held its annual Installation and Awards Ceremony, installing the 2019-20 Board of Directors and recognizing individuals, groups and businesses having made significant contributions toward the fulfillment of the agency's mission. Superior Court Judge the Honorable Brian Yep served as installing officer and Jenni Moran, DHE's Executive Director, served as the mistress of ceremonies.

This year, twelve awards were presented to the following recipients:

Henstra Award
Friends of Desert Haven Award
Employer of the Year Award
Contractor of the Year Award

Consumer of the Year Award

Employee of the Year Award

Distinguished Service Award
Volunteer of the Year Award
President's Award
Bozigian Award
Twenty-five Year Service Award
Thirty-Year Service Award

George Stevens, NLACRC Executive Director
 Kevin Henisey - Henisey Industries
 Smart & Final Extra - Store #920
 Rite Aid Southwest Customer Support Center;
 FPI Management Company; Valley Oasis; The
 BLVD Association

Joshua Blow, Off-site Hab Crews; Alexis Andes,
 Off-site Hab Crews; Angel Gray, Individual
 Placement; and Justin Brown, DTAC
 Vicki Mayer, Manager of Fleet, Facilities, and
 Safety; Tammy Griffin, Hab Crew Trainer;
 Danielle Baker, Job Coach/Scheduler; and
 Maribel Way, DTAC Instructor

Roberta Terry, DHE Director of Finance
 Bridget Howitt
 Mark Bozigian, Retired Lancaster City Manager
 Melissa Sullivan - Baja Bash Committee
 Nancy Matherly, Employment Specialist
 Becky Dillon, DTAC Instructor; Jenni Moran,
 Executive Director; and Martha Knight, Manager
 of Supported Employment Services



Below, retired Lancaster City Manager Mark Bozigian accepts the President's Award for years of support of DHE



General Manager Mario Flores accepts the Employer of the Year Award on behalf of Smart & Final Extra - Store #920 - West Palmdale



Kevin Henisey of Henisey Industries accepts the Friends of Desert Haven Award for his contributions of sound, lighting, and electricity to the Baja Bash

ANNUAL STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION

Following are a few of the objectives authorized by the Board of Directors during the June 2019 Board Retreat to be pursued/achieved in the 2019-20 fiscal year:

- ⇒ Secure additional community-based crews, including a variety of volunteer options, to support growth and diversity of work training opportunities within the Work Readiness Program to better prepare consumers for transition into supported employment;
- ⇒ Explore a partnership with the AVUHSD for use of DHE's café for the purpose of food service training for transition special education students;
- ⇒ Secure a minimum of ten (10) new community-based, individual placements;
- ⇒ Initiate and complete vendorization process for the Paid Internship Program and for the Competitive Integrated Employment Incentive Program; and
- ⇒ Expand the Work Readiness Program into the Santa Clarita Valley area.

For more information regarding the strategic plan, please contact the office of the Executive Director



Desert Haven Enterprises
43437 Copeland Circle
Lancaster, CA 93535

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY
 STAFF MEMBERS:**

| | |
|------------------------|----------|
| Martha Knight | 30 years |
| Ronnie Hofius | 28 years |
| Nancy Matherly | 25 years |
| Roberta Terry | 17 years |
| Salvador Sanchez | 14 years |
| Lucia Portillo | 14 years |
| Shareace Browne | 12 years |
| Christina Bonner | 11 years |
| Maria Campos | 11 years |
| Kristin Strait Connors | 8 years |
| Rhina Perez | 8 years |
| Maria Sanchez | 8 years |
| Cindy Ziegler | 8 years |
| Deida Hernandez | 8 years |
| Rita Gonzalez | 7 years |
| Mark Franklin | 7 years |
| Ericka Pasley | 6 years |
| Martha Flores | 5 years |
| Maria Erazo | 5 years |
| Rosalinda Caceres | 4 years |
| Claudette Glenn | 4 years |
| Sara Segura | 3 years |
| Ruben Garcia | 3 years |
| Sarah Boyd | 3 years |
| Ramona Aloyo | 3 years |
| Maribel Way | 2 years |
| Deidra Moore | 2 years |
| Lionel Mongiano | 2 years |
| Jennifer Avron | 2 years |
| Melissa Trevino | 1 year |
| Ana Hernandez | 1 year |
| Steve Thornton | 1 year |
| Cathy Jones | 1 year |
| Anetra Cantrell | 1 year |
| Cesar Castellanos | 1 year |
| Lovely Daniels | 1 year |

YOU ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED!!

MEET OUR HONORED STAFF

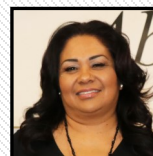
2018-19 Employees of the Year



Vicki Mayer



Danielle Baker



Maribel Way

25-Years of Service



Nancy Matherly

2018-19 Service Award
 Recipients

30-Years of Service



Board President Laurie Formentera awards Executive Director Jenni Moran, Manager of Supported Employment Services Martha Knight, and DTAC Instructor Becky Dillon with their 30-year service awards

CARF ACCREDITATION

DHE last participated in the CARF accreditation survey in April 2018, receiving a three-year accreditation. Interested persons may review the most recent CARF survey report by visiting Desert Haven's website at www.deserthaven.org and clicking on "About" and then on "Accreditations".

SAVE THE DATE

"Viva La Fiesta" Baja Bash

Friday, September 13, 2019

Hacienda Reyes

Annual Snowflake Ball

Friday, December 6, 2019

University of Antelope Valley — Grand Ballroom

Mission Statement

Desert Haven Enterprises, Inc. is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to developing, enhancing, and promoting the capabilities of persons with developmental disabilities.

The primary objective of the agency is to enable persons served to maximize their potential to become independent, self-sufficient, and participating members of their community through pre-vocational and vocational training, independent living and community skills training, job placement, community-based employment, and supportive services.

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