

**Second Half
issue
Jan- Jun
2014-2015**

Board Officers:
Sandy Price
President

Dr. Harry Taylor
Vice-President

Dennis Davenport
Secretary/Treasurer

Board of Directors:

Lou Bozigian
Laurie Formentera
Tom Fuller
Judy Gray
Dianne Knippel
Alan Kreps
Terry O'Connor
Steve Paulson
Tammy Romero

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

JUDY GRAY: ESTEEMED HENSTRA AWARD RECIPIENT



Judy Gray was honored with the Henstra Award upon the culmination of 37 years of Board service and support of persons served by Desert Haven Enterprises, Inc.



Judy Gray first became involved with Desert Haven, when she was seated as a Board Director in 1978. While teaching special education at El Dorado Elementary School in Lancaster, she was approached in 1975 by parent, board member, and long-time DH supporter, the former Carol "Snooky" Sullivan, who asked if Judy might be interested in joining the Board. The request was the ultimate compliment, as Judy was teaching the Sullivan's son at the time, who later became a consumer here at DHE. Unfortunately, however, Judy was living in Burbank and had to wait until she moved to the AV in 1978.

In those early years, the Board met in the Kiln Room at the first workshop facility, located next door to the original pre-school on East Avenue H-8 and 20th Street East. The consumers participating in the sheltered workshop program in the 70's made and sold ceramic wind chimes. Desert Haven, still in its formative years, had grown a bit since 1954 when the organization was first

started with ten pre-school children, but there was still much work to be done. Without question, Judy, with her special education expertise and her passion for service to persons with disabilities, was the absolute right person to have on the board to assist in positioning the organization for even greater things to come.

Over the course of her tenure, Judy has served on just about every committee of the Board and has chaired several of them multiple times. She also brought other talented members onto the Board, including our current outgoing President, Sandy Price. She served as President of the Board in 1994-95, one of the strongest growing years in the history of the organization. So outstanding were the accomplishments in that year, that Desert Haven was named "Agency of the Year" by United Way.

As any organization, Desert Haven has seen good times and challenging times, but it has always continued to move in the right direction...to forge ahead... thanks to the guidance, leadership and support of board members like Judy Gray, who have dedicated their time, shared their talents, and invested their lives into the development and betterment of this great organization. Now, after 37 years of Board service, Judy will turn her attention to other areas of her life, but her work here, her lasting legacy, will continue on in the lives and success of each and every consumer who has benefitted and will benefit in the future from the organization that Judy has played a part in developing.

DHE RECEIVES EXEMPLARY ACCREDITATION REVIEW



DHE's Executive Director and Board Directors, Dennis Davenport, Sandy Price, and Harry Taylor, were all smiles following the CARF exit meeting in May, when CARF Surveyors, Lois Wynne (Administrative Surveyor) and Lynne Manning (Program Surveyor) read accolade after accolade about the organization, following their three-day accreditation review. "On balance, Desert Haven Enterprises provides excellent services to consumers," noted Surveyor Wynne. "The organization demonstrates amazing commitment to, compassion toward, and understanding of consumers and other stakeholders. It is dedicated to continuous quality improvement."

In May 2015, DHE was awarded its tenth consecutive, three-year accreditation, the highest level achievable, and received just one partial recommendation: Standard # H.5.a.(4) "Desert Haven Enterprises has a policy regarding utility power failures; however, the written emergency procedures should be expanded to comprehensively address utility failures. Failures related to electricity, natural gas/gas leaks, sewage, water, elevators, fire alarms, communications, computers, and other systems might be considered for inclusion in the written procedures." The adjustment was made immediately and staff and consumers now practice utility failure drills of all types on a regular basis.

The Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, otherwise known as CARF, is the nation's accreditation agency in the fields of medical rehabilitation, behavioral health, and employment and community support services.

*Desert Haven Enterprises
Serving persons with developmental disabilities since 1954*

CHECK OUT WHAT'S INSIDE...

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 2014-15 fiscal year:

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

- ✓ Fifty-nine percent of consumers placed in the Work Readiness program were trained on jobs new to them.
- ✓ The availability of paid work averaged 68% for all consumers in the Work Readiness program.
- ✓ A total of nineteen off-site hab crews were developed or expanded in the second half of the fiscal year.
- ✓ Four 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 8.0 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 \$10.10 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 8.8 months of job seeking with limited opportunities in the current job market.
- ✓ 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

- ✓ Thirty-one percent of consumers in the DTAC program achieved individual ISP/IPP goals.
- ✓ One consumer graduated from the DTAC program into the Work Readiness Program for vocational training.
- ✓ Consumers in program had opportunity to participate in a total of 72 diversified, meaningful community outings.
- ✓ Thirty-five percent of consumers in the DTAC 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:

- ✓ **Wal-Mart Neighborhood Mkt** (3) **Day Maintenance Workers**
(Rancho Vista - Palmdale) **Dry Goods Stocker**
- ✓ **Springhill Suites** (Lancaster) **Housekeeper**

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

- ✓ **All About Fitness** Janitorial Crew
- ✓ **AV Christian Church** Janitorial Crew
- ✓ **Ironwood Properties**
 - Arbor Court/Village** Unit Cleanup Crew
 - Pointe Apts**
 - Sagebrush Apts** Weeding Crew
- ✓ **Michaels Stores**
 - Corporate** Frame Rework Crew
 - Display Case Labeling Crew
 - Favor Bag Overlabel/Rework Crew
 - Art Kit Repacking Crew
 - Clip Strip Labeling Crew
 - Flower Labeling/Repacking Crew
 - Letter Sorter Repacking Crew
 - Shadow Box Labeling Crew
 - Purse UPC Labeling Crew
 - Easel UPC Labeling Crew
 - Memo Book Repacking
- ✓ **Hatchette Book Grp**
- ✓ **Our Savior's Lutheran Church** Janitorial Crew
- ✓ **Rite Aid Distribution Center** Holiday Wrap Removal Crew
- Fan Labeling Crew

STATE OF THE STATE

California State Budget Update

For weeks, you have stood up and spoken out, along with tens of thousands of people throughout the State of California, urging the Legislature to Keep the Promise of the Lanterman Act and provide immediate rate relief to grossly underfunded service providers, like Desert Haven Enterprises. They have heard your calls, seen your tweets and Facebook posts, read your faxes, and met with you one-on-one. They know the Lanterman Coalition's position matters to you. You have done exceedingly well, but there is more **URGENT** work to be done as a final push, because while the Legislature has heard you, apparently they don't believe what you're saying...that the system is in **CRISIS** and **WILL NOT SURVIVE** unless funding is increased immediately!

The Senate and Assembly have each approved different budgets that, if passed, will have drastically different effects on our system. Sadly, neither of them passed a budget consistent with the urging of the Lanterman Coalition or the pleas of those who are part of a system that is crumbling beneath their feet and fast approaching destruction. The Governor proposes **NO INCREASE** in funding for the system of services and supports for persons with developmental disabilities. The Senate proposed targeted increases for a couple of specific types of services, clearly ignoring the immediate need for funding within the vast majority of services utilized by consumers and their families. The **ENTIRE SYSTEM IS IN CRISIS**, not just the programs that the Senate decided to fund! The Assembly also ignored the 10% increase demanded by the Lanterman Coalition, agreeing to only half of that amount...and then even delayed that for six months! There are programs that will not be here in 6-months!!!!

If the Lanterman Promise is to be honored, we must expect...we must **DEMAND**...a stronger response from OUR elected officials!!!! **ACT NOW**...Call Governor Brown and tell him...

- The rate increase for developmental services funding must be 10% on July 1, 2015!
- Annual funding increases in the amount of 5% must be authorized until funding for service provider rates and regional center services is reformed and stability within the system achieved!
- Without immediate funding, programs will continue to close, and critical services and supports will be lost. With no long-term reform, our system will continue to crumble until it is absolutely decimated.

It is **NOT TOO LATE** for the Governor and the Legislature to **DO THE RIGHT THING!!!** Supporting people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families IS THE RIGHT THING!!!

MAKE YOUR VOICES HEARD

Senator Sharon Runner
848 W. Lancaster Blvd.
Lancaster, CA 93534
(661) 729-6232

Governor Jerry Brown
State Capitol, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 445-2841

Assemblyman Tom Lackey
41319 12th St. W, Suite 105
Palmdale, CA 93551
(661) 267-7636

ANNUAL INSTALLATION AND AWARDS CEREMONY

DHE Recognizes Efforts of Business Leaders, Consumers and Staff Members



Above, Ruben Estrella, Assistant Director, accepts the Employer of the Year Award on behalf of Crothall Healthcare

At right, Renee Johnson and George Petzoldt accept the Contractor of the Year Award, for large, for-profit site on behalf of Rite Aid Southwest Customer Support Center.



At left, Jerilynn Ritter accepts the Contractor of the Year Award, for mid-range, for-profit site on behalf of Crissair Incorporated.

At right, Samuel Davila accepts the Contractor of the Year Award, for large non-profit site on behalf of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Antelope Valley.



Above left, Donna Gaddis accepts the Contractor of the Year Award for small to mid-range non-profit site on behalf of The Children's Center of the AV.



Above right, Katie Nelson accepts the Distinguished Service Award on behalf of Hunter Dodge Chrysler Jeep Ram



Above left, George Petzoldt of Rite Aid, accepts the Friends of Desert Haven Award from DHE Board President Sandy Price.



Above right, retiring Board Director Judy Gray receives one of many certificates and accolades, this from Dan Munz, Parks Operations Manager with the City of Lancaster.

On May 14, 2015, Desert Haven held its annual Installation and Awards Ceremony, installing the 2015-16 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

Judy Gray
George Petzoldt, Retiring Facilities Manager-
Rite Aid Southwest Customer Support Center
Crothall Healthcare

Employer of the Year Award Contractor of the Year Award

Rite Aid Southwest Customer Support Center;
Crissair Incorporated; Boys & Girls Clubs of
Antelope Valley; The Children's Center of the
Antelope Valley

Consumer of the Year Award

Emilio Villalobos, Off-site Hab Crews; Carla
Alva, Off-site Hab Crews; Herbert Winbush,
On-site Crews; Danny Nelson, Individual
Placement; and Kyra Crawford, DTAC

Employee of the Year Award

Rita Gonzalez, Human Resources Assistant;
Fred Gonzalez, Hab Crew Manager; Martha
Knight, Manager, Supported Employment Ser-
vices; and Angela Roberson, DTAC Instructor
Hunter Dodge Chrysler Jeep Ram

Distinguished Service Award Volunteer of the Year Award President's Award Ten-Year Service Award

Dennis Davenport
BeX Bar & Grill
Anne Heine, DTAC Instructor; Lorraine
McKesson, DTAC Manager; Fred Gonzalez,
Hab Crew Manager; Maria Leija, Hab Crew
Trainer; Lucia Portillo, Hab Crew Trainer
Becky Dillon, DTAC Instructor
Steve Paulson, DHE Board Director

Twenty-five Year Service Award Louis V. Bozigian Award



Board Director and Baja Bash Committee Member Dennis Davenport is presented with the Volunteer of the Year Award.



Sandy Price and Jenni Moran present co-owner Tim Anders with the President's Award on behalf of Bex Bar & Grill.



Lou Bozigian and Sandy Price present the Bozigian Award to DHE Board Director and General Manager of PCM Industries, Steve Paulson.

ANNUAL STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION

In June, the Board of Directors and administration spent an evening planning and strategizing for the upcoming fiscal year. The resulting strategic plan is designed to best meet the needs of our consumers and to continue to position the agency for further growth and greater self-sufficiency.

Following are a few of the objectives to be achieved in the 2015-16 fiscal year:

- ⇒ Secure additional community-based crews to support growth within the Work Readiness Program and to generate additional revenue to support the agency's fiscal solvency, self-sufficiency, and continued progress;
- ⇒ Secure a minimum of nine new community-based, individual placements;
- ⇒ Complete redesign of organizational website and modify/update as needed;
- ⇒ Develop crews specifically targeting opportunities for consumers with significant physical limitations, including those requiring the use of a wheelchair;
- ⇒ Work with legislators to secure rate increases and long-term rate reform; and
- ⇒ Fully develop and implement Personal, Vocational and Social Adjustment Program.

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:

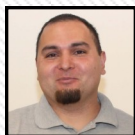
Martha Knight	26 years
Ronnie Hofius	24 years
Nancy Matherly	21 years
Charmaine Hengel	14 years
Roberta Terry	13 years
Frederick Gonzalez	10 years
Maria Leija	10 years
Lucia Portillo	10 years
Raymond Rodriguez	9 years
Hector David Zavala	9 years
Veronica Ramirez	8 years
Shareace Browne	8 years
Yolanda Deschene	7 years
Diana Saldivar	7 years
Margo Gunner	7 years
Loretta Lucero	7 years
Christina Bonner	7 years
Maria Campos	6 years
Norma Farias	6 years
Roxanne Marquez	5 years
Pamela Schuoler	5 years
Sandra Vendola	5 years
Tonja McMaster	5 years
Gina Smith	5 years
Carol Machart	4 years
Kristen Connors	4 years
Rhina Perez	4 years
Sunshine Eustace	4 years
Maria Sanchez	4 years
Cindy Ziegler	4 years
Deida Hernandez	4 years
Jaqueline "Jackie" Jones	4 years
Rita Gonzalez	3 years
Mark Franklin	3 years
Fernando Navarro	2 years
Elizabeth Valenzuela	1 year
Martha Flores	1 year
Maria Erazo	1 year
Cindy Gallardo	1 year
Victor Ceniseros	1 year
Jessica Russell	1 year

MEET OUR HONORED STAFF

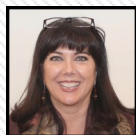
2014-15 Employees of the Year



Rita Gonzalez



Fred Gonzalez



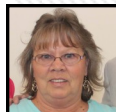
Martha Knight



Angela Roberson

2014-15 Service Awards

10 Years



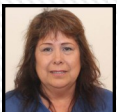
**Anne
Heine**



**Lorraine
McKesson**



**Fred
Gonzalez**



**Maria
Leija**



**Lucia
Portillo**

25 Years

Congratulations to each
and every one of these
incredible and dedi-
cated staff members!



Becky Dillon

You and your exem-
plary efforts are what
make this organization
a cut above the rest!!!

CARF ACCREDITATION

DHE last participated in the CARF accreditation survey in April 2015, receiving a three-year accreditation. Interested persons may review the most recent CARF survey by contacting the CARF Coordinator, Executive Director Jenni Moran @ 948-8402.

SAVE THE DATE

Annual Snowflake Ball

Saturday, December 5, 2015

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.

Support DHE: Shop AmazonSmile

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you.

Simply copy the link below into your browser and start shopping:

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/95-6006073>

It's that easy!! Amazon will make a donation of 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases to Desert Haven Enterprises!