



You heard it through the...

North Bay Grapevine

Spring 2009

United Cerebral Palsy of the North Bay™

Mission Statement

To enhance the quality of life of people with cerebral palsy and other disabilities, their families, and their communities.

UCPNB

Life without limits

Cypress School

Learn without limits

Social Wellness

Well Being without limits

WineBev Services

Work without limits

Recreation Services

Play without limits

UCPNB
Cypress School
3835 Cypress Drive, Ste #103
Petaluma, CA 94954
707-766-9990 (Phone)
707-559-2466 (Fax)

WineBev Services
720 Airpark Road
Napa, CA 94558
707-603-0010 (Phone)
707-603-0011 (Fax)

www.ucpnb.org



Change a life, starting with your own...



UCPNB Invites You to Join our \$1,000 Donor Club!

In the past 18 months, United Cerebral Palsy of the North Bay has experienced rapid growth with the development of Cypress School in Petaluma and WineBev Services in Napa. Cypress School specializes in serving students ages 5-22 with autism and other developmental disabilities. Students require positive behavior supports, adapted curriculum, and a variety of therapeutic activities to become more independent at school and in the community. WineBev Services, a social enterprise, employs adults with developmental disabilities and pays them market, entry-level wages. Our goal is to create economic self-sufficiency – both for the people we serve and for our non-profit organization.

Our mission, “to enhance the quality of life of people with cerebral palsy and other disabilities, their families, and their communities,” includes providing services critical to the health and well-being of over 200 children, including Boost Camp, Bike Camp, Cypress Camp, Camp Kaos and Integrated Play Groups; and 150 adults that participate in Spring Weekend Camp and Saturday Night Dances. Achieving our goal of raising \$100,000 from our \$1,000 Donor Club will allow us to pay for the high cost of these vital services – and continue to develop new programs for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

By joining our \$1,000 Donor Club, you will change the life of a child or an adult by building their self-esteem, self-confidence, and independence – so that he or she has the same opportunity for success as others. You may go to www.ucpnb.org and click on the \$1,000 Donor Club icon to view the special invitation we have prepared, or contact Ron Hamilton: 707-766-9990, Ext. 103; rhamilton@ucpnb.org. When you watch our \$1,000 Donor Club DVD you will understand what \$2.75 per day for one year can do for our children and adults – and how you can give someone with a developmental disability “life without limits.”



We’d like to acknowledge the founding members of our \$1,000 Donor Club: Marie Jordan and David Riley. Members of our \$1,000 Donor Club may also include groups that donate together, and we would like to thank our first group – The Wine Country Chapter of the Interior Design Society, www.idswinecountry.com. We would also like to thank our \$1,000 Donor Club Chair Susy McBride (pictured) for her many contributions – as Susy says, “collectively we can make a difference!”

Play without limits...



Sidekicks Winter Bike Camp

Sidekicks Winter Bike Camp was held over the MLK Weekend (January 16-19, 2009). Twenty-two campers attended the 4-day camp.

By the end of camp, many of the participants had ridden a two-wheeler, and several of them were virtually independent. The camp had a 100% success rate, and every child had improved by the end of the 4-day camp. For some, that meant riding the roller bike for much longer by the fourth day than on the first day.

For others, it meant riding a two-wheeler bicycle for several feet or several hours. Others “rode with the wind” outside, and learned to navigate cement, grass, and gravel.

During the 4 days of the camp there was a high sense of excitement that was contagious. The smiles on the parents and the children were priceless. The smiles on the volunteers and the staff were equally meaningful. Participating in the daily victories of the bike camp riders was a life-changing experience for all.





Spotlight on....

Ryan the Wonderboy



At Cypress School, our "Wonderboy" Ryan is able to give his aide a hug, play a ball game with a classmate, help cook a meal, ride his scooter, and enjoy activities in the community. In his previous public school class, Ryan had extreme behavioral challenges with his teacher, aides, and classmates - disrupting his learning and the learning of others. At the end of his first week at Cypress School, Ryan's mom, Shannon, said "Ryan is coming home exhausted in a good way. He used to have ten tantrums per day after-school and now he has no more than one."



So what does Ryan need? He needs an individualized blend of physical and sensory regulating activities in the school and in the community, as well as a picture communication book. He also needs a positive behavior support plan that includes:

- The use of two occupational therapy rooms
- An enriched, flexible schedule for children with autism spectrum disorders
- Environmental spacing and sound modifications
- Special seating and furnishings
- Adaptive learning materials
- Speech and occupational therapy outside of the traditional setting.

It is critical that all of these therapies be provided throughout the day by caring and enthusiastic staff, with the ability to trade off working with Ryan. The wonderful thing about Ryan's success at Cypress School is that he now enjoys interacting with others during school, in the community, and at home with his family!

Parent Advocate *Mila DeWitt* Honored at ParentsCAN for IPG's

ParentsCAN, a disability advocacy organization for families in Napa, presented awards to parents from numerous agencies across the county, celebrating National Parent Leadership Month. These awards honored parents for their leadership and advocacy roles in their schools and communities.

Mila Dewitt, PhD was nominated for bringing Integrated Play Groups (IPG) for children with autism to the Napa Valley School District. IPGs are therapeutic play groups with trained play facilitators, one or two children with autism, and two or three typically developing children.

The objective of the UCPNB program is to promote the development of social and symbolic play skills in children with autism, improving cognitive functioning and communication skills. For the typically developing children, the objective is to promote social tolerance and patience.

Congratulations Mila for making play a positive, fun, and rewarding experience for everyone!



L-R: Margaret Farman (Executive Director), Mila DeWitt, and Laura Briggin (Cypress School Director, BCBA)



Margaret Farman (Executive Director) presenting award to Mila DeWitt.



Margaret Farman (Executive Director) & Board Members



Elizabeth Empleo (Employee) & her Parents



Lauren Muench (Program Coordinator) & husband Rich



Ushone Johnson (Employee) & mother Emily Johnson

UCPNB Holiday Party A Time to Celebrate!

On Saturday, December 13, UCPNB held a Holiday Luncheon and Celebration at WineBev Services in Napa. Over 100 members of our "extended family" attended - children and adults, family members, community friends, and staff. Linda Blong (Board President), Mimi Schott (Treasurer), and Claire Martin (Secretary) were also on hand for the holiday festivities.

The event offered great food, entertainment from the "WineBev Services Players," and a video presentation of our many programs. We want to express our sincere thanks to Beringer, Sutter Home, and Schug Winery for their generous donation of wine for the event. As you can see from all the happy, smiling faces - everyone in attendance had a wonderful time!



Jazlyn (Camper) & Clarice



Nicole Niem & Matthew Pilon (Employees)



John Clark (Business Partner) & wife Susan



Morgan Lawler (Employee) & mother Barbara Lawler



Nancy Cornes (Foster's Business Partner) & husband Steve



Mark Pittman (Supervisor) & Guest June Delay

Work without limits...

Ready, Set, Hire

Onsite and Offsite Work Services



WineBev Services offers adults with disabilities the opportunity for paid work in an integrated work environment with their non-disabled peers. Owned and operated by **United Cerebral Palsy of the North Bay**, WineBev Services provides exceptional packaging and production services for the wine industry in a bonded and insured public wine warehouse.

WineBev Services contracts with wineries much like any business that offers temporary production and manufacturing help. The main difference is that we supply a working Quality Assurance Supervisor that stays with a group of three to four very capable workers the entire time they are onsite at the winery. Each group is always under supervision by one of our trained professional staff members.

Contract and pricing is inclusive of WineBev Services covering all workers compensation insurance, general liability insurance, employment taxes, withholding and administration of all payroll and related functions. WineBev Services has a proactive risk management program and makes safety of our assigned employees a number one priority.

Current Contracts:



Thank You to *Foster's in the Community* for their generous contribution of \$50,000 to our WineBev Services Expansion Project.

Ed Matovcik, Vice President, Foster's Wine Estates, presented the \$50,000 check to Margaret Farman (Executive Director) and Mimi Schott (Board Treasurer) on November 21, 2008. Claire Martin (Board Secretary) and Terence Mulligan (Napa Valley Community Foundation President) were also in attendance for the presentation.

The grant was awarded to United Cerebral Palsy of the North Bay for the expansion of WineBev Services. The event included a tour of our production facility and the opportunity to speak with and take pictures of our employees with disabilities working, proudly, in the wine industry.



L-R: Terence Mulligan, Margaret Farman, Mimi Schott, Claire Martin, Ed Matovcik

In the news...



Mike Treleven, Napa Valley Register Business Editor, presented WineBev Services to the Napa community in his article on February 17, 2009. Mike visited WineBev Services and spoke with Margaret Farman (Executive Director), Mike Lisenko (VP Business Operations), and Ron Hamilton (Chief of Operations) in advance of writing this article.

Packing Wine, Empowering People

<http://www.napaalvalleyregister.com/articles/2009/02/17/news/local/doc499a488626481599205982.txt>

There was a follow-up editorial (A Job Creating Machine in Napa) in the Napa Valley Register on February 18, 2009 that ended with "Not only are these organizations coming together to create jobs in Napa County, they are creating jobs for people who have a hard time finding gainful employment even in a roaring economy. We applaud the founders, supporters and workers at WineBev creating economic success in a difficult climate."

A Job Creating Machine in Napa

<http://www.napaalvalleyregister.com/articles/2009/02/18/opinion/editorial/doc499bbee5231dd256615904.txt>





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Learn without limits...

Cypress School Update



Cypress School has a new, enthusiastic, Special Education Teacher for our younger classroom – Estyr Bomgardner. Like a true “gardener,” Estyr has cultivated her classroom environment to increase learning opportunities for our active students.



Estyr Bomgardner with new Cypress School student Sabrina

Estyr reaches out to families and speech and occupational therapists to promote consistent learning activities in school and at home. The curriculum she has designed for each student includes the use of materials both in the classroom and in the community that increase independence, motivation, and interaction. Estyr has a BA in Psychology from Rutgers University, Special Education credential from San Francisco State University, and she is currently working on her Master’s Degree in Special Education with an emphasis on autism.

Estyr is a great role model and trainer – whether playing with a student, planting a vegetable garden, or working on a counting task. On field trips, her students participate in activities at the Exploratorium, San Francisco Zoo, and the California Academy of Sciences. Her students especially like the therapeutic horseback riding provided by the Renaissance Learning Center. Estyr also promotes community service learning at our garden where her student “gardeners” grow, pick, and deliver organic produce to the Petaluma Kitchen.

UCPNB Upcoming Events

CAMPS

Valley of the Moon Camp: Spring Weekend Camp
 May 29-31, 2009

Cypress Summer Camp
 Session I: June 1-12, 2009

Sidekicks Cycle & Swim: Summer Bike/Swim Camp
 June 8-12, 2009

Boost Camp
 June 30 - July 24, 2009

Camp Kaos
 July 28-31, 2009

Cypress Summer Camp
 Session II: August 3-14, 2009



NATIONAL EVENT

United Cerebral Palsy
 Annual Conference in San Francisco
 April 22-25, 2009



The Sonoma County Medical Association Alliance and Foundation presents: **Garden Tour 2009**

www.scmiaa.org/support/garden.html

Friday & Saturday, May 15-16, 2009
 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM (Rain or Shine)

Proceeds benefit community health and health education programs throughout Sonoma County.

