# **Annual Report**















Dedicated to helping individuals with disabilities and special needs since 1945







### From the Director



Dear Families, Friends, and Community Members,

It is with great passion and excitement that we present the 2015-2016 Via Services' annual report. This report will not only review our past fiscal year but will highlight program accomplishments and upcoming developments.

This past year has seen significant progress in our path to serve as many families with special needs as possible. We have expanded all of our programs and added new positions to enhance our outreach and build our customer service. Our board of directors is currently hard at work finalizing a strategic plan that will guide Via through its next decade.

The growth of Via West has been exponential. We are so happy to be able to serve more and more families from across the Bay Area. Our Altitude program has been fully integrated into Via, now offering sessions throughout the year as well as during the summer. This has allowed us to be fully inclusive across the entire spectrum of special needs. We can proudly say that we serve clients of all ages, abilities, and ratios throughout Altitude and our First Step and Via West programs.

It is important to us to continue to grow and nurture our families. We believe in consistently building toward the future, as our future is your future. Our plans will always continue to involve you. As we look to new ways to serve our community, we welcome ideas from all of you. It is very important that we stay in touch as our evolution is only successful if we as a team, with you and your loved ones, can together help everyone reach the quality of life that is well deserved. Thank you for allowing us to be a part of your lives.

Sincerely,

Leslie Davis

Chief Executive Officer









#### **Our Mission:**

Via Services is a private, independent non-profit organization dedicated to helping individuals with disabilities and special needs achieve greater self-sufficiency and lead richer lives.

#### **Our History:**

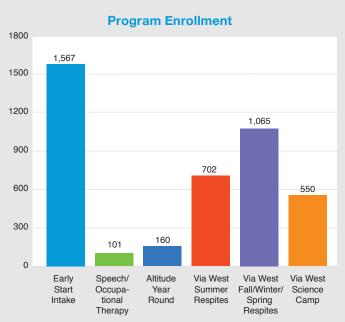
In 1945, two women saw a little boy sitting in a window every day, isolated from the world because of cerebral palsy. With permission from the boy's single working mother, they carried the boy and his wheelchair down a steep flight of stairs so he could explore new places and spark his intellectual and emotional development. That act of generosity led to the creation of the Crippled Children's Society, now Via Services, an organization that has continued to serve youth and adults with disabilities for over half a century.

#### **Our Services:**

Altitude provides year-round camping experiences for boys and girls with social cognitive challenges to build social skills, independence, and self-confidence. We prepare our participants for the transition to young adulthood, future relationships, and the rest of their lives.

First Step provides developmental assessments of infants and children up to age 10, and also offers a wide array of speech-language and occupational play-based therapy to address developmental delays or disorders and help each child realize their potential.

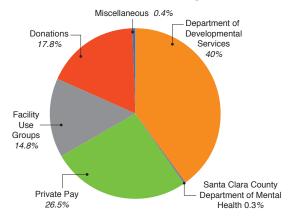
Via West Campus provides residential respite care with weekend and week-long programs throughout the year. The children, teens, and adults who stay with us enjoy innovative programs and activities that include both learning and outdoor experiences, plus independent living skills and skill building activities that are specifically designed to improve self-sufficiency.

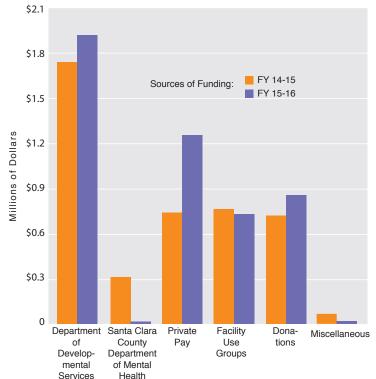


### Via Services at a Glance

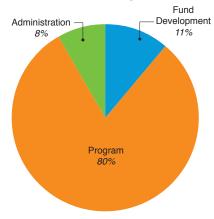
Fiscal Year June 1, 2015-May 31, 2016

#### **Sources of Funding**





#### **Allocation of Expenses**



### Highlights from Our Year

Fiscal Year 2015-2016 has been an exciting year of change and progress for Via Services.

July 13, 2015 – Altitude launched its first program during the 2015 Via West Campus summer season with great success. Children and teens with social cognitive challenges joined us for a traditional camping experience that built independent living skills, social skills, and self-confidence. We further expanded Altitude to include three weekend experiences throughout the school year: Girls Only Go Celebration, Leadership, and Taste of Altitude.





September 28, 2015 - The first annual D'Ambrosio



The new greenhouse at Via West Campus

#### members played golf, purchased raffle tickets, and bid on live auction items. Via Services was one of two beneficiaries for the event and was later presented with a check

Golf Tournament was held.

Over 100 local community

presented with a check for \$18,000 which directly benefited our programs.



October 5, 2015 – The ribbon was cut on the brand new greenhouse at Via West Campus. Since its opening, participants in the Via West and Altitude programs have delighted in growing their own produce while learning first-hand about the process of farm-totable food production.

October 10, 2015 – The 3rd Annual Fall Festival was held at Via West Campus. Over 400 guests were in attendance to enjoy the delicious food, beer and wine, games, raffle, and live music courtesy of the Velvet Plum band. We raised funds to benefit the programs at Via West.



Over 400 guests attended the Annual Fall Festival

Fiscal year 2015-2016 was a record setting year for participant enrollments.

## #GIWINGTUESDAY



Guests pose with Willy Wonka at the 21st Annual Via Ball



# October 3, 2015 – First Step held its first Open House at Park Ave to honor our families.

Current and prospective clients came and enjoyed a complimentary petting zoo, motor play, art, games, and more. We offered low cost screenings for hearing, speech and language, social skills, and motor development.

December 2, 2015 – Giving Tuesday – a global day dedicated to giving back – was held. We raised over \$30,000 on this national giving day. Those funds, along with other donations received in December will enable us to renovate and shade our campfire circle at Via West – a beloved gathering place perfect for working on independent living skills like socialization, outdoor eating, and more.

February 27, 2016 – The 21st anniversary of the Via Ball was held at Villa Ragusa in downtown Campbell. We had over 400 attendees make this the most successful ball in Via history. The evening included a live auction, casino games, raffle, and dancing all night long. Our fundraiser exceeded expectations and brought in funds that directly supported the programs of Via Services.

May 22, 2016 – Fall/Winter/Spring Respites came to a close at Via West Campus and smashed registration records with 1065 total enrollments.

This was an increase of 28.3% from the previous 2014-2015 Fall/Winter/Spring Respites and 56% from the 2013-2014 Fall/Winter/Spring Respites.

May 31, 2016 – The grant season ended after a stellar fiscal year. Several large grants, like those from the Bernard A. Newcomb Foundation, the Leo M. Shortino Family Foundation, the SanDisk Community Sharing Program, the Sharks Foundation, and the Sobrato Family Foundation contributed significantly to the growth of new and existing programs.

Several large grants contributed significantly to the growth of new and existing programs like the "Healthy Me!" program funded by the Sharks Foundation.

### New Happenings

#### **Adaptive Swim Clinics**

The beginning of our new fiscal year saw the launch of our adaptive swim clinics at our Via West Campus. These accessible swim and water safety lessons introduced participants to the water in the recently renovated pools. Lessons are designed to accommodate all ages and ability levels.

#### **Campfire Circle**



Thanks to the generosity of our families and supporters on Giving Tuesday, we have just premiered the new accessible picnic tables and benches as well as the new pergola for the campfire circle at Via West Campus. The full renovations including removing and replacing the existing benches and resurfacing the campfire circle area will be completed later this year.

#### KaBOOM! Build Day

On August 31st, we were joined at Via West Campus by KaBOOM!, the Sharks Foundation, Groupware



Technology, and community volunteers to build a new accessible playground. The thousands of children and adults served annually at Via West Campus now have a safe and adaptive on-site play space where they can improve their strength, coordination, and sequencing skills. The playground will contribute nicely to the socialization, cooperation, and teamwork skills that are consistently taught in programs.

#### **Touchdowns For Kids**

Via Services is one of the beneficiaries of the 2016 49ers Touchdown for Kids program sponsored by the Taube Family Foundation, Koret Foundation, and the San Francisco 49ers Foundation. Every time the 49ers score a touchdown, complete a field goal or record an interception or a sack this season, Touchdown for Kids will donate to Via! The total tally for the season will be announced during an on field check presentation at the January 1st game against the Seattle Seahawks. Via will also be featured in the December 11th 49ers Gameday Magazine.

#### **Performance Arts Building**

The Performance Arts Building at Via West Campus, affectionately referred to as the Huckleberry, is being completely renovated. The new building, which will be double the size, will open its doors this fall giving our participants a place to enjoy sensory activities, music, and more.

#### 22nd Annual Via Ball

Our annual fundraiser will be held on February 25, 2017 at Villa Ragusa in downtown Campbell. This year's ball will be a red, white, and blue gala and all of the proceeds will benefit the programs of First Step, Via West,





and Altitude. Tickets will go on sale November 3, 2016. Please visit our website:

http://www.viaservices org/ news-events/22nd-annual-via-ball for more details.

#### **Poker Tournament**

This spring we will host our first ever Poker Tournament. All of the proceeds will benefit the programs of First Step, Via West, and Altitude. Please visit our website:

http://www.viaservices.org/ news-events/poker-tournament for more details.



### Via Services Donor Acknowledgment

Via Services would like to thank the individual families, corporations, foundations, and grants that supported our programs in our fiscal year June 1, 2015 to May 31, 2016. We do everything that we can to include all of our donors on the list below, and we sincerely apologize in advance if there are any names that have been omitted. *Please note that the list below includes cash and in-kind donations.* 



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# Saturday, February 25, 2017



### At Villa Ragusa, 35 & Second St, Campbell

The 22nd Anniversary of the Via Ball — Via's most important night of the year

Dancing to The Cheeseballs • Entertainment • Exceptional live and silent auctions featuring one-of-a-kind items

100% of the proceeds go towards the programs at Via Services — First Step, Via West, and Altitude. Via helps adults and children with special needs achieve greater self-sufficiency and lead richer lives. In doing so, Via provides much needed connection and support for parents and caregivers — helping make their own challenges less difficult and the celebrations more frequent.

For ticket purchases and sponsorship information, please visit: http://www.viaservices.org/news-events/22nd-annual-via-ball



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