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 fuller 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, 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.

KPMG’s Annual Day of Giving is a day where our entire team can celebrate our commitment to our community. We look for wonderful organizations to support, and we couldn’t have found a more wonderful organization to support than Via Services. Our team thoroughly enjoyed tilling the soil and then planting new grass at Via West. As the father of a son with special needs, I thoroughly appreciate the importance of individuals with special needs being able to enjoy camp. On behalf of KPMG, we hope that the Via West campers enjoy the new lawns for many years to come!

— Todd Goldman, KPMG

We love volunteering at the VIA West Camp each year! Our team gets to work together on fun projects like painting, building, and gardening. We are able to do this hand-in-hand the huge impact this makes being there while camp is in session. Via Services is an amazing organization and we are so proud to partner with them each year!

— Heather Renaud, Deloitte

Volunteering at VIA Services’ West Campus was an amazing opportunity. We spent a fun morning completing projects such as building picnic tables and gardening. We also had the chance to learn more about what Via Services is all about, and it was rewarding for the team to be able to help such an amazing program while we bonded as a team. I am really looking forward to the next volunteer opportunity with Via Services!

— Amber Ibarra, Google

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Via Services has been serving the Bay Area and beyond since 1945. We are a private, independent non-profit dedicated to helping individuals with disabilities and special needs achieve greater self-sufficiency and lead richer lives. In doing so, we ultimately support the entire family through services that span the entire lifetime.

The state of California serves over 295,000 individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, a number which has increased 38% in a ten-year period (State of California Department of Developmental Services January 2015). When you support Via, you are making an impact to the thousands of families we serve in Silicon Valley and surrounding cities. We are the only organization that accepts everyone regardless of severity of medical condition or behaviors. We are the only program in all of Northern California that offers a science camp for children with special needs.

There are many ways to give back to Via. When you donate monetarily, your dollars go right here locally, directly to children and adults with special needs. When you volunteer your time, you are able to immediately see the impact you have made. When you join the Board of Directors, you serve alongside executives from local companies in the fields of technology, health care, law, finance, and construction.

Please read on to learn about the many ways in which you and your company can support Via Services. We always welcome your ideas, and we are always open to take you on a tour to share more of our mission and vision in person.

Sincerely,

Leslie Davis, CEO

Corporate Sponsorships allow your organization to support Via while also receiving great exposure and brand awareness in the Bay Area. Specific opportunities include:

Events — Via Services hosts four major events per year. The Via Ball, for example, is our largest event of the year and our greatest opportunity to raise a significant amount of money at one time. The Via Ball brings in a large percentage of our budgeted revenue for the fiscal year, so each event—big or small—is critical to our bottom line. A way in which you can assist Via in reaching its annual goal is by sponsoring a specific item or function at one of our events or, of course, by attending.

Capital Campaign — Sponsor larger construction projects. These projects, like the Via West playground, are vital to participants that we serve as they allow us to offer adaptive programming in safe, accessible environments.

Grants — Have an employee sponsor Via in order for us to apply for a grant. Grants are opportunities for Via to get specialized funds to help subsidize our current program scale. They also give us the ability to expand our offerings by launching new programs like special needs science camp, farm-to-table culinary classes with the Via West greenhouse, and more.

Employee Match Programs — Incentivize employees to donate to Via when they know that their monies will be matched. If you do not, please consider allowing us to meet with you to discuss the benefits of such a program. Email advancement@viaservices.org.

Giving Day Matches — Help us to reach our fundraising goals during designated online giving days, like Giving Tuesday. Our general donors are more likely to donate to projects, like new vans to transport our participants to community field trips, when they know that there is a corporate match.

Employee Workdays — Allow your employees to establish long-term connections with Via by volunteering during a workday. This greatly helps our efforts to spread awareness while volunteers directly see the impact they have as they work on designated projects, like painting a building or planting a garden, that would enhance our services for kids and adults.

Join us as a volunteer at any or all of our annual events! Our events are so important as they raise not only funds, but awareness of our programs as well. Volunteers typically assist with event logistics and interact with participants, families, donors, and community members.

How to Get Involved

Letter from the CEO

Via Annual Events

Winter
Via Ball
Black Tie Gala

Spring
Poker Tournament

Summer
Golf Tournament

Fall
Fall Festival Carnival

For more information, please email advancement@viaservices.org or call the Director of Advancement directly at 408-243-7861, ext. 239.