

Please join us on the eve of the conference for this
SUPPORTED LIFE 2009
Pre-Conference Event!



16th Annual INCLUSION CELEBRATION
Dessert Social
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7th, 2009
7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Sacramento DoubleTree Hotel (2001 Point West Way)

*“Inclusion
Rocks”*

In the spirit of the ongoing efforts of Rachel Holland, the 2009 Inclusion Celebration recognizes the following outstanding role models who make a difference for individuals striving to belong to inclusive communities.

**Join us for Coffee, Dessert, and Conversation, and
Hear the inspirational stories of these Honorees:**

CHRIS DEHARO has improved our community. For 2 years, he has included, promoted, & supported his workers as Manager at Build A Bear in Arden Fair Mall in Sacramento. Chris consistently recognizes the spirit & capability of a young employee with disabilities, as she works *not* in the back room, but interacts *directly* with customers in the retail area helping customers design & create the bears they purchase. While it may simply be Chris' nature to fully integrate workers with disabilities, it clearly indicates his abilities as a creative, effective manager.

ELIZABETH ENGLAND, Resource Coordinator for InAlliance's Community Training Program, believes in a person's ability to participate successfully in the community & in the community's ability to respect a person's place within it. Her strengths-based approach to resource development & insistence that community settings be appropriate & successful, have enabled many adults with disabilities to experience community. Liz understands the spirit of inclusion is built on the reciprocity of relationships, the belonging to community, & the diversity of dreams.

FAITH FELLOWSHIP COMMUNITY CHURCH of No. Highlands has employed a young man w/ disabilities as a musician for 8 years. He is an integral member of the band, playing keyboards for the choirs & Praise & Worship team. The church also embraces a young woman w/ disabilities as a member of the sign language ministry. The church believes in both of them, honoring & respecting their abilities, & valuing them as productive members of the music ministry. This also shows the community their strengths as more important than their disabilities.

BOBBIE HANCOCK is Community Support Facilitator for Creative Living Options supported living agency. She supervises staff in homes of individuals w/ disabilities & helps the staff/consumer team build a "life without limits" in their own homes & in own communities just as do their non-disabled peers. Under her mentorship, Bobbie nurtures the vision that consumers, staff, & circle of friends can achieve their goals, given appropriate supports. Her leadership role is defined by dignity for the consumer & a great inclusive spirit.

ROBIN HANSEN, M.D. as Professor of Pediatrics @ UC Davis, Director of Center for Excellence in Dev. Dis., & Director of Clinical Programs @ M.I.N.D. Institute, is a leader in promoting inclusion & family support w/ professionals she works with & families she provides care for. In training behavioral & developmental pediatricians & general medical residents, & in inclusive teams she works with in her state-level advocacy roles on behalf of children w/ disabilities, she role-models parent/professional partnerships as being at the heart of their work with families.

CINDY KOZLOWSKI is the wonderful blend of a caring parent & professional who shares her thoughtful concern for the needs of children, families, and professionals in communities in Santa Clarita, and throughout California. As a leader and trainer with the ExCEL Leadership Program, she has promoted inclusion by facilitating the development of leadership and relationships across all fields of Early Care and Child Education.

SUSAN THOMAS, Program Coordinator for the Infant Care Program at Merced County Office of Education, works passionately & collaboratively to provide innovative & inclusive programs for infants with disabilities & their families. An inspired & tireless agent of change, she is also working with First5 Special Needs Project, UC Merced & the ExCEL Leadership Project to build & improve inclusive opportunities through best practices.

TAMMY TORUM as Executive Director of We Care A Lot Foundation in Redding, oversees innovative peer & self-advocacy projects that focus on prevention of abuse of people w/ dev. disabilities, talking to kids about teasing, & helping people w/ disabilities start their own business. Trained self-advocates are the trainers for the general public, professionals, & peers. Tammy believes all people must be valued as respected, contributing members of their communities. Her work enables a continued leadership role for Far No. Calif. (area 2) in People First & self-advocacy movement.

To Attend:

Send completed registration form (pg. 11) with payment

Sign up early & save!

For more **Forms, Information,**
or **How to become a Sponsor,**
please call **916-567-1974**

**** Take an Additional \$15 off**
when you register for the
Supported Life Conference **

Registration: \$40 per person
(children under 12 may attend for free!)

Take Advantage of our Early-Bird Rate:
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