

# Dialogue

Volume 32 No. 2 Spring 2018



# **Spotlight Award Honorees**

undreds of individuals served by RCOC, their families, service providers and other community members gathered at the Embassy Suites in Garden Grove on Friday, March 2 to honor some truly extraordinary individuals and organizations for their service on behalf of people with developmental disabilities in Orange County. The highly-anticipated dinner-dance event was once again organized by Integrity House, a clubhouse directed by people with disabilities, and supported by corporate sponsors that helped to underwrite the costs and keep ticket prices accessible to the people served by RCOC. Here are brief snapshots of the honorees.

#### **Self-Advocate: Michael**

Through the course of his internship with the Gillman Project SEARCH program at CHOC Children's, Michael demonstrated capabilities on par with those without disabilities. Developing solid professional relationships with his coworkers in the Human Resources department, and continually taking on more duties and responsibilities, he was offered a full-time job with benefits before he was even halfway through the internship! One of the first 10 interns selected for the program, Michael was a leader among his peers, whom he continued



to mentor even after he started fulltime work. During recent visits by legislative staff interested in learning more about Project SEARCH, Michael also took time to share his experiences with the program and to advocate for services to help all adults with disabilities achieve their employment goals.

#### Lifetime Achievement: Debra Marsteller

Currently President and Chief Executive Officer for Project Independence, Debra Marsteller is an advocate, trainer, mentor and enthusiastic supporter of people with developmental disabilities. Throughout her nearly four decades of service, Debra has worked

See Spotlight Award Honorees on page 6.

### **Dialogue**

Dialogue is published four times per year by the Regional Center of Orange County for people with developmental disabilities, their families and service providers. Dialogue can also be read online at RCOC's website: www.rcocdd.com.

Copyright © 2018

Liza Krassner

Hilda Mendez

Peter Kuo



#### **Board of Directors**

Alan Martin, Chair Cliff Amsden, Vice Chair Sylvia Delgado, Secretary John "Chip" Wright, Treasurer Cristina Alba Marcell Bassett Tiffany Bauer Maritza Bravo Amy Jessee

#### **Upcoming Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Board Meetings** June 7

The Board of Directors will adopt its FY 2018-2019 meeting schedule in May. Check the Monthly Calendar on the RCOC website for up-to-date information.

The public is invited to attend RCOC board meetings. The meetings begin at 6 p.m. in the Regional Center Board Room at RCOC's headquarters, located at 1525 North Tustin Avenue in Santa Ana.

#### **RCOC Administration**

Larry Landauer, Executive Director Bette Baber, Chief Financial Officer Christina Petteruto, General Counsel Jerrod Bonner, Information Technology Director

Peter Himber, M.D., Medical Director Bonnie Ivers, Psy.D., Clinical Director Patrick Ruppe, Director of Services,

Supports, and Community Development

Stacy Wong, Interim Director of Human Resources

Patricia Glancy, Intake Manager

Jennifer Montañez, Central Area Manager

Keli Radford, West Area Manager

Arturo Cazares, Associate Director of Employment

Jack Stanton, Associate Director of Housing

Marta Vasquez, Associate Director of Finance

#### **Board Update**

### **Maritza Bravo** Joins RCOC Board

he RCOC Board of Directors appointed Maritza Bravo to serve a one-year term that began in January. Maritza has been a special education instructional aide with the Garden Grove Unified School District for 19 years. It was her own daughter's major medical challenges – which led to extensive hospitalization in a neonatal intensive care unit and brought her into contact with many caring healthcare professionals – that led her to choose a career helping those with disabilities, and to pursue a position on RCOC's Board.



Maritza has been active as a volunteer coach for the Special

Olympics for the past 17 years, is certified in Professional Assault Response Training, and is a trained intervener for deaf/and or blind students. She has also worked for a nonprofit program that provided activities and training for adults with disabilities, and formed a bilingual parent support group that enables her to help families with emotional support and translation as they deal with their children's challenges.

## Thank You to Our Spotlight Awards **Table Sponsors**

n behalf of everyone RCOC serves, we want to express our deep appreciation to the generous sponsors who supported this year's Spotlight Awards. These individuals and organizations, listed below, made it possible to keep ticket prices low. We also want to thank the volunteers and staff at Integrity House, who devoted countless hours organizing the event.

Alan and Sandy Martin BHH Respite Care Services California Mentor

Coyne & Associates

Easter Seals of Southern California

Goodwill of Orange County

**Independent Options** 

**Integrity Cottages** 

MDH Network (Mercedes Diaz Homes)

My Day Counts/Orange County Adult Achievement Center

Westview Services

# **Executive Director's Report**

# Spotlight Awards Evolve with Our Community

By Larry Landauer, Executive Director

n this issue of *Dialogue*, we focus on the outstanding individuals and organizations singled out this year to receive RCOC Spotlight Awards for their service to people with developmental disabilities. Like many of you who have been a part of our community for a long time, I remember our first Spotlight Awards gala back in 1997. The event and honorees in those early years were every bit as inspiring as this year's, but a look at the Spotlight Awards Hall of Fame, which lists all past honorees, also reveals a lot about the wonderful ways our community has evolved since then. (You can find the Spotlight Awards Hall of Fame on the RCOC website, at the bottom of the Spotlight Awards page, under the News & Events tab.)

The Spotlight Awards Hall of Fame, which lists all past honorees, also reveals a lot about the wonderful ways our community has evolved.

One very visible example is that in 2013 we changed the name of the award given to a person RCOC serves, from Consumer to Self Advocate. At the time, this change reflected our desire to use more

person-centered language, but it also foreshadowed RCOC's organization-wide commitment to person-centered thinking and our current efforts to transition to a fully person-centered organization.



Honoring outstanding role models in our service provider community has always been a priority for the Spotlight

Awards, and is another area influenced by our person-centered evolution. When the Awards began, there was no specific recognition for those on the frontlines of services and supports. This changed in 2003 when we inaugurated the Frontline award, demonstrating increased appreciation for the pivotal role that job coaches, personal care attendants, and others have in helping people with developmental disabilities to thrive in workplaces and in their own homes. Reflecting the importance and increased professional standards for those roles, the award later became known as the Direct Support Professional award.

Originally, we also singled out a Living Options Vendor and a Support Services Vendor. However, as all services and supports have become much more personalized to meet the needs of individuals and families, we combined these two categories into a single, more-flexible and inclusive Service Provider category.

Though the Spotlight Awards, themselves, have evolved, they

have always served to recognize outstanding role models in Orange County's developmental disabilities community. This is essential – and not only because work in this sector is emotionally rewarding, but often not financially rewarding in a way that corresponds to its true value.

Just as important, the Spotlight Awards help to pull our community together around a shared set of standards and expectations. Over time, they also help us to lift those standards and expectations ever higher as our knowledge and understanding of people's needs and abilities grows. Nowhere is this more remarkable than in the employment arena, where competitive integrated employment – once the exception – is now viewed as the norm for the adults we serve.

Honoring outstanding role models in our service provider community has always been a priority for the Spotlight Awards.

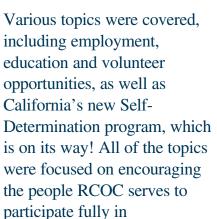
As a former RCOC Service
Coordinator and someone who has been personally acquainted with most of our honorees over the years, it's especially thrilling for me to remember the accomplishments of our Self Advocate honorees. All have been impressive in their own right. Each has built on the work of those who came before them. And, together, they reflect the rich diversity of talents, passions, and abilities that help to make Orange County such a vibrant community.

#### **Person to Person**

### Welcome to **Your Community!**

By Sylvia Delgado, CAC Chair and Jess Corey, RCOC Peer Advocate

ately, the two of us have been talking a lot about selfdetermination. and we're not the only ones. In late January, Integrity House organized RCOC's 5th Annual Self-Determination conference. The theme was "Welcome to Your Community!" and more than 55 adults attended.

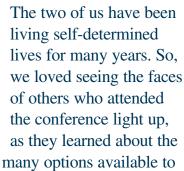


community life. With Fairview Developmental Center closing soon, it's clear that life in the community is the future, and we're both very excited that selfdetermination is a major part of that future.

Our two big takeaways from the conference were that:

1. we all have a right to live in the community and to not be alone or isolated; and

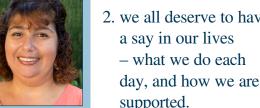
> 2. we all deserve to have a say in our lives - what we do each day, and how we are supported.



them in the community. Having choices is awesome!

We want you to know that you, too, can take control of your life and that you can be as involved in community life as you want

to be. But if you're like Jess was when he was younger, you may not



Sylvia Delgado

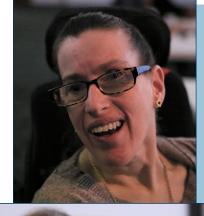


Jess Corev



know exactly how to do it. If you have questions, you may not know who to ask.

Sylvia has some great advice for anyone who is not sure where to start. That is to talk to your RCOC service coordinator – that person is there to help you. But don't stop there. Ask your friends and your service providers. If you attend a church, talk to your church friends about how to get involved in activities that interest you. Sylvia is now involved in a weekly boot camp fitness class she really enjoys, and it all started by simply asking someone about it.





More than 55 adults served by RCOC attended the Conference.

# **Behavior Management Workshops** for Parents

hese workshops are free for parents, and cover essential principles of positive behavior management, with a practical focus on helping parents of children with developmental disabilities change their own behavior and that of their children. Parents are actively involved, and invited to discuss the specific behavioral challenges they are confronting. To gain the most value from the experience, parents are encouraged to attend all sessions in a series. Toilet training the focus of the last session. Advance reservations are required and group size is typically limited to 8-15 families. Contact your service coordinator or Tracy Vaughan at (714) 796-5223 for additional information, and to register.

NOTE: Child care is not provided, so please do not bring children to the workshops.

Presented in English by Advanced Behavioral Health

When: Thursday evenings – Aug. 16, Aug. 23, Aug. 30, Sept. 6 and Sept. 13

**Time:** 6:30 – 9:00 p.m. **Location:** RCOC Cypress Office

10803 Hope Street, Suite A

Presented in Spanish by Footprints

When: Tuesday evenings – Oct. 16, Oct. 23, Oct. 30, Nov. 6 and Nov. 13

**Time:** 6:30 – 9:00 p.m.

Location: RCOC Santa Ana Office

1525 N. Tustin Avenue

Free parking in the structure across from the RCOC office building.

# Moving on at 3...Transition Workshop for Parents

Prepare for the changes that will take place when the child turns three years old and Early Start services end. This support is invaluable to help parents understand the differences between Early Start and the school-based education services children with special needs receive from public school districts from the age of three through age 22. The workshop listed below is offered in English, however, interpreters for other languages can be provided upon request. For more information and to register, contact Patricia Garcia at (714) 558-5400 or pgarcia@rcocdd.com.

NOTE: Child care is not provided, so please do not bring children to the workshop.

**When:** Thursday, July 19 **Time:** 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

**Location:** RCOC Santa Ana Office

1525 N. Tustin Avenue

Free parking in the structure across from the RCOC office building.

# Summer Vacation Tips

hether your family is planning a vacation or a "staycation" where you'll stay closer to home, RCOC offers helpful tips and access to a multitude of resources to help parents keep their children engaged so everyone enjoys the activity or outing.

Simplify Air Travel: Learn ways to make air travel easier for those with special needs, including children with autism and those who use wheelchairs.

**Tips from the TSA:** Download the TSA Disability Notification Card, and find out how to work with the Transportation Security Administration to reduce anxieties about airport security.

RCOC Summer Recreation
Resources Guide: Check out more
than 100 local programs, events and
activities suitable for children with
special needs.

To access these and many other resources, visit the RCOC website at www.rcocdd.com and click on Resources for Children under the Family Support tab, then scroll down to the Recreation link and the Travel link. Or contact your RCOC service coordinator or our Comfort Connection Family Resource Center at (714) 558-5400 or ccfrc@rcocdd.com.



#### Spotlight Award Honorees (continued from page 1)

tirelessly to make Orange
County a better place for
people with disabilities to
live, work and recreate. A
graduate of the University
of Northern Colorado
with a teaching credential
in Special Education, she
earned her Master's in
Education from San Diego
State University. In 2007,
after 26 years leading Vantage



Debra Marsteller

Foundation and building the first integrated work supports for people with complex needs, Debra led the merger of Vantage with Project Independence, combining the strengths of both to bring a full range of community living, employment, learning, social/travel and advocacy services to those served by RCOC. Debra has also contributed her time and expertise to countless RCOC committees, including chairing the Vendor Advisory Committee, and has served on the Board of the Costa Mesa Chamber of Commerce since 2016.

#### Healthcare Professionals: Jan Schott, Suzanne Treacher, and Rebecca Armendariz

The parents who nominated these three healthcare professionals credit them, together, with helping their son make remarkable progress in overcoming developmental delays resulting from a heart defect that brought on cardiac arrest and required open heart surgeries at three weeks and six months of age. When Jan (occupational therapist), Suzanne (physical therapist) and Rebecca (infant educator) of Sunny Days began working with him, the boy had severe delays in every developmental area tested; after less than a year of therapy, he is now delayed in only two areas.



(L-R) Rebecca Armendariz, RCOC Board Chair Alan Martin and Jan Schott

In addition to their son's amazing progress – he's now crawling and standing with support – the parents expressed gratitude for these professionals' caring support and thoughtfulness toward their family.

#### Employer: CHOC Children's

One of the nation's top children's hospitals, CHOC Children's has also demonstrated a commitment to helping adults with developmental disabilities gain the skills and experience necessary to pursue their career dreams. Launched in 2016, the hospital's Gillman Project SEARCH program is an 11-month internship



Kathryn Van Dijk, CHOC Children's Director of Associate Relations

program for up to 10 adults at a time. In addition to its primary goal of providing valuable workplace training in various hospital departments, the program has actually led to three Project SEARCH interns being offered fully-integrated employment at CHOC, where they work alongside typical co-workers and interact with patients and families.

#### Legislative Support: Peggy Collins

During the more than 35 years Peggy Collins served in California state government, she contributed greatly to promoting positive change in the developmental services system. As the senior consultant for the Joint Legislative Budget Committee before her recent retirement, Peggy also worked as consultant to



Catherine Blakemore, Executive Director of Disability Rights California accepted the award for Peggy Collins

the Senate Select Committee on Developmental Disabilities. She helped shepherd through key policies and programs such as the original self-directed services pilot, and also lent support to the expansion of Shannon's Mountain, the affordable mixed-community housing program located on the grounds of Orange County's Fairview Developmental Center.

#### Direct Support Professionals: Jessica Morales and Sandra Martinez

Jessica Morales and Sandra Martinez, who work for the Life Steps Foundation, are more than direct support professionals to the woman with disabilities they serve.



Sandra Martinez (left) and Jessica Morales (right)

They are like family to her and her parents. Their dedication to enhancing this young woman's life has been most evident over the past four years, since she was diagnosed with a stage 4 medical condition. As she underwent three surgeries, 60 radiation treatments, two years of chemotherapy and a multitude of appointments, Sandra and Jessica were, and continue to be, her constant caregivers, cheerful companions, willing supporters, and passionate advocates in the community and with the medical professionals treating her.

#### RCOC Achievement: Keli Radford

The RCOC Achievement award recognizes outstanding performance by an RCOC employee. As West Area Manager, Keli Radford inspires the service coordinators and others who work in



RCOC's Cypress office with Keli Radford her kind, gentle, passionate,

and steadfast leadership. An outstanding role model for person-centered thinking and dedication to the people and families RCOC serves, Keli shows great creativity in finding ways to meet the needs of people with disabilities. A talented and approachable professional, Keli is also known for her ability to put people at ease, even in difficult situations.

#### Family Member: Ray Ceragioli

As president of the Fairview Family and Friends organization, Ray Ceragioli has, for over two decades, been an amazing advocate for his own son and for all of the people served at Fairview Developmental Center. His leadership helped to keep FFF a strong and effective group, with a



Ray Ceragioli (left) with Alan Martin (right)

quarterly newsletter that has kept the group connected, and bimonthly Sunday meetings featuring informative speakers. The closure of Fairview is near, and Ray's leadership and the collaboration he and his executive committee have fostered with RCOC and others have made this developmental center closure the smoothest ever.

#### Service Provider: Project Independence

For more than 40 years, Project Independence has helped people with developmental disabilities in Orange County to build lives of true independence through its top quality supported employment and independent living programs, positive behavioral supports, and community day services. Nominated by the parent of a man who has been served by Project Independence for 30 years, this service provider is equally well-known for its innovative and effective programs, and for its dedicated, caring and hard-working staff.



(L-R) Director of Independent Living and Supported Living Mike Voegele, Associate Director Bob Watson, and Board President Dan Pittman with RCOC Executive Director Larry Landauer

Spotlight Award Honorees (continued on back)



Dialogue Newsletter



**NON-PROFIT** ORGANIZATION U.S. POSTAGE **PAID** SANTA ANA, CA PERMIT NO. 1285

INSIDE
Spotlight Award Honorees1
Board Update2
Thank You to Our Spotlight Table Sponsors2
Executive Director's Report3
Person to Person4
Behavior Management Workshops for Parents5
Moving on at 3Transition Workshop for Parents5
Summer Vacation Tips5

# **Regional Center of Orange County Locations**

Santa Ana Office

1525 N. Tustin Avenue 24-hr Phone: (714) 796-5100 Cypress Office

10803 Hope Street, Suite A 24-hr Phone: (714) 796-2900

Spotlight Award Honorees (continued from page 7)

#### **Community Partner: Down Syndrome Association of Orange County**

The Down Syndrome Association of Orange County was applauded for being a long-time, essential source of information and support for families of children of all ages. It was also recognized for its many programs that improve people's lives, including the annual Buddy Walk to raise awareness and funds, Red Carpet Ball social event, and the drama therapy program that led to two Orange County residents being cast in "Born This Way" — the Emmy Award-winning docu-series that follows the lives of several young adults born with Down syndrome.



(L-R) DSAOC Board Member Kristen Griffin, Executive Director Kellie Perez-Tuchowski, Alex Tuchowski, Nathan Erskine, and Program Director Lauren Sibus



# **Events and Activities in the Vietnamese Community**

Regional Center of Orange County has prepared this insert especially for the individuals and families we serve who are most comfortable communicating in the Vietnamese language. These events, programs and activities are presented in Vietnamese and/or are geared specifically for those in Southern California's Vietnamese community. However, some are not funded or endorsed by RCOC and this information is provided as a courtesy. If you know of other opportunities you would like to share with others in the Vietnamese community, please contact RCOC Cultural Specialist Kaitlynn Truong at (714) 558-5405 or ktruong@rcocdd.com.

### RCOC Vietnamese Staff Hours at Westminster Community Service Center

Orange County Community Service Center Annex 15496 Magnolia Street in Westminster (corner of Magnolia and McFadden)

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. April 3, April 17, May 1, May 15, June 5 and June 19

Contact Kaitlynn Truong, RCOC Cultural Specialist, at (714) 558-5405 or ktruong@rcocdd.com to make an appointment.

Kaitlynn can provide general information in Vietnamese about RCOC eligibility and services, special education, and child development. She can also share information about other social services and benefits your family may be eligible to receive, such as In Home Supportive Services (IHSS), Supplemental Security Income (SSI), and medical care through CalOptima.

#### Mental Wellness Workshop for Vietnamese Families

Hosted by VIETCARE, the topic for these workshops varies each month.

May 26, June 23 and July 28 13950 Milton Avenue, #301 in Westminster

For more information and to RSVP, contact VIETCARE at (949) 208-1050 or vietcare@viet-care.org.

# First Aid and CPR Training

The American Heart
Association leads classes in
Vietnamese, where you can
learn CPR for adults, children
and infants. Classes take place
at the Westminster Community
Service Center, 8200 Westminster
Ave. in Westminster. For
upcoming class dates and to
register, contact Steve Hoa Pham
at mustknowcpr@yahoo.com or
(714) 462-7939.

#### Events at Nhan Hoa Comprehensive Health Clinic

7761 Garden Grove Blvd. in Garden Grove

For more information on the three events below, contact Nhan Hoa Comprehensive Health Care Clinic at (714) 898-8888.

Know Your Rights Immigration Seminar Saturday, May 19 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

**Kids Health Fair** Saturday, June 16 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Women's Support Group Last Thursday of every month at 11:00 a.m.

#### Special Education Basics Workshop: Understanding & Navigating through Special Education

Saturday, May 26 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Center for Autism & Neurodevelopmental Disorders, 2500 Red Hills Avenue in Santa Ana. For more information and to register, contact Kim Dieu at (949) 267-0499 or dieuk@uci.edu.

# RCOC Hosts Well-Attended Workshop for Vietnamese Families

he March 24 workshop hosted by RCOC and Comfort Connection for Vietnamese families at *Nguoi Viet Daily News* drew 65 parents, making it the organization's most successful event ever for the Vietnamese community. Parents who attended learned about Early Start services, Lanterman services, eligibility, and California's new Self Determination program. Feedback was very positive, including one parent who said: "I hope I can attend more RCOC workshops in the future, because these workshops will give me the knowledge so that I can help my son in his life."



Kim Anh Than (left) and Helen Tran (right) spoke at the recent Vietnamese workshop moderated by Kaitlynn Truong (center).

## What is Respite?

If you have a child with special needs, or care for an adult son or daughter who has developmental disabilities, it is very likely you could benefit from respite care through RCOC.

Respite can provide parents or other caregivers with the occasional relief they need, when the person's medical, physical or behavioral needs cannot be met by a regular babysitter. Some families use respite to enable out of town travel, while others may use it to cover overtime work or to simply help them handle family obligations – locally or away from home.

This service may be provided by an individual selected by the parents, who has also met certain criteria. Sometimes it is provided through professional respite agencies that have staff trained to work with children or adults with medical needs or challenging behaviors. Importantly, many RCOC respite service providers employ diverse staff members who are sensitive to cultural differences and fluent in many of the languages spoken in Orange County.

In addition to giving parents the opportunity to rejuvenate and deal with everyday challenges, respite can help a child with special needs to develop independence. It can also provide excellent social and emotional benefits to the child, as he or she gets practice interacting with others and accepting direction from a caregiver other than a parent. For these and many other reasons, respite is a key service that can help children, while also strengthening families and marriages.

If you'd like to learn more about respite, or think you might benefit from these services, be sure to contact your RCOC service coordinator.



## **Events and Activities in the Hispanic Community**

Regional Center of Orange County has prepared this insert especially for the individuals and families we serve who are most comfortable communicating in Spanish. These events, programs and activities are presented in Spanish and/or are geared specifically for those in Southern California's Hispanic community. However, some are not funded or endorsed by RCOC and this information is provided as a courtesy. If you know of other opportunities you would like to share with other Spanish speakers, please contact RCOC Community Outreach Coordinator Reina Hernández at (714) 558-5406 or rhernandez@rcocdd.com.

### What is Respite?

If you have a child with special needs, or care for an adult son or daughter who has developmental disabilities, it is very likely you could benefit from respite care through RCOC.

Respite can provide parents or other caregivers with the occasional relief they need, when the person's medical, physical or behavioral needs cannot be met by a regular babysitter. Some families use respite to enable out of town travel, while others may use it to cover overtime work or to simply help them handle family obligations – locally or away from home.

This service may be provided by an individual selected by the parents, who has also met certain criteria. Sometimes it is provided through professional respite agencies that have staff trained to work with children or adults with medical needs or challenging behaviors. Importantly, many RCOC respite service providers employ diverse staff members who are sensitive to cultural differences and fluent in many of the languages spoken in Orange County.

In addition to giving parents the opportunity to rejuvenate and deal with everyday challenges, respite can help a child with special needs to develop independence. It can also provide excellent social and emotional benefits to the child, as he or she gets practice interacting with others and accepting direction from a caregiver other than a parent. For these and many other reasons, respite is a key service that can help children, while also strengthening families and marriages.

If you'd like to learn more about respite, or think you might benefit from these services, be sure to contact your RCOC service coordinator.

#### **Eureka! Camp**

At this day camp presented by Girls Inc. of Orange County, girls with and without disabilities can participate in fun activities, while also learning about things like robotics, engineering, forensic science, and more. The camp is geared specifically for girls entering seventh through tenth grade. For more information, contact Kathya Torrejon at (714) 597-8616 or ktorrejon@girlsinc-oc.org.

Monday, July 9 to Friday, August 3 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Orange Coast College in Costa Mesa

#### **Deaf Youth Literacy Camp**

Deaf and hard of hearing youth ages 8-14 can join in a variety of fun camp activities, such as arts and crafts, archery and swimming, while making new friends with other deaf and hard of hearing children. For more information and to enroll, contact Nick Roquemore at (619) 550-3435 or dylcamp@dcsofsd.org.

**Sunday, July 8 to Saturday, July 14** Indian Hills Camp 15763 Lyons Valley Road in Jamul

## **Parent Support Groups for Spanish Speakers**

Being part of a parent support group allows you to connect with other parents, who are knowledgeable and experienced. The groups listed below are for Spanish speaking parents in Orange County; they offer a variety of support, allow you to participate in community activities, and perhaps most importantly, they provide a space for you to interact freely with other families. If you know of any other Spanish-speaking support groups, please let us know so we can share their information with others.

Nombre del grupo	Frecuencia de reunión	Contacto(s)	Dirección(es)	Horario
CHADD: TDAH Trastorno por déficit de atención con hiperactividad	El primer sábado del mes; exempto los meses de julio y agosto	Coco Stanback Correo electrónico: chaddenespanol@gmail.com	HEART 4 KIDS CENTER: 145 W. Main Street Tustin, CA 92780 (En el segundo piso)	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Conexiones Educativas	El tercer viernes del mes	Cecilia Mercado: (714) 398-4710 Correo electrónico: Ceci.mercado@yahoo.com	Oficina SCDD: 2000 E. 4th St. #115 Santa Ana CA 92701	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Conexiones Educativas	El ultimo viernes del mes	Cecilia Mercado: (714) 398-4710 Correo electrónico: Ceci.mercado@yahoo.com	River Arena: 201 E. Broadway St. Anaheim CA 92805	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Conexiones Educativas	El segundo viernes del mes	Cecilia Mercado: (714) 398-4710 Correo electrónico: Ceci.mercado@yahoo.com	Misión Basílica: 31520 Camino Capistrano San Juan Capistrano CA 92675	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
De Padre a Padre (FSN)	El tercer jueves del mes	Sara López: (714) 558-1797	CHOC Children's Hospital: 1201 W. LaVeta Ave. Orange CA 92868 (Segundo piso, torre sur – en sala de conferencias C)	6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
Grupo de Autismo Ángeles	El primer sábado del mes	Alexa Hernández: (714) 956-0362 Correo electrónico: Ahernandez@grupodeangeles.org	UCI Medical Center: 101 City Drive S. Orange CA 92868 (En el Auditorio Biblioteca que esta en el segundo piso sala de conferencia 22A-2107)	1:30 p.m.
La Familia (Padres y Amigos de Lesbianas y Homosexuales)	El cuarto sábado del mes	Steve Zamarripa Correo electrónico: decolorsoc@gmail.com	LGBT CENTER: 1605 N. Spurgeon St. Santa Ana CA 92701	2:00 – 5:00 p.m.
PUPA (Padres Unidos por el Autismo)	El segundo viernes del mes	Cesilia Ortiz: (562) 726-6488 Correo electrónico: padresunidosporelautismo08@yahoo.com	Bloom Behavioral Health: 701 W. Kimberly Ave. Placentia CA 92870	6:00 – 7:40 p.m.
Red de apoyo de epilepsia de OC	El segundo viernes del mes	Alexandra Morales: (714) 916-0456 Correo electrónico: amorales@esnoc.org !Necesitas reservar tu espacio para asistir al grupo de apoyo!	CHOC Children's Hospital Centro educativo Harold Wade Edificio 2, 2do piso, Edificio CHOC Oeste 1201 W. La Veta Orange CA 92868	7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Síndrome de Down Grupo de Apoyo para padres	El primer jueves del mes	Alicia Sánchez: (714) 540-5794	DSAOC: 151 Kalmus Dr M-5 Costa Mesa, CA 92626	7:00 – 9:00 p.m.