

### Keep the Promise made to Californian's with Developmental Disabilities!

What is a developmental disability?

A Developmental disability consists of a group of conditions that are due to mental and/or physical impairments. Conditions such as Cerebral Palsy, Autism, ect., can create a substantial amount of restrictions in several areas of an individual's life.

To decrease their limitations and to help them reach their highest level of independence, the Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act was passed in 1969. The Lanterman Act clearly states, people with developmental disabilities and their families have the *right* to get the services and support they need to live their lives as productive and independent as possible.



*LSF SoCal Adult Services Participates in a Candlelight Vigil in support for an Increase in the Developmental Services Budget!*

Currently, many California Developmental Services programs are on the brink of collapse. The budget cut/erosion continue to threaten the *rights* put in place to protect these people. Community-based programs direly need a 10% increase to stop the current system collapse. We are currently seeing the consequences of underfunding the California Developmental Services System. We have an obligation to advocate for the promise made in 1969: *you have the same rights as any other person.*

Please join Life Steps Foundation in our advocacy efforts for our services to be properly funded and our clients with developmental disabilities be served as promised! For more information visit our webpage, [lifesteps.org](http://lifesteps.org) or our Facebook page, [facebook.com/lifestepsfoundation](https://www.facebook.com/lifestepsfoundation).

### Life Steps Foundation Children and Family Services Invites you to our 5th Annual Fall Auction and Lobster Feed

On Saturday, September 12th, LSF CAFS will be hosting our 5th Annual Fall Auction and Lobster Feed

You can purchase your tickets today by going to [www.lifesteps.org/cafs-5th-annual-fall-auction-and-lobster-feed/](http://www.lifesteps.org/cafs-5th-annual-fall-auction-and-lobster-feed/)

Or email [cafsfundraising@lifestepsfoundation.org](mailto:cafsfundraising@lifestepsfoundation.org)  
Call us today at (650)777-9182 today!



**Frontline Q & A**  
**"In Step" Interviews CEO of**  
**Life Steps Foundation, Inc.**  
**Virginia Franco, MA**



**Q: How do you see Life Steps changing in two years, and how do you see yourself creating that change?**

**A:** Our next strategic planning cycle, 2016-2018 LSF will focus on the basic tenets of our Self-Sufficiency model: expansion, diversification, transparency and sustainability. After seven years of its launch (2009) we need to carefully evaluate the gains as well as the goals still waiting for deployment, e.g. micro enterprises and diversification of services and products we can offer to the community. That is the reason for our mantra for the next three years- **BACK TO BASICS!**

**Q: Any upcoming events or projects?**

**A:** A major project for this upcoming year is the revamping of the Governance Board to maximize its role and presence as an effective representative of LSF to the public. Although we have been serving the community for over thirty years we are not as well known to the community at large as we need to be in order to build a strong supporters base. The initiative, which has started this year, aims at strengthening the commitment and passion in tandem with our mantra of getting back to basics.

**Q: What excites you the most about LSF work?**

**A:** The sense of purpose, which has been there from day one as our workforce is deeply committed to the individuals we serve. The unlimited well of creativity used by our workforce in handling the severe limitations of money and resources; the fearless approach to challenges and changes in our mission to help individuals increase their self-sufficiency skills and live with dignity in the community of their choice.

**Q: What is your opinion on the FY 2016 State budget concerning the D.D services?**

**A:** The FY 2016 budget is a big disappointment as it failed once again to address the destruction of services under the Lanterman Act. The developmentally disabled community of providers and regional centers have suffered successive budget cuts over the past ten years and the erosion on the rates is severely impacting the quality of services, jeopardizing the safety and health of over 200 thousand individuals receiving services.

**LSF Social Dynamics Hits the San Mateo County Fair**

On Tuesday, June 9th, LSF Social Dynamics went to the San Mateo County Fair! It has become a tradition to do so every year. Our clients had fun to say the least. With a large list of entertainers, the participants got to taste a little bit of rock 'n roll and world-class drumming. The carnival also had a great selection of rides like, the Merry Go Round, a giant slide, a giant ferris wheel and many more. The participants also enjoyed petting different animals and seeing a pig race. Our participants and staff will definitely be going back next year and the year after that. The fun awaits!



**Stay Tuned!**  
**Life Steps Foundation is Launching a New Website**

We are excited to share the news with you: Life Steps will be launching a new and improved website in August 2015. This new website will feature client stories/pictures, news and upcoming events, newsletters, employment opportunities, client and supporter resources and much, much more!

Please visit our website and sign-up for our newsletter. We would love to hear from you! For additional information, please contact the Development Department at LSF Corporate Office at Tel: (310) 491-9010.



**LSF's Volunteer Spotlight!**  
**SMWC Senior Volunteer Wins Top Country Award**

On Tuesday, May 26th, 2015 Patt Fitch was awarded the title of "Senior of the Year" for Santa Barbara County. A senior Citizen's award tea with dessert bar was held in Santa Ynez Valley Marriott Hotel in Buellton, California and was attended by representatives from various SB agencies involved in the servicing of area Seniors. Nominees for the award were present with a representative from the agency that had nominated them. Nominees won for various categories with Patt taking the top award.



Patt is a participant in the Senior Companion Program, a part of Senior Corps administered by the Corporation for National and Community Service. She has given SMWC the gift of her devoted service for over 6 years now. Linda Gadbois, Program Director, and her staff unanimously chose Patt as a nominee due to her outstanding volunteer/work ethic, unflagging patience, buoyant attitude, and loving interaction with SMWC Participants. She imbues a level of dignity and empathy in her care and communication with the elderly that is rare indeed.



Patt was awarded a plaque and certificate from the Central Coast Commission for Senior Citizens, Area Agency on Aging as well as certificates from the City of Santa Barbara, the State of California Senate, and the U.S Congress. Needless to say, she was overwhelmed with the awards and we are bursting with pride as concerns her big win. We are very blessed to have not only Patt, but various other volunteers from the Senior Companion Program, involved in our program. They are well loved and appreciated by both Participants and Staff.

Congratulations Patt, on this well deserved award and recognition!

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[Pinterest.com/LifeSteps](https://www.pinterest.com/LifeSteps)  
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**Life Steps Local Community Events**  
**2015 Upcoming Events**

**LSF CAFS SoCal  
Reach our Dreams**

**Opening of our new  
LSF SMWC Site**

**LSF SoCal Adult  
Services-Special  
World Olymics**

**LSF CAFS Northern  
California  
Fall Auction**



5839 Green Valley Circle, Suite 204, Culver City, CA 90230

**STEPPING UP FOR CALIFORNIANS OF  
ALL AGES WHO LIVE WITH  
DISABILITIES**

From time to time, all of us need help taking some of the more challenging steps in life. At Life Steps, we help those with the greatest challenges by giving them training, skills and confidence to achieve greater independence and realize their personal potentials. In today's economy, your support is more urgent than ever.

Please consider joining our Life Steps Community with a donation. Visit [www.LifeSteps.org](http://www.LifeSteps.org) and click the "Donate" button today! Your name will be recognized on our Life Changers list of donors. Thank you for your support!

**LIFE STEPS FOUNDATION, INC.  
LSF GROUP LOCATIONS**

**Life Steps Foundation (Corporate)**

5839 Green Valley Circle, Suite 204  
Culver City, CA 90230  
310-410-8190

**LSF Southern California Adult Services**

**(Affiliate)**

500 E. 4th Street  
Long Beach, CA 90802  
562-366-7131

**LSF Central California Adult Services**

**(Affiliate)**

1431 Pomeroy Road  
Arroyo Grande, CA 93420  
805-549-0150

**LSF Santa Maria Wisdom Center**

**(Business Unit)**

1414 N. Broadway, Suite A  
Santa Maria, CA 93454  
805-354-5320

**LSF Northern California Adult Services**

**(Business Unit)**

828 C. Mahler Road  
Burlingame, CA 94010  
650-259-1808

**LSF Children and Family Services  
(Affiliate)**

1930 Brea Canyon Road, Suite 265  
Diamond Bar, CA 91765  
562-699-4991

401 Santa Lucia Avenue  
Millbrae, CA 94030  
650-777-9182

632 West Avenue, H-8  
Lancaster, CA 93534  
661-266-0756



**OUR MISSION**

Life Steps Foundation, Inc. is a fiscally responsible, culturally competent organization dedicated to meeting the health, psychological, and socioeconomic challenges of people throughout their life span. The individuals we serve are impacted by cognitive, developmental or physical disabilities.