

**“Bibbidi Bobbidi Boo” said the *sun* Fairy Godmothers
The Santa Maria Sun Newspaper Publishes LSF Santa Maria Wisdom Centers’ Wish List**

Life Steps Foundation Inc., the Santa Maria Wisdom Center was featured in the Santa Maria Sun Newspaper. With a flick of a wand, the *sun* fairy godmothers would like to aid nonprofits throughout the city of Santa Maria. Some of the nonprofits that participated in the Suns Wish List article were The Foodbank of Santa Barbara County, Good Samaritan Shelter, Santa Maria Arts Council, The Santa Maria Wisdom Center, etc.

Opened in 1998, the Life Steps Foundation’s, Santa Maria Wisdom Center is an Adult Day Health Care center based program dedicated to serving the needs of the frail elderly in the Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties. Linda Gadbois, program director explains, “the facility provides much needed respite and the daily supervised care necessary for family caregivers to continue to work and function normally.”



The Santa Maria Wisdom Center is licensed to service a daily maximum of 55 participants. Currently, Life Steps is undergoing the construction of a larger facility to house the Santa Maria Wisdom Center which is scheduled to open this upcoming summer. This new development is critical due to the Santa Maria Wisdom Center being the only licensed ADHC in the Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties. With this new development in mind, Life Steps Foundation is in need of items and appliances.

LSF Santa Maria Wish List:

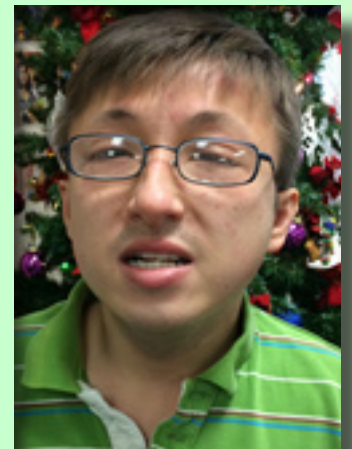
- A dependable, fuel-efficient vehicle for delivery of meals to homebound area seniors.
- Landscaping services, planting, and ornamental items.
- New commercial-grade appliances: refrigerators, freezers, a range, mobile cabinet warmers, a microwave, a dishwasher, coffee makers, mixers, etc.
- New durable, restaurant-quality tableware and flatware to service 120 people.
- New heavy-duty, outdoor furniture suitable for disabled\handicapped individuals.
- New large, commercial-grade gas barbecue grill to service 55 to 110 people.
- Office furniture to furnish six offices.

Congratulation, J.U.!

Our LSF Social Dynamics Star of the Month

“This year marks J.U. 6 years at the LSF Social Dynamics Day Program. J.U. is fully ambulatory and is able to communicate his wants and needs verbally. He is also capable of holding a conversation with others.” said Stephen Victoriano, Program Manager/ Administrator, LSF Northern California Adult Services- Social Dynamics Program. The Social Dynamics program is a day center for adults with developmental disabilities and behavioral challenges.

Mr. Victoriano states, “J.U. is constantly moving about with high levels of energy and appears restless most of the day. He is able to complete tasks with prompting by his educator. J.U. is friendly and greatly enjoys socializing with staff and peers.” J.U. loves spending his time out in the community with his group while taking walks around the neighborhood, traveling to local parks, the beach, etc. Mr. Victoriano states, “Overall, it has been a good year for J.U. and his educator is exploring better ways to further engage J.U.” We applaud you Mr. J.U!



Frontline Q & A "In Step" Interviews Board President Sue Horowitz



Q: How did you get involved with Life Steps Foundation?

A: I became involved with Life Steps in 1996. I began my relationship with LSF as a service vendor for the office sites. Eventually, Life Steps Foundation, Inc., CEO Virginia Franco extended an invitation for me to join the Board of Directors. In 2012, the Board of Directors named me Board President after Dr. Haile stepped down.

Q: What results does your organization achieve?

A: Life Steps helps people of all ages with physical, emotional, developmental and economic challenges. Our main goal is to maximize our client's independence to their fullest potential and for as long as possible. We strive to help them recognize their full capability and self-worth.

Q: How do you see Life Steps progressing in the next 3 to 5 years?

A: Life Steps Foundation, Inc. was founded 32 years ago. Currently, our goal and direction is to gain recognition throughout California, specifically in the communities we serve. Now that our self-sufficiency plan has been in place for 7 years, it has had time to be implemented to its fullest potential to see it take full force.

LSF would also like to bring in other affiliates to collaborate with the organization. We encourage our affiliates to serve more individuals and to continue to create strong programs. It is vital for us to serve people throughout their life span and to do so, we need to create additional programs like LSF CAFS, our Children and Family Services program and our elderly programs in SMWC. We need to focus on creating more programs for our middle age group.

Q: What are the most important decisions you make as a leader for your organization?

A: My role as Board President is not necessarily to make decisions but rather to act as a facilitator to make the board come to a consensus to benefit the organization. It is important to bring together the appropriate members to the board who are like minded to service our target population for the sake of our clients.

For additional information, contact the
Development Department at Life Steps Foundation
Corporate Office tel: (310) 491-9010.

LSF SANTA MARIA WISDOM CENTER PARTICIPATES IN A CHRISTMAS PRESENT GIVEAWAY!



This past Christmas was highlighted with an extravagant gesture of the heart by the daughter of one of our LSF SMWC participants. Janice Lemere, daughter of Jim Morgan, worked in tandem with our Social Services Department- Carolyn Beasley, MSW and Cynthia Navarro, BSW- to create Christmas wish lists for each of our SMWC participants. As a result, Ms. Lemere turned these wish lists over to individuals from bible study groups at her church and family friends who each chose a list and purchased those individualized items. A steady stream of beautifully wrapped gifts were brought to the Wisdom Center over a period of two weeks. Each of our Participants received two personalized gifts from their prepared lists!

Imagine their surprise when Santa, played by Ken Norberg Jr., son of a former Participant at the Center showed up on December 22nd to deliver gifts. Many of our seniors remarked that they had never had so many holiday gifts. To top it off, the Santa Maria Lions's Club donated their annual gift bags and Altrusa, brought their annual Christmas stockings. These too added to the holiday cheer, making this a truly memorable Christmas!



Help Us Meet the Unmet Needs of People with Disabilities in California

More than **12,500 Californians** per year receive high quality in-home and center-based services through the Life Steps Foundation and Life Steps Group Affiliates.

LIFE STEPS FOUNDATION CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES RECEIVES A PROCLAMATION FROM CITY OF MILLBRAE

On Tuesday, October 28, 2014, Cynthia Fong-Wan, our LSF Children and Family Services Program Director in Northern California, had the privilege to accept a proclamation from the City of Millbrae celebrating LSF Children and Family Services, Northern California Day, commending the work they do with children under five years old.

Life Steps Foundation Children and Family Services, serves children with special needs under 5 in Diamond Bar, Millbrae, Lancaster and the San Gabriel Valley. For more than 31 years, Children and Family Services has been providing early intervention services to infants and toddlers who have developmental delays or are at risk for delays. LSF CAFS provides infants and toddlers one-on-one intervention sessions at home and in-group settings. We also provide parents

with the proper tools to support their child's developmental challenges and to become expert advocates in their care.



Cynthia Fong-Wang (Program Director, CAFS Northern California) & Wayne Lee (Mayor of Millbrae)



LSF SoCal Adult Services October Campaign

Every October Life Steps SoCal Adult Services in Long Beach hosts its annual campaign activities which lead up to our Holiday Giving Letters.

Throughout October, we walk our Long Beach neighborhood talking and giving our flyers to our neighbors about our programs and what will be happening within the month.

At the end of October, zombies and ghost roam the halls of our center. Our Haunted House is such an over the top activity involving staff, clients, family members and Regional Centers. Kristine Engels, LSF SoCal Adult Services CEO states, "It takes a whole week to set up because the whole office area is decorated in different themes. All the office staff decorated their own offices plus hallways and the route thru the offices is very scary." Many clients and visitors are very brave! We host a party in the Seaside Learning Center for everyone who goes through the Haunted House.



Life Steps' Local Community Events 2015 Upcoming Events

LSF CAFS Whittier Wine Tasting	Opening of our new LSF SMWC
LSF CAFS Lancaster Fair	LSF CAFS Northern California Silent Auction

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Twitter.com/LSFgroup





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 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
805-242-8147



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.