

Summer 2019

# SPOTLIGHT



## Donor Spotlight: The Griffiths

Rhonda was a helper. She volunteered in the classroom with her mother who taught preschoolers for many years. She awaited the mailman daily and greeted him with enthusiasm. She cheerfully shared duties to make her home a clean and happy place to live. She loved the Safari Park, where it was as if Animal Planet on television came to life. Birds were her favorite animal and she was very nurturing toward her pet parakeet.

Unfortunately, Rhonda's signs of developmental and intellectual delay were overlooked until much later in her childhood. Today, parents and caregivers are detecting signs of delay much sooner, and programs like The Arc of San Diego's Early Intervention Services are giving children from birth to three years old a far stronger chance of being placed into mainstream classrooms and not needing continued support. While Rhonda did not receive services from The Arc of San Diego during her lifetime, her guardians Don & Margaret



(Pete) Griffith were certain that her estate should positively impact the community served by The Arc of San Diego. That is why they decided to make an incredible gift of \$250,000 to support renovations at The Sol and Ruth Gerber Family Center.

In honor of this generous support, the building at The Sol and Ruth Gerber Family Center where our Early Intervention Services are provided will be named The Bayne Family Child Development Center. This felt like the right decision for her guardians to make after reminiscing on the special experience Rhonda had as a helper in her mother's classroom for many years. Even 30 years later, Rhonda still received holiday cards from the same preschool.

The Arc of San Diego is honored to be the recipient of such a generous gift and recognizes how special it is for The Griffiths to have the confidence they do in our life-enhancing programs and services. Thanks to their gift, Rhonda Bayne's generous spirit and legacy will live on.





## President's Message

Dear Friends,

This year The Arc of San Diego saw many new changes and opportunities. We saw new projects begin, old projects come close to completion, and our services continue to support and empower people with disabilities to achieve their life goals. I am proud of what we have accomplished in such a short period during my tenure. Our vocational training and job placement services have expanded and we have restructured our Employment Services. This has allowed us to encompass a wider range of industries which has connected even more individuals with employers throughout the community. We have completed the Copley Foundation Challenge Grant and our **Building for Self-Sufficiency** Capital Campaign to support critical renovations to The Sol and Ruth Gerber Center in Chula Vista. We are also close to the completion of Our Place Café at North Shores Vocational Center, which will provide commercial food service training to our clients as well as serve breakfast and lunch to the general public. In addition, Our Place Wellness Program has expanded to two locations as an increased number of individuals discover the positive benefits of yoga, art therapy, fitness, Zumba, healthy cooking and music. The Arc of San Diego remains committed to building futures, empowering lives and providing the highest standard of support for the community we serve. I look forward to future growth for our organization and thank our clients, staff, volunteers, stakeholders, donors, and friends for their tireless work to ensure all members of our community, regardless of ability, live the most independent and fulfilling lives possible.

Anthony J. DeSalis, Esq.  
President & CEO

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# Introductions

## Getting to Know...



### Jasmin Lucy Chief Human Resources Officer

Jasmin Lucy serves as the Chief Human Resources Officer for The Arc of San Diego, providing day-to-day strategic and operational leadership on all people-related matters. Prior to joining The Arc, she served as Director of People, Learning + Culture for PIRCH, Inc., and held human resources leadership roles for Daimler and UC San Diego Health.

Jasmin is a dynamic, creative, and nimble leader with a keen eye for business, culture, technology, and talent. A collaborative problem-solver and skilled communicator, she is passionate about inspiring collaboration and leading teams to achieve higher levels of success. She believes diversity of thought improves the lives of everyone and uses her expertise in executive coaching, leadership development, talent and change management to add value to the organizations she serves.

Jasmin's Master's in International Business and Cultural Studies, certificates in Executive Coaching and Human Resources Management, and more than 15 years of practical experience give her the resources needed to understand operations as a trusted business partner and driver of strategic growth.



### Matt Mouer Vice President of Operations & Chief Operations Officer

Matt Mouer was appointed to the Vice President of Operations & COO position in September 2018. Prior to this appointment, Matt served as the Director of Arc Community Employment Services since 2007 where he oversaw all aspects of a department serving 375 people with disabilities. Prior to that, Matt held the position of Assistant Director of ACES, Individual Placement Coordinator, and Individual Placement Supervising Case Manager.

Matt is an innovative non-profit professional experienced in achieving mission-driven results while ensuring fiscal and organizational stability. He is a proven change leader with experience in creating new programs and expanding existing lines of business. He has over 14 years of experience in contract management and negotiation including federal, state, local and commercial contracts valued at more than \$60 million.

Prior to joining The Arc, Matt was employed with Kidspeace National Hospital, an acute care adolescent psychiatric hospital. Mr. Mouer received his Bachelor of Science in Psychology (Magna Cum Laude) from The University of Maryland, where he received many academic accolades.

# The Speakeasy Gala: All That Jazz



The 2019 Speakeasy Gala transported guests back in time to the Roaring Twenties at The U.S. Grant Hotel, a historic landmark in downtown San Diego. The 20s-themed gala was attended by more than 250 of San Diego's generous citizens whose contributions directly benefited children and adults with disabilities receiving services from The Arc of San Diego. In total, close to \$80,000 in proceeds were raised from the event.

A cocktail reception enchanted guests as they perused The Speakeasy Gala's tantalizing silent auction while Prohibition Era officers patrolled the crowd. After a fine display of generous bidding, guests were given a secret passcode to enter The Speakeasy Gala's main ballroom. Carlo Cecchetto, CBS News 8 Anchor, was the Master of Ceremonies and entertained all in attendance. The live auction boasted alluring experiences including a trip for 10 to Las Gaviotas Resort in Baja California with wine tasting in Valle de Guadalupe.

The auction was followed by a meal that pleased every craving, followed by an inviting buffet of desserts. Once dinner concluded, guests

were entertained by Wayne Foster Music & Entertainment, who inspired a night filled with dancing and good will. Such revelry was outmatched only by the opening performance to "All that Jazz" by Alanna Roberson, a client at The Arc of San Diego.

Thanks to our supporters, we will be able to make a difference in the lives of more than 2,000 children and adults who would otherwise not have access to the services they need to thrive and be visible, engaged, and contributing members of our community.

Funds raised helped us reach our Copley Foundation Challenge Grant and complete our **Building for Self Sufficiency** Capital Campaign, to support the renovation of The Sol and Ruth Gerber Family Center, a landmark of inclusivity in South Bay. This effort would not have been possible without the dedication from our staff, volunteers, and Gala Chair Linda Kurtin. The Arc of San Diego was fortunate to have the support of over 25 sponsors including; U.S. Bank, Alliant, Anthem, Higgs Fletcher & Mack, Rich and Gaby Sulpizio, and Procopio.



# We Completed Our Copley Foundation Challenge Grant!

The Arc of San Diego is proud to announce that it has met its goal for the David C. Copley Foundation Challenge Grant. Funds raised will assist with completing a \$4.5 million goal to finish renovations at The Sol and Ruth Gerber Family Center in Chula Vista. The Sol and Ruth Gerber Family Center serves over 300 children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Over 185 adults participate in the day program which focuses on increasing independence, developing social skills, strengthening vocational skills, and participating in wellness activities. Approximately 65 people with disabilities earn a paycheck through their work at the center in our vocational training program. Additionally, 50 children with developmental delays or those at risk for delay participate in high quality early intervention services at this center.

Last year, The Copley Foundation generously committed a challenge grant of \$225,000 – provided that The Arc was able to raise \$450,000 in one year. All donations made to The Arc for the capital campaign during this time period would be matched by The Copley Foundation.

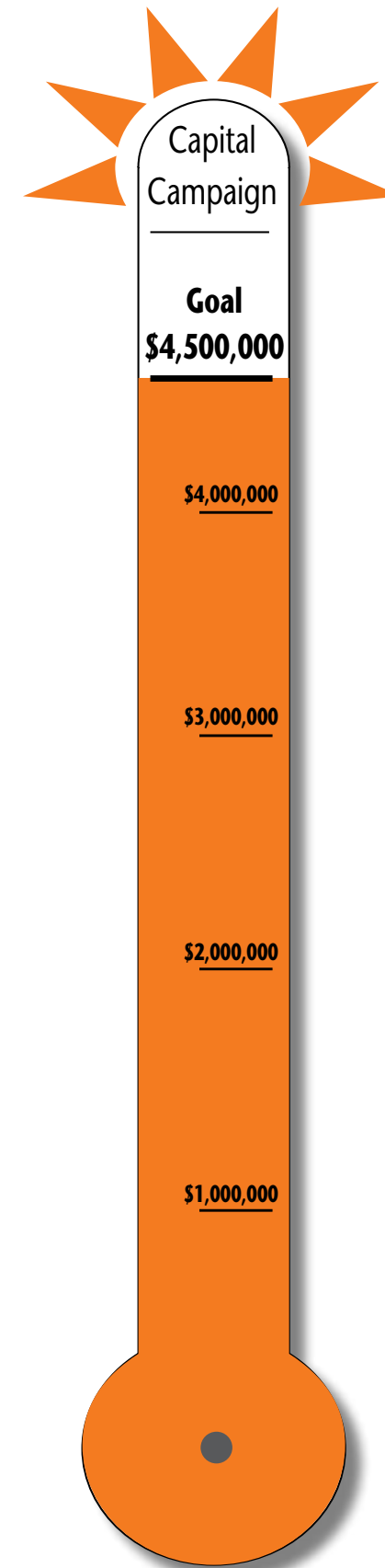
“The excitement of receiving a challenge grant from the David C. Copley Foundation brought much enthusiasm to our agency,” said Jennifer Bates Navarra, Vice President of Marketing and Development. “This challenge grant has been a catalyst to encourage new donors throughout the community to support our campaign.”

For Vanessa Yee, the mother of two Arc clients, the funding is crucial for children with disabilities, like her son Ezekiel. She is grateful for support from The Arc of San Diego in helping Ezekiel to develop his speech and strengthen motor skills. His younger sister, Leilani, also benefited from The Arc’s services. Because of the impact of Early Intervention Services, both children are now students in mainstream classrooms.

“The Arc of San Diego creates a thriving environment for children and adults of all abilities to connect, learn & participate meaningfully,” Vanessa said.

In December 2018, The Arc made exciting progress in raising funds for the match challenge when it received a \$250,000 gift from Mr. and Mrs. Donald Griffith for the naming of the Child Development Center at the site. This center will be named The Bayne Family Child Development Center in honor of this gift. Additionally, The Arc received grants from The Hervey Family Fund at The San Diego Foundation, the Stephen & Mary Birch Foundation, and The Parker Foundation.

The funds raised will assist with renovations at The Sol and Ruth Gerber Family Center and assist our organization with providing critical services that ensure every member of our community thrives for many generations to come. We thank The Copley Foundation for their generosity for assisting with this goal and helping us to complete our capital campaign!



**WE DID IT!**

# Thank You to Our Donors

The Arc of San Diego greatly appreciates the assistance we receive to help us enhance the services we provide to children and adults with disabilities. We are grateful for your support and commitment to improving their quality of life. Gifts listed were received between January 1, 2019 and May 17, 2019. Thank you to all of our wonderful supporters!

Thank you to **The Melvin Garb Foundation** for their generous support in creating Mel’s Kitchen at Our Place Café. This kitchen will provide vocational training opportunities for our clients as they prepare healthy meals.

We are grateful for a grant from the **Kuehler-Chappel Family Fund at the Rancho Santa Fe Foundation** to support programs and services at Arc North County.

Many thanks to **Las Patronas** for their support of a grant to support fitness equipment for clients at the Sulpizio Family Center.

Congratulations to the **Knights of Columbus** for their successful Tootsie Roll Drive. We greatly appreciate their contributions to our organization. Thank you to **Knights of Columbus #9022 – St. Elizabeth Seaton & Knights of Columbus #6979 – St. Mark’s** for their donation to support Arc North County and **Knights of Columbus #7903** for their gift to The Sol and Ruth Gerber Family Center.

We greatly appreciate the generous support from **Hervey Family Non-Endowment Fund at The San Diego Foundation** for a generous gift to support our Building for Self-Sufficiency Capital Campaign for renovations at The Sol and Ruth Gerber Family Center.

## Tribute Gifts

**In Memory of Stephen Collazo**  
Thomas & Debra Collazo

**In Memory of Lisa Hindemith**  
Jesse Hindemith

**In Memory of Mary Jordan**  
Claudia Haines

**In Honor of Beloved Baby Brother**  
Shoop Choobi

**In Honor of Frances Iraci**  
Eric E. Hill

**In Honor of Shirley “Grammish” Jennings**  
Jasmine Smith

**In Honor of Alison M. Koerber**  
James & Rita Koerber

**In Honor of Jon & Linda Kurtin**  
Alan & Nancy Spector

**In Honor of John Vaughn**  
Jill Schultz

## The Arc of San Diego

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## Living Life to Its Fullest

The Arc of San Diego supports children and adults with  
disabilities to help them reach their fullest potential!



Read about our clients' personal journeys and how The Arc of San Diego empowers them to achieve their life's goals in our first ever publication! Learn how The Arc of San Diego provides a continuum of support that allows individuals to live as independently as possible, and learn how you can make an impact in your community by getting involved today! Read it online at [www.arc-sd.com/livinglife](http://www.arc-sd.com/livinglife)