



Reaching For the Stars

A Monthly Newsletter from Training Toward Self Reliance, Inc.

The Nightmare Before Christmas

Thanks to our generous donors, we were able to give our clients a Nightmare Before Christmas themed party!

Part of the donations we received from the Big Day of Giving was used to buy food and decorations for the party.

Upon arriving, our clients and their guest were able to take a picture with our very own Jack Skellington (Jeff Kurtz) in our graveyard lobby.

They were then escorted by staff down the holiday forest, arriving last at the Christmas door.

When they entered through the door, they were seated at the banquet hall and served pumpkin soup, bread and salad to begin. For the entrée, our clients were served pasta. Finally, for dessert, there were worms with dirt and a cookie in the image of Jack Skellington, himself! We also had Zero's Hot

Cocoa Hut where our guests were able to get hot cocoa with their choice of marshmallows!



received from the Big Day of Giving.

Each client and their guest also received a crocheted hat made by Amanda Kurtz and Rabekah Amey.

A huge thanks to all our donors that helped us make the party possible, especially our Big Day of Giving donors and Terri Davis.

A huge thanks also to our staff and board members who donated their time and talent: Jeff Kurtz, Angela Vela, Michael Schave, Dezzi Lyn,

After dinner, we played several games and awarded the winners prizes. Most of the prizes were donated by Terri Davis and some were bought using some of the donations we

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Cynthia Reed, Savannah Barber, Betty Mitchell, Leia Schenk, Elaine Lindsey, and Vickie Jozefiak.

The party was hosted by Rabekah Amey, Rouselle Ekwall, Katie Knittel, Amanda Kurtz and Janet Samulewski.



The photo booth



Waiting for dinner



The game prizes



In line for Zero's Hot Cocoa Booth



Playing to Win



Smiling for the camera



Handing out crocheted hats



The worms in the snow-covered dirt



Aleks wins a prize



New Year/New CASS Classes

As the New Year arrives, so do the new CASS classes. This time around CASS is offering classes such as Sign Language, Music & TV History, Art Projects, Natural Disasters, Women's Health Beauty School, Wrestling History, Amazing Science, the I'm a Winner Class, and Sewing/Crocheting.

Of course, we still partnered up with the Sacramento Public Library and offer our literacy classes every Tuesday and Thursday. Because of the new classes,

new class supplies such as crochet hooks, water color, canvases, notebooks, and writing utensils were purchased with some of the Big Day of Giving donations.

Another part of the Big Day of Giving donations were used to fix our van. Multiple door handles were fixed so that they were functional again and the inside door panels of several doors were also fixed as they were no longer attached. With the doors functioning again, our classes are, once again, able to go out

into the community.

Our Monday, Wednesday, and Friday classes change every four months so there will be new/different class this coming May.

Program is held Monday through Friday, 10 A.M. to 3 P.M.

If you or someone you know is interested in joining our day program, please give us a call at (916) 442-8877 to find out if there are openings.

Old Names, New Positions

Congratulations to three of our management team for their new positions!

Angela Vela is now the ILS/Parenting Coordinator. For more information about our ILS and Parenting One-on-One programs, please give Angela a call at extension 3107.

Dan Pinkston is now the CASS Coordinator. For more information about our CASS program, please give Dan a call at extension 3202.

Finally, Ashley Vicens is now our Billing Coordinator.

BIG
DAY OF
GIVING **MAY 3**



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