

## vision.

Children with disabilities experiencing life without limitations.

## mission.

To help children with developmental disabilities reach their full potential, improve the quality of life for their families, and foster an attitude of acceptance and inclusion.

## values.

- Results-oriented
- Responsible stewards
- Family-focused
- Caring
- Responsive

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**56 years of serving and making a difference in Orange County.**

*"...he is now exploring places and things at home... he is more independent..."*



Michael is an adorable, smiling, 29-month-old child with Down syndrome. He has been receiving therapy since very early on, though not always with the best success, and his parents became concerned. Michael seemed as though he wasn't enjoying his therapy time. They saw only minimal progress and discussed the possibility of trying out new therapy services, even for a week, just to see some improvement. Like so many other parents, they didn't want to "waste time" if the services weren't going to meet Michael's needs. Michael came to his

first appointment at UCP-OC where he met with Susan, his physical therapist and Myra, his occupational therapist.

After his first appointment, Michael's mother called his service coordinator and said they didn't need to look any further. They had found the therapists and the facility they were looking for. *"We can speak freely and learn more about Michael's condition, we can do things at home too... people here are friendly."*

When Michael first started his therapy at UCP-OC, he moved himself around by crawling on his stomach and didn't use his hands to explore toys very much. He showed little interest in his environment and did not focus for very long on any toy or activity. In the four months since then, he has made tremendous progress and blossomed in many ways. He now scrambles along on his hands and knees at the speed of light to investigate everyone and everything. He can easily pull himself to a standing position and has just developed the ability to stand for a few seconds by himself. He is almost able to stand up from the floor completely by himself without holding onto anything. He walks with two hands held, is beginning to walk well with one hand held, and has even taken his first step without any support!

Michael no longer spills liquid out of the side of his mouth. He holds his own cup and can bring it to his mouth; both of which are new skills for him. He enjoys sitting down with his brother to do his own "homework," where he practices holding a crayon which he is learning in therapy. Michael has matured into a toddler who now tries over and over again to accomplish things as independently as he can!



According to Michael's parents, "he is climbing up onto the sofa, getting into cupboards to investigate all of the interesting things hidden inside, even creeping in and out of them when he can!"

(Continued on page 3)

# What's New at UCP . . .



## New Parenting Classes

We've recently added valuable and informative classes that will give parents the tools necessary to help you raise your child with special needs.

Classes include: *Parenting the Behaviorally-Challenging Child*, *COPEing with Toddler Behavior*, and *Let's Play!*, a developmental playgroup for parents and toddlers.

For more information and class schedules, please visit:  
[www.ucp-oc.org/parentingclasses](http://www.ucp-oc.org/parentingclasses) or call (949) 333-6408



## For the Kids, Gymnastics!

Instructor Jenny Wilson focuses on whole body exercise, including development in strength, flexibility and balance coordination, while promoting healthy choices and self-confidence. Classes are structured but not rigid, so that children can channel their physical energy while learning to socialize with other students in a safe and fun environment.

For more information and class schedules, please visit:  
[www.ucp-oc.org/classes](http://www.ucp-oc.org/classes) or call (949) 333-6422.



## Child Care Facilities

To assist parents and the families we serve, we've gathered a list of child care facilities all over Orange County that serve children with special needs.

You can find the child care listings at [www.ucp-oc.org/childcare](http://www.ucp-oc.org/childcare).

## Follow us online!



Become a fan of UCP-OC on our Facebook page.

Just log in to Facebook and search for "United Cerebral Palsy of Orange County."

We'll keep you posted on events at UCP and informed of ways you can help us make a difference in the lives of children with disabilities.



We've also started a blog as a way to encourage a healthy dialogue between UCP-OC, the people we serve, and general public.

Feel free to weigh in at:

[www.ucp-oc.org/blog](http://www.ucp-oc.org/blog).

Visit our website!

[www.ucp-oc.org](http://www.ucp-oc.org)

## Volunteer Spotlight: Terri McCormack



Terri McCormack first became involved with UCP-OC as Bonner Paddock's publicist during his efforts to climb Mt. Kilimanjaro to raise \$250,000 for kids with disabilities. Bonner's ambitious goal inspired people, but Terri really took it to the next level. She scheduled interviews with TV news shows, newspapers, and magazines, and was integral in

coordinating fundraising events for Kili '08 (now Beyond Limits),

including several screenings of the *Beyond Limits* documentary and other special fundraising events. It is because of the attention generated by her efforts that the public became excited about the climb. This media exposure eventually caught the attention of Linda Beresford, Bridget Beresford's mom, and led to the subsequent formation of Team S.M.I.L.E. Working pro bono on nights, weekends, and in-between, Terri has proved to be an indispensable asset to UCP-OC and the children and families we serve. Despite the regular demands of her worklife, Terri continues to be closely involved with Bonner and UCP as we move forward in our partnership. We are deeply appreciative of everything Terri has done for UCP to help us further our mission of helping children with disabilities live a life without limits. Thank you Terri!

achieve. believe. create. dream.

## Cover Story (continued from page 1)

Michael is excited and interested in more complex toys than he was previously and is more perceptive of new things and new people in his environment. And perhaps most importantly, he now enjoys coming to



therapy. As soon as he arrives, he knows it's time to play!

Michael has made a lot of progress in a relatively short period of time. Under the right circumstances any child with a disability can reach their full potential, but it takes loving, devoted parents, the right expertise and the generous support of friends like you. It is because of your gifts that UCP-OC is able to provide the toys, the therapy equipment, and the skilled staff to help children like Michael experience life without limits!



### Bike Camp 2009

UCP-OC and the Down Syndrome Association of Orange County have teamed up again this year to present Bike Camp. Over the course of a week, kids and young adults with disabilities learn how to ride a bicycle without training wheels for the first

time in their lives with the help of special training bikes and dedicated volunteers.

Bike Camp would not be possible without our volunteers guiding the "campers" each day as they learn the necessary balance and motor skills on their training bikes. Many thanks to all the volunteers taking time out their summer schedule to help kids with disabilities!



### Art Week

For the last couple of years, UCP has hosted Art Day, where kids with all kinds of special needs can come and explore their creative side with their peers. At the end of the day, all of the art created by the participants is gathered together and

reviewed by UCP staff. The finalists are then brought to our annual Gala where attendees vote on their favorite work of art. The winning artwork becomes the cover of UCP's holiday card, and the winning artist is presented with an award at the following year's Gala. (Pictured above is last year's winning art piece by Holly Hilburn. Congratulations Holly!)

This year we've decided to host the event at our Therapy and Recreation Center on two days during our regularly scheduled Art classes as follows:

**Tuesday, August 18, 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.**

**Wednesday, August 19, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.**

If you choose to attend, you can come on either day or both days. Contact Angie Vazquez to RSVP: [avazquez@ucp-oc.org](mailto:avazquez@ucp-oc.org), (949) 333-6422.

## Director's Corner



It has been an exciting and busy year at UCP of Orange County. On April 26th Chapman University hosted the premiere of the Beyond Limits documentary. This special film documents the story of UCP Board Member, Bonner Paddock, and his attempt to be the first person with cerebral palsy to summit Mt.

Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, Africa. To satisfy demand, corporate sponsor, Oakley, hosted a second screening of the film several weeks later. If you were unable to attend either of the screenings, I highly encourage you to purchase a DVD of the inspirational film at [www.beyond-limits.com](http://www.beyond-limits.com).

On May 3rd over 250 volunteers joined Bridget Beresford and Team S.M.I.L.E. at the 5th annual OC Marathon and helped raise over \$50,000 on behalf of UCP of Orange County. One month later, on June 8th, we hosted our 15th Annual Life Without Limits Golf Classic. This sold-out event at Newport Beach Country Club presented by DLD Insurance Brokers Inc. raised over \$75,000 for UCP's programs and services. We are very grateful to our generous donors who have supported us through our recent events.

Even though we have had some great events during the first half of the year, we are challenged with the current state of the economy. As I am sure you are aware, the combination of the state budget cuts and the overall health of the economy are having a major impact on charitable organizations throughout our county and state, and we are no exception. As a vendor of Regional Center (a state-funded agency), our reimbursement rates for services continue to shrink while demand for our services increases. As you can imagine, this problem is making it more difficult for us to fulfill our vision of helping children with disabilities live a life without limits.

I ask for your help supporting our organization. We depend upon gifts from friends like you to support our mission of helping children with developmental disabilities reach their full potential, improve the quality of life for their families, and foster an attitude of acceptance and inclusion. Be assured your gifts are having a major, positive impact in the lives of the children we serve and their families. Thank you!

*Grant Dunning*

Grant Dunning  
Interim Executive Director

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# Welcome New Board Members

UCP of Orange County is pleased to welcome the two newest members of our Board of Directors. Our board provides fair-minded governance in UCP's policies and valuable allies in the private sector. UCP-OC and children with disabilities benefit greatly from the volunteer membership of these dedicated community leaders.

## Afshin Aminian, M.D. Adult & Pediatric Orthopaedic Services



After earning a degree in engineering, Afshin Aminian, M.D., medical director of the CHOC Orthopaedic Institute, found himself sitting in front of a computer in a sub-basement at Northwestern University. While thinking there had to be more to life than how he was spending his days, he began to enjoy watching children from a nearby rehab clinic get better from treatment. He was inspired to be a doctor and immediately applied to medical school.

Today, Dr. Aminian is an internationally renowned pediatric orthopaedic surgeon belonging to an elite group of pediatric specialists. He is highly regarded for his research on scoliosis and hip dysplasia, and was the first on the West Coast to perform Scoliosis Vertebral Body Stapling to prevent further curvature of the spine. Dr. Aminian was also instrumental in creating the CHOC Orthopaedic Institute, the only program of its kind in the region offering programs that specialize in the diagnosis and treatment of complex orthopaedic injury, illness and disorders in children and adolescents.

Dr. Aminian has come a long way from that basement at Northwestern. And the children and families of Southern California are grateful he found his true calling.

## Thomas Quinn Allergan, Inc.



Tom is currently Senior Manager of Financial Planning and Analysis at Allergan in Irvine. Prior to Allergan, Tom's positions have included Director of Financial Planning and Analysis, Research Reagents at Becton Dickinson, a global medical technology company in San Diego; US Area Controller,

Commercial Operations Finance at Beckman Coulter International, a leading manufacturer of biomedical testing instrument systems in Fullerton; Finance Manager of Planning Analysis and Reporting, R&D and Treasury Manager at Beckman Coulter; and Assistant Treasurer at Investment Company Corporation in Glendora. Tom is a member of the Medical Resource Alliance and received his BA in Business Management and Finance at the University of Pittsburgh and MBA in Business Management and Finance at Duquesne University. In his spare time Tom enjoys spending time with his wife, playing chess and mountain biking.

Mr. Quinn brings with him valuable financial experience in the healthcare industry and the support of our friends at Allergan, Inc. We are proud to welcome both Mr. Quinn and Dr. Aminian to UCP-OC's Board of Directors.

# Recent Past Events



## Life Without Limits GOLF CLASSIC

## Golf Classic Sold Out! \$75,000 Raised!

UCP's Life Without Limits Golf Classic, presented by Dana Dowers and his company DLD Insurance Brokers, Inc., was completely sold out this year. We've always had successful tournaments, but the fact you, our sponsors, donors, and volunteers, pulled together in the current economic climate in such large numbers is testament to your generosity and understanding of the importance of our mission. Altogether, with your help we were able to raise over \$75,000 for children with disabilities. Thank you!



To see all photos from the tournament, [visit www.ucp-oc.org/golf](http://www.ucp-oc.org/golf).

## A Very Special Thanks to our Presenting Sponsor and all of our participating corporate sponsors

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# Recent Past Events

## Beyond Limits Premiere Generates Critical Acclaim



On Sunday, April 26, 2009, Chapman University hosted the world premiere of the *Beyond Limits* documentary, the story of Bonner Paddock's attempt to become the first person with cerebral palsy to summit Mt. Kilimanjaro. After the film brought the crowd of over 300 guests to its feet in applause, a surprise appearance by narrator Michael Clarke Duncan really knocked the event out of the park. It was a huge triumph for children with disabilities and the notion that there are no limits to what you can achieve.



Demand was so strong for the premiere that we held a second screening at the Mad Science Theater in Oakley's World Headquarters just two weeks later. Again, the venue was packed and Bonner took the stage after the film for a lively Q&A session. Afterwards, Bonner, the climbers, and the filmmakers signed *Beyond Limits* posters for the attendees.

You can read reviews of *Beyond Limits* by the *OC Register*, *KOCE Real Orange*, and representatives at CBS Paramount by visiting [www.beyond-limits.com](http://www.beyond-limits.com). If you haven't seen the film, the DVD is available for purchase online at [www.beyond-limits.com/dvd](http://www.beyond-limits.com/dvd). Proceeds from DVD sales will fund planning and development of UCP's Early Learning Center.



## Team S.M.I.L.E. and the OC Marathon

On Sunday, May 3rd, only a week after the premiere of the *Beyond Limits* documentary, another hero took the stage, but this time the stage came in the form of the OC Marathon race course. Having set out to help raise money for UCP by participating in the 5K race, 12-year-old Bridget Beresford formed Team S.M.I.L.E. The sea of bright orange shirts that day could probably have been seen from space; Team S.M.I.L.E. came out in full force and the excitement level was phenomenal. Bridget, who has cerebral palsy, finished the race to thunderous cheers not just from her teammates, but from the entire crowd on the sidelines. Thanks to the efforts of Bridget, Team S.M.I.L.E., and supporters like you, we raised over \$50,000 for kids with disabilities and brought almost 300 participants to the OC Marathon!

