

Echoing Hope Express

★ Growth, discovery & lifelong learning for people with autism & other developmental disabilities ★

It's Time for the Harvest Festival

As I wait out the summer heat, the board and I are planning the busy Fall season and coming Spring that will be here before we know it. Jonathan has been busy helping with the new Community Supported Agricultural program that is in full swing this summer at Echoing Hope Ranch and he has been helping out at local farmer's markets.

The produce grown at the Ranch is part of the pride we have at the yearly Harvest Festival. Della Thompson is again our fearless and thoughtful leader for the event. We will continue to have food for sale, vendors, games, music, crafts, and other fun to celebrate Fall's arrival. *Come join us on Saturday, October 22nd 10:00am-4:00pm.*

We are already under way in planning our outreach in Tucson too. Our fourth Hope Dinner takes a lot of planning and effort. (I couldn't do it without the help of our volunteer committee!) The staff at the Hilton on Broadway has again given their generous support in planning and manning the event, *Saturday, April 22nd, 2017*. We are looking forward to another fun celebration that helps give unrestricted funds for our services and helps get the word out about what we offer to individuals with autism. These donations help programs like our habilitation, day program, transportation, and employment services.

I'd be remiss if I didn't thank all of you who support Echoing Hope Ranch. You are our volunteers, businesses, donors and, most especially, the families that entrust us with their adult children. Helping to give these individuals with autism a hopeful future in a safe and respectful environment is at the center of my heart as the board and I continue to lead and plan the coming year. — *Harlie Garcia, President*

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY CORY!



It is hard to believe that Cory will be celebrating his third anniversary of living at EHR on September 15th this year! He has grown in so many ways. He is a more confident and expressive young man. He uses more language than ever before, telling us where he wants to go to lunch and shopping when we visit him every couple of weeks. Although he prefers to spend time alone, he can be persuaded to participate in social activities given enough advance notice and prompting. The biggest change for Cory has been having a job. Five days a week for two hours each day he helps to clean the Department of Developmental Disabilities office in Bisbee. Some days are better than others and he still has issues to overcome but he has matured and made advances in these last three years. His sense of humor and love of magazines remain intact! Cory's father and I are so grateful to Echoing Hope Ranch for their wonderful program and dedicated and caring staff. Cory is most definitely found his "home" there. — *Eleanor Williams, Cory's Mother*



Two Steps Forward, One Step Back for Tucson HCBS Services – But It’s Still One Step Forward!

Almost three years into the Tucson Home and Community Based Services Program, we are proud that we continue to offer quality respite and habilitation services to those we support, as well as positive and nurturing work experiences for our team of smart, dedicated and creative direct support providers (DSP’s).

Though it may appear that we are moving slowly, a deeper look shows that despite some setbacks, we continue to move forward when Families join us and we provide staff for their homes. The nature of offering these types of services is difficult, but we are not discouraged.

Our DSP’s are some of the best people in Tucson and they think the world of the wonderful people we support. We have a steady group of wonderful families with wonderful loved ones, some of whom have been with us for a very long time. Participants continue to show progress and growth in areas ranging from independent life skills, communication and social skills, as well as motor improvements. And to those we provide respite, they are happy to have a DSP spend quality time with them participating in fun and oftentimes productive activities, and their primary caregiver gets a much deserved break!

We look forward to continue slowly growing the Tucson program. We continue to offer exceptional and engaging in-home and community habilitation and respite services. We look to hopefully expand areas like after school or school intersession programs and employment services, for example. Group activities such as dances, skating, group music get-togethers are coming soon. Stay tuned for information as we strive to offer more outings and activities for our participants.

We appreciate your referrals you’ve given us. These families are in need of services in the greater Tucson area. You’ve given us great staff recommendations as well!

As always, thank you for the privilege to care for your family members. DSP’s who make it possible, and of course the board members and leadership team for their continued support of the Tucson/Pima County efforts!

— by Sylvia Graham, HCBS Service Coordinator, Pima County / Greater Tucson • Sylvia@echoinghoperanch.org



The Center for Disease Control estimates that 1 in 68 children have autism.
Quality programs are severely limited or non-existent for teens and adults with autism.

Only two residential programs for individuals with autism exist in Arizona.

TUCSON HABILITATION IN ACTION

Joshua Greiner is a boisterous 14 year old boy with autism. He is non-verbal and uses a communication device to express his wants and needs and is beginning conversational skills.

"I love it when he says something extra, like 'That hits the spot,' or even 'It's taking forever,'" says Melody Albrecht, one of Josh's direct support providers through Echoing Hope Ranch.



Josh needs full assistance with dressing, using utensils, and with safety awareness. Melody helps him with these skills. Melody spends 2-3 hours a day with Josh, several times a week. In addition to giving Josh one-on-one attention and working on skill building and independence, it gives his parents a chance to relax or run much needed errands.

Josh's mother, Amy Greiner, says "We've been with different agencies, but the workers I've found through Echoing Hope have been the most enthusiastic and engaged, as well as well-trained. They are generally studying special education, occupational therapy or some other related field and are just really interested in learning more about ways to help people with autism and in getting to know my son and what helps him the most."

Make a difference...

The lack of good quality opportunities for adults with autism is a growing problem. It's easy to feel overwhelmed and ask yourself "What can I possibly do to make a difference?" One great answer is to support Echoing Hope Ranch! EHR is paving the way for others, proving that adults with autism thrive and grow when given the chance to be independent and productive. Echoing Hope Ranch is providing possibilities right now and hope for the future.



Your generous donation allows EHR to continue providing support and programs for Josh and many others who deserve a chance to keep learning and show what they can do.

*The sky is the limit for Echoing Hope Ranch and we work hard every day to give people wings. – Every donation makes a difference!
Please visit www.echoinghoperanch.org to donate.*

WISH LIST

GARDENING SUPPLIES

Tractor with Tiller and Post-Hole Digger, Gardening Gloves, Locking File Cabinet, Shovels, Hoses, Hose Roller

POTTERY SUPPLIES

Clay, Hollow Die Set, Pottery Tool Kits, North Star Adjustable Heavy Duty Roller, Slab Brent Clay Extruder, Texture Mats, Rollers, Stamps, Rolling Pins, Brushes, Glaze

ART SUPPLIES

Paper, Paint & Brushes, Chalk, Storage Shelves, Scissors, Glue, Candles, Coffee Beans, Burlap or Burlap Ribbon, Old Tin Cans, Birdseed, River Rocks, Old Barn Wood

ANIMALS

Animal Feed, Hay, Straw

COOKING SUPPLIES

Plates & Bowls, Paring Knives, Cups & Plastic Glasses, Silverware (especially spoons), Adaptive Knives like Rocking T or Vertical Grip

ACTIVITIES

Heavy Duty Volleyball Net and Stand
3 - 30-gallon Garbage Cans for Recycling
Legos and Legos Sets

OFFICE

Locking File Cabinets, 1-inch 3-Ring Binders
8-Tab Dividers for 3-Ring Binders, 10x20
Storage Shed

SAFETY

First Aid Kits, Non-Latex Gloves

PROPERTY

Hammers, Extension Ladder, Tackle Boxes,
Motor Oil, Gas for Mowers, Rain Water
Harvesting Barrels

*To donate these or other items,
please contact Deb at 520.508.2087
or deb@echoinghoperanch.org.*



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Interested in receiving your
newsletter by email?
Email Harlie @
harlie@echoinghoperanch.org

**Because kids with
autism grow up**

DON'T MISS OUR 4TH ANNUAL

Harvest Festival

Come Spend a Day at the Ranch!

**SATURDAY, OCT 22, 2016
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM**

Echoing Hope Ranch • 8344 S. Hereford Road
Hereford, AZ 85615

Free Event Open to the Public!

Kids Games ★ Face Painting ★ Entertainment
Crafts ★ Fresh Produce ★ Food ★ Raffle
Hay Rides ★ plus much more...

