

Gracias!

Adelante
DEVELOPMENT CENTER, Inc.



35 years leaves an imprint on the lives of many. While the individual moments and memories are as small and fleeting as grains of sand, we collect these memories and build monuments to the lives that have changed—the collective voices of Adelante.

We have built these monuments together. We have written a collection of stories as vast as the desert landscape of New Mexico. These stories give voice to those who were once silent. They remind us of the countless smiles we have witnessed, each perfect in its ability to open our hearts to the beauty and joy that exists in this world. Above all, they inspire each of us to recognize that there is no action too small, no time too brief, and no dream too fantastic when we envision the lives we can impact—the monuments we can build—under the banner of Adelante.

35 years is a milestone, as it is a stepping stone for the years to come.

With these words, we celebrate the 35th anniversary of Adelante. As you enjoy the stories in this commemorative Gracias! issue, remember that it is due to the support and efforts of people like you that we have reached this milestone.

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*Pictured above: the original program participants and direct support staff members (1978)

The Business of Giving



Donor Changes Lives of Adelante Staff and Clients by Giving in Multiple Ways

For David Poms, understanding and addressing the needs of others through giving is not just personal philosophy—it is business as usual.

Since forming his insurance brokerage firm Poms & Associates in 1991, Poms has built his company on the belief that education, advocacy, and understanding are what build loyal relationships and impact meaningful change. Poms reinforces this belief not only through the daily practices of his company, but by giving back to the community.

In support of this effort, Poms donated two Hoyer Stature patient lifts to Adelante in July for use by staff members and clients in the Pathways and Bridges programs. The donation, which included two state-of-the-art Hoyer lifts and four accompanying slings, is a gift Adelante staff members consider priceless.

Pathways Program Manager Robin Carter was ecstatic when she first learned about the Hoyer lift donation.

“All the Hoyer lifts we had at the time were older ones we’ve had forever,” says Carter. “When I was told we were getting a donation of new lifts, I had no idea they would be this nice. When they came in, we were all amazed—I had never seen a Hoyer like that.”

Carter describes the quality and functionality of the new lifts by referring to them as “the Cadillacs of Hoyer lifts.” The lifts are designed to move clients without mobility in their legs from one location to another in a safe, respectful, and

efficient way. While the lifts previously used by Adelante relied on a manual, hand-crank power system and had been in use for over fifteen years, the new lifts are fully automated and can lift up to 500 pounds from the floor to high surfaces. The automated power system serves a dual purpose by helping the client feel safe while preventing injury among staff members.

“Staff members typically lift 42 people each day,” says Carter. “Without the Hoyer lifts, the staff would wear their backs out. The new lifts will make our lives so much easier.”

Carter believes the lifts will have an immeasurable impact in the years to come and hopes that Poms’ donation will inspire others to support people with disabilities by donating to Adelante.

“It’s wonderful that somebody did such a nice thing for our folks here,” says Carter. “Equipment is so expensive and is usually out of our reach.”

Poms also made a donation in June to replace the phone system at Adelante’s Al Friedman Center. The phone system previously in place at the Center was outdated and often posed difficulties due to age and use. The new phone system provides staff vital and reliable access to external communications and is a further example of Poms’ dedication to serving the needs of others through giving.

Program Manager Robin Carter (left), Program Assistant Becky Baros (right), and Susan Mares (center) use the new Hoyer Stature patient lift at the Adelante Pathways program

Receptionist Carol Mallory uses the new phone system at the Al Friedman Center



Adelante in PERSPECTIVE

Arts & Animals



Adelante artists (and service dogs) showcase the recycled fashion artwork they designed for the Al Friedman Center Fashion Show

If the walls of the Arts and Animals program could speak, they would tell you a thousand stories of inspiration, creativity, and laughter. These stories are not captured on the pages of books or an evening news broadcast—they are alive in the memories of those who are lucky enough to experience these stories in person.

Anna Zollinger, Creative Arts Coordinator for Adelante’s Arts and Animals program, considers herself fortunate to be counted among those who experience the creativity that emerges from the program on a daily basis. Zollinger has been involved with the program since its inception in 2007 and believes there is an increasing need for the opportunities the program creates for people with disabilities.

“One of the things I feel our people—and the general population—don’t get enough exposure to is art,” says Zollinger. “It’s something they didn’t necessarily learn in school, but they’re hungry for.”

The Arts and Animals program fulfills this need by providing opportunities to learn about a variety of art forms (everything from prehistoric art to abstract expressionism) and create their own original artwork. For many individuals, particularly those who are nonverbal, being able to pick up an oil pastel or a disposable camera and create a unique work of art is more than just an outlet for creative expression—it is a way to communicate.

Several Adelante artists recently showcased their abilities at an art show hosted at Adelante’s El Centro offices this summer. The

art show featured a collection of black-and-white drawings, all of which were available for public viewing and sale during the month of June. The art show was received with great enthusiasm and all sales proceeds went directly back to the artists.

Artwork created by Arts and Animals participants has also recently taken center stage in the local Albuquerque theater community. Through a collaboration with the PLAY Conservatory youth theater company, Adelante participants created the props for the summer production of “Shrek the Musical.” This artistic endeavor has since inspired much of the visual and performance art now produced by the program. Clients are currently exploring the theme of fairy tales through the art of puppetry and are planning on incorporating this theme into their winter theater performance—an event clients and community members anticipate and enjoy each year.

Performance art is a long-standing tradition within Arts and Animals and is truly the hallmark of the program. Over the years, Arts and Animals has hosted a wide range of performances including *The Lion King*, *Pocahontas*, *Musical Madness*, and *The Nutcracker*, among many others. In addition to being the star performers for each show, Adelante clients also create all of the costumes, props, and sets using skills developed during art classes. This helps to ensure that every client has the opportunity to participate in the performance and engage with the audience in a very meaningful way.

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“Arts & Animals” Continued from Page 3

“When there’s a performance, the flood gates open and the community comes in,” says Zollinger. “The people we support notice when this happens and you can tell that it matters to them. It increases their skill level, their expectations, and their self-esteem. It also gives them opportunities to interact.”

The most recent performance hosted by Arts and Animals was the Fashion Show in July—an event where Adelante artists created their own costumes from recycled materials and showcased their work on the runway. Zollinger says it is performances like the Fashion Show that help people see past a person’s disabilities and recognize that they are true artists and performers.

“After the Fashion Show, people would come up to me and say that they forgot they were watching people with disabilities—they were just plain entertained,” says Zollinger. “This is really what [Arts and Animals] is all about.”

Due to the variety and caliber of Arts and Animals performances over the years, the Al Friedman Center has come to be identified by many as a true performing arts space. Recognizing this, the program recently enhanced the performance area with the addition of stage curtains and framed posters—created to capture the essence of the performances. While these improvements have elevated the theatrical experience for Adelante actors and audience members, Zollinger believes *people* have the strongest ability to bring the Arts and Animals program to its greatest heights.

“One of the things we need most is volunteers who are dedicated to the arts,” says Zollinger.

By increasing the volunteer base, Adelante artists would be provided with knowledge and experiences in different areas of the arts, which would inspire many to discover new areas of interest and potentially identify new goals in life—the core foundation of Adelante’s mission.

While volunteers and donations have an immeasurable impact on the success of the Arts and Animals program, Zollinger believes that the most profound impact people can have is through one simple, yet central act of giving:

their presence. It is not until you experience a performance—feel the energy in the room, hear the sound of laughter and applause, see the transformation of the performers through a whirlwind of light and color—that you truly understand the life-changing impact Arts and Animals has on the lives of those who participate in the program.

“It’s time to come together,” says Zollinger. “Let’s make this a place where people want to come and see performances, not because they have to, but because there’s something going on in here that’s so attractive—something magical.”

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Halloween Masquerade Ball (October 31st)

Winter Holiday Arts & Crafts Festival (December)

Winter Performing Arts Showcase (December)

Arts and Animals fairy tale-themed puppets, which will be the inspiration for the upcoming winter performance at the Al Friedman Center



Adelante Wish List

At Adelante, we strive to provide enriching opportunities for those we support. We are currently seeking donations of:

- Frames for artwork (all sizes)
- Full-color set of Sharpie double-sided pens
- Plastic tablecloths
- Acrylic paints (any colors)
- Texture additives for acrylic paints
- Fixative spray

Teaching *Inspiration*

Roel Adamson Achieves His Goal of Becoming a Teacher and Inspires Others to Follow Their Dreams

Roel Adamson is a teacher in every sense of the word. Not only does he share knowledge with his students in order to help them learn and succeed, he also teaches everyone he comes into contact with that anyone can achieve their goals in life—no matter how challenging the task may seem.

When Adamson first discovered his dream of becoming a teacher five years ago, it marked the beginning of a journey filled with relentless hard work, determination, innovation, and the formation of lifelong friendships. Unlike many others who set out to pursue their dream of teaching, Adamson's journey was made all the more meaningful owing to the fact that he is blind, uses a wheelchair, and communicates nonverbally. Not one to let physical disabilities stand in his way, Adamson was determined to find a way to share his inner voice with others through teaching—a drive that inspired Adelante Training Manager Dale Lackey to assist Adamson in achieving this goal.

Lackey first met Adamson several years ago when he was his community living service coordinator. The two would often talk about Adamson's love of sports, which then led to conversations about current events, business, communication, and life. Lackey soon discovered that Adamson had a wealth of knowledge and opinions to share with others—they just needed to find the right tools to carry his voice to a larger audience.

“There is this beautiful, vocal individual inside of Roel,” says Lackey. “Roel and I are exactly the same—he just has trouble getting his thoughts and ideas out. I knew that if we could break the communication barriers, he would be a better trainer than me.”

The two soon discovered an opportunity for Adamson to teach a course on Participatory Communication Choice Making (PCCM)—a subject focusing on various types of verbal and



Roel Adamson (center) with Training Manager Dale Lackey (left) and Care Staff Member Krystal Ortiz (right)

nonverbal communication. Working closely with Adamson's caregiver, Certified Regional Trainer Krystal Ortiz, the team developed a course curriculum that could be programmed into Adamson's DynaVox communication device. The device makes it possible for him to record his thoughts and lesson plans digitally and then play the recording during a class session. He is also able to respond to questions from students during class via nonverbal cues and elaboration from Ortiz. This innovative approach to teaching is one that required over a year of planning and development, yet the results have made the hard work well worth it.

“Roel believes that the students get more experience and knowledge from him than they would from a person without disabilities,” says Ortiz. “A lot of people will say that they learned more from Roel than from any other teacher.”

After having worked with Adamson throughout his endeavor to become a teacher, Ortiz and Lackey both believe that everyone should see him as an inspiration.

“When students see Roel teaching a class, they understand that people with disabilities can accomplish anything if they put their minds to it,” says Lackey.

Adamson is now a certified PCCM co-facilitator trainer. He and Ortiz teach courses at Adelante and several other DD Waiver provider agencies across New Mexico. He plans to continue teaching and looks forward to travelling to even more locations to teach—especially cities with good sports teams. He also hopes that the accomplishments he has made will inspire other people with disabilities to achieve their goals.

To anyone else who may have the dream of teaching, Adamson simply says, “just do it!”

Adelante Volunteers

Thank you to the caring people who dedicate their time to support Adelante and its clients

Volunteers Serving from April 1st to August 31st

ABC Civitan	Juana Lopez
Terri Andreasen	Mike Lowrimore*
Ray Berg*	Molly Madden*
Julie Bouchard	Cate McClain*
Angie Casias	Tamara Marquez Nugent*
Gilbert Castrejon	Joe Otero
Renee Chambellan	Olivia Padilla-Jackson*
Richard Cronin*	Steve Pereyra
Maria Tina Gallegos	Eli Reeves
Claire Garner*	Nancy Renner*
Rich Glantz	Mabry ReQua
Kate Goldsmith	Sean Robinson
Marcos Gonzales*	Patrick Robson*
William Gralow*	Isidra Rodriguez
Jonathan Gray	Michelle Romero*
Silas Grubb	Ernestine Sawyer
Terry Heames	Stephen Scott
Yolanda Hoemann	Amy Sedillo
Judy Hudson	Elaine Smith
Helen Jackson*	Pam Sullivan*
James Jimenez*	Henrietta Torres
Lois Kippels	Bob Walton*
Alanna Lente	Lorraine Zamora
Donna Lombardi	

*Adelante Board Member



Current Food Donors as of August 2013

Albuquerque Convention Center	Starbucks
Albuquerque Country Club	• Four Hills
Albuquerque Public Schools	• Hwy 528/Alameda
The Childrens' Center	• Hwy 528 & Rockaway
Cici's Pizza	• Journal Center
City Treats Parties	• Louisiana Blvd NE
Einstein Bros. Bagels	• Montañño & I-25
• Academy	• Rio Rancho Blvd SE
Embassy Suites, Albuquerque	• San Pedro Dr NE
Glazed Hams & More	• Wyoming Blvd NE
Hotel Albuquerque	Sprouts Farmers Market
Indulgence Catering	• Corrales Rd NW
KFC	• Lomas Blvd NE
• 4th St NW	• Montgomery Blvd NE
• Isleta Blvd SW	• San Mateo Blvd NE
• Los Lunas	Talin Market
• Rio Rancho	The Nob Hill Growers' Market
• 2636 San Mateo NE	• Morningside Park (SE)
Long John Silver's	Tomato Café
• Belen	Trader Joe's
Mimi's Café	• Holly Ave NE
Nativo Lodge	• Uptown Loop NE
Natural Grocers By Vitamin Cottage	UNM - La Posada
• Coors Blvd NW	Venezia's Pizzeria
• Wyoming Blvd NE	• San Mateo Blvd NE
Rebel Donut	Whole Foods Market
• Coors Blvd NW	• Carlisle Blvd NE
• Wyoming Blvd NE	• Wyoming Blvd NE
Red Lobster	
• Coors Bypass NW	
• Montgomery Blvd NE	



Angie Casias is an individual who has always felt the need to give—a characteristic Adelante has celebrated since Casias started volunteering at the Los Lunas Bargain Square in March 2012.

Before she began volunteering with Adelante, Casias—a New Mexico native and local artist—would often visit Bargain Square and notice the collection of artwork donations available at the store. Her passion for art and desire to give back to the community made volunteering with Adelante the perfect fit for Casias, who spends her Saturdays organizing the artwork displays at Bargain Square. Casias is also a volunteer at the local library and is grateful for the opportunities these acts of service have afforded her—especially as someone who “just couldn't sit still” when she retired from the State after 45 dedicated years of service.

Casias currently lives in Los Lunas, where she enjoys painting and spending as much time as possible with her five children, twelve grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

Adelante Donors

Gifts Received from April 1st to August 31st

\$50,000 & Above

NM DOT Transit and
Rail Bureau
PNM Resources Foundation
David Poms
Tanager Property
Management Company

Kiwanis Club of Albuquerque
Peggy A. Moreau
Mario A. Pino
Rio Barcelona Soccer Team
Robert & Roslyne Stern
Karen Savage

Special Olympics New
Mexico
Nicole and Robin Strauser
The Night Shift
Terry L. Torres
Andrew and Cynthia Vikta
John Vittal
Susan Wilson
Debra Yzquierdo-Trujillo

Alice Gallegos
Gloria Garcia
Steve & Penny Goldstine
William & Barbara
Haberthur
Mr. Steve Hay and
Palmira Perea Hay
Guadalupe Hernandez
Gilbert Herrera
Joe Herrera
Larry Herrera
Thomas & Shirley

Maria E. ReQua
Ribs Hickory Smoked
Pit Bar-B-Q
Doreen Roady
Twylla Roberts
Suanne Rodriguez
Brenna Romancito
Melinda Ross
Lorraine Ryals
Tom & Lynn Rymysza
Patty Salas
Jose Salazar

\$5,000 to \$49,999

Bank of the West
United Way of Central NM

\$100 to \$249

Cynthia Acosta
Anonymous
Curtis Benz
Sherri & Andy Bornhoft
Jim Bullard & Gail

Up to \$99

Marisela Amador
Brian Ammerman
Anonymous
Jose Emilio Aragon
Brandon Armendariz
Sarah Atchison
Imogene Baca
Della Barraza
Donna Beeman
Bert Benedick
Antonio Berumn
Lawrence Binfield
Amy Chambellan-Lavender
Frankie Chavez
Amanda Coil
Lucinda Compton
Betty Comstock
Laura & Sara Cordova
Maria E. Cordova
Joan Costello
Peter & Josephine Creange
Gina Cuneo
Joyce Dec
Richard Dergank
Stayce Driskell
Britney Drumm
Judy L. Duran
David Espinosa
Jane Flax
Heather Fouts

Hershberger
Jason's Deli
Michael & Robin Johnson
Tom Jourdan
Kristy Kaneshiro
Paul Knowles
Jerry Larranaga
Annette Lee-Dozier
Terrie Longoria
Paul & Marietta Luttrell
Brian Marsh
Debra McCracken
Karen Mehlin
Abelino Montoya
Maryanne Montoya
L. Mozer
Trini Muniz
Catherine Ogdon
Ron A. Oldfield
Bill & Jo Ann Owen
Ben Pacheco
Olivia Padilla-Jackson
Rita Pedroncelli
Carolyn Peterson
Jeff & Beth Peterson
Poel Counseling
Pattie Psomas
Jean Puckett
Jane Rael

Rodney A. Schmill &
Jennifer E. Smith
Michael L Schmitz
Mary Selph
Elaine Shiratori
Sheryl Sleseman
Margaret Stewart
Silas Suazo
Mary Sweeney Reyes
Antonio & Kathryn
Tafoya
Linda Thayer-White
David Timmons
Matthew J. Torres
Elizabeth Towle
Debra Jo Trujillo
John Trujillo
Josue Urrutia-Ramos
Alicia Verin
Denise L. Vigil
Pamela Villegas
Sue Williams
Denzil Brent Wilson
Ronald Winkle Jr. &
Melissa Winkle
Julie Anne Wold
Judith Wyman &
Oldstyle Morgans

\$1,000 to \$4,999

Terri Berrenberg
James & Peggy Channell
Leonard DeLayo, Jr.
Hancock Family Foundation
Sheila A. Moore
Music Guild of New Mexico
Tom Tumolillo & Pam
Sullivan

Chynoweth
Linette Campos
Reina Chavez
Lawrence Chavez
Client First LLC
Patricia Dawe
Gregory A. DeAtley
Duke City Civitan Club
Carol A. Frank, MA, LPCC
Andrew J. Hernandez
Gary Jones
Betty Layne
Jaymerose Lopez & Keith
Castleberry
Rick & Molly Madden
Jolene Maes
Debra Maese
Lori & Dustin Messex
Dartanian Pina
Carol L. Pulis
Jay & Donna Rawls
James G. Rickey
Celeste Sandoval
Rebecca Sanford
Phillip & Ronnie Schroer
Samuel K. Shaw
Lee W. Sherman
Randy & Jill Simons

\$500 to \$999

Michael & Sharon Coleman
Mike & Ellen Kivitz
Knights of Columbus
Council #4227
Alfred Padilla
Mark & Debra Stanger

\$250 to \$499

A Healing Touch LLC
Combined Federal
Campaign, Central &
Northern NM
Kevin Finnegan
Tom & Anne Fitzpatrick
Hub International
Insurance Service
Krista Kelley

Thank you to all the generous individuals and organizations who have donated to Adelante and helped people with disabilities discover and implement their goals in life

Adelante

DEVELOPMENT CENTER, Inc.

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What will your **LEGACY** be?

Charitable giving has a powerful impact on the lives of people with disabilities supported through Adelante. A single act of giving has the potential to help people with disabilities discover their dreams of making lifelong friends, earning their first paycheck, or learning how to live independently. If this is what a single act of giving can do, imagine the impact a lifetime of giving could achieve.

Planned giving provides you the opportunity to leave behind your legacy of philanthropic support for future generations to cherish and benefit from.

Through a simple designation in your will or trust, you can guarantee the continued success of Adelante for years to come. Planned giving costs nothing during your lifetime, can be fully designated to the specific Adelante program of your choice, and can have considerable tax advantages. Adelante also offers a variety of giving methods tailored to meet your unique situation and charitable goals.

We highly encourage you to learn more about how you can leave your legacy through planned giving by calling the Development Office at (505) 449-4033.