



of Greater Sacramento
Life without limits for people with disabilities

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 5, 2010

CONTACT: Stephen Horton
(916) 283-8312
shorton@ucpsacto.org

**UCP OF GREATER SACRAMENTO RECEIVES \$2,500
CVS CAREMARK COMMUNITY GRANT
Funding will help children with autism learn how to integrate**

SACRAMENTO—The [CVS Caremark Community Grants Program](#) has awarded \$2,500 to [UCP of Greater Sacramento](#) to help children ages 8-12 with autism learn how to participate in school and community activities through the [UCP Autism Center for Excellence at Sacramento State](#).

“This is an incredible program that is already showing fantastic results as we begin our second year,” said Doug Bergman, UCP president and CEO. “CVS is helping these families feel less isolated and more empowered to live life without limits.”

In the last five years, there has been a 150 percent increase in autism diagnoses. A recent report shows 1 in 70 boys, and 1 in 100 girls, has autism. Designed to serve as a model program to be replicated throughout the region, A.C.E. was formed in Fall 2008 after the [UC Davis MIND Institute](#) and [Warmline Family Resource Center](#) determined there was a strong need for this type of program.

“CVS Caremark Community Grants are an effective way for us to contribute to the success of communities where we do business,” said Jennifer Veilleux, director of CVS Caremark Corporation. “We are proud to support the work that UCP of Greater Sacramento does in the community.”

The CVS Caremark Community Grant to UCP is part of CVS Caremark’s commitment to its communities throughout the country. UCP was selected to receive a grant through the CVS Caremark Community Grants 2009 grant application process. Grants were awarded to organizations that share a common vision with CVS Caremark’s All Kids Can™ program, which strives to make life easier for children with disabilities.

(more)



of Greater Sacramento

Life without limits for people with disabilities

UCP of Greater Sacramento
CVS Caremark donates to UCP
2-2-2

The goal of the All Kids Can™ program is to create more inclusive environments for children with and without disabilities to build self-esteem, lasting friendships and social skills, and to help children without disabilities learn diversity and tolerance.

"CVS Caremark is committed to helping children with disabilities learn, play and succeed in life," said Rick Ford, area vice president, Northern California, CVS/pharmacy. "Through this grant, we are proud to be able to help make an impact on the lives of children in the Sacramento community."

Using an interdisciplinary approach, A.C.E. professional staff includes occupational therapists, speech therapists, adapted physical activity specialists and behavioral analysts. Children take part in a large group activity to practice communication skills before dividing into smaller groups that help them see the inter-relatedness of the people in their lives and to build upon these relationships. Parents are then instructed on techniques to use at home. The center offers a one-to-one staff-child ratio as needed and can serve up to 30 children each month.

Each month, 2,600 children and adults with developmental disabilities and their families are empowered to live life without limits at UCP of Greater Sacramento. UCP is the leading provider of comprehensive services to children, adults and families with developmental disabilities in El Dorado, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento and Yolo counties. Programs include [Saddle Pals therapeutic horseback riding](#), [UCP's Autism Center for Excellence at Sacramento State](#), [adult day programs](#), [independent living services](#), [transportation](#) and [in-home respite care for families](#). For more information, visit www.ucpsacto.org.

###