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### **UCP OF GREATER SACRAMENTO RAISES MORE THAN \$50K IN FIRST YEAR OF GRANTS PROGRAM**

SACRAMENTO—Partnering with eight foundations, [UCP of Greater Sacramento](#) has raised \$53,000 in one year for its programs that empower people with developmental disabilities to live life without limits. The funding is a result of a new grantwriting program established last year.

“There is so much generosity in the Sacramento region, and we realized we needed to make an active effort to partner with foundations who shared our common goal of helping people with developmental disabilities go beyond what they ever thought was possible,” said Doug Bergman, UCP president and CEO. “We are so grateful to these foundations for their support.”

Bank of America - Local Heroes, Best Buy and the Kelly Foundation gave \$22,000 for UCP’s [Saddle Pals](#) therapeutic horseback riding program, which helps children and adults with developmental disabilities improve their physical, mental and emotional skills while bonding with horses. Therapeutic riding uses the movement of the horse to positively affect the rider’s body, mind and spirit. The size and conformation of the horse, its gait, the equipment used and activities performed are all part of the equation.

UCP’s [Autism Center for Excellence](#) at Sacramento State was given \$6,000 from CVS/Caremark, the Setzer Foundation and the Surewest Foundation. Designed to serve as a model program to be replicated throughout the region, A.C.E. helps children ages 8-12 with autism learn how to participate in community activities. Using an interdisciplinary approach, A.C.E. professional staff work with children 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. Parents are then instructed on techniques to use at home.

(more)

UCP of Greater Sacramento  
More than \$50K raised through new grants program  
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Bank of America and the State Street Foundation gave \$24,500 to help people with developmental disabilities learn how to live on their own through UCP's [CLASP Independent Living Program](#). Serving 52 low-income clients each month, UCP's independent living program provides clients with individualized instruction in their home and community, tailored to each client's specific goals. Areas of instruction include personal/social development, financial management, health, safety, household management and self-advocacy. The program also teaches navigation through the health care system, meal planning, nutrition, cooking, public transportation to grocery stores and how to shop.

The Lewis Kassis Foundation gave \$500 to help UCP with program expenses.

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](http://www.ucpsacto.org).

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