



# Cascade Christian Services

SUMMER 2010 NEWSLETTER

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## 30-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

**June marked Cascade Christian Home's 30-year anniversary**

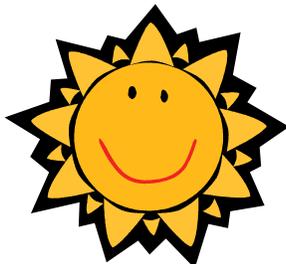


1980

On Sunday June 22, 1980, Cascade Christian Home on the King Tut Road was officially dedicated. Twelve residents started moving in two at a time every two weeks. At that time our focus was to be a stepping stone to a more independent living situation.

About a year after the program started two of the original 12 moved into an apartment in the community. Eventually most moved into apartments until only one of the 12 remained. This past year that person passed away. Out of the original participants, five live in the community by themselves or are being served by other programs. Four receive assistance in their own apartments from Cascade Supported Living. Three have passed away.

Currently Cascade Christian Home is focusing on providing services to older adults with disabilities who have significant needs. This has evolved over the course of time because our clientele aged and now require a different set of services. Consequently, the group home has come to specialize in dementia care for people with disabilities. With medical technology allowing people to live longer lives and the discovery that people with Down syndrome are at greater risk to develop Alzheimer's disease in their thirties and forties, the need for the specialized services Cascade Home offers is increasingly necessary.



In 30 years the agency has gone from a single program to six different programs. Today the agency serves approximately 150



Today: Rick, Daryl, Gloria, Martin

people with disabilities. Our residential programs encompass 33 clients, and our vocational program provides assistance to approximately 130 participants, some of whom receive services from multiple agency programs.

This year we are happy to again offer in-home care to families with children who have developmental disabilities. When our newest services became available, we had referrals pouring in and the program has grown dramatically. Now participants receive essential services that provide improved quality to daily living.

Our vision is to continue helping our community meet the needs of people with disabilities and their families. Throughout these 30 years Cascade Christian Services has been richly blessed by your support in prayers, volunteer work and donations. Thank you.

Executive Director George Beanblossom

*The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'* (Matthew 25:40) NIV

## LIGHT A LAMP



with an endowment gift to the Cascade Christian Services Fund and...

- \* Dispel the darkness of an uncertain future;
- \* Produce a perpetual flow of financial support;
- \* Create a lasting legacy for yourself or another.

## EMPLOYER & EMPLOYEE RECOGNIZED

Cascade Vocational Services is a division of Cascade Christian Services, that helps people with disabilities find and maintain employment. Each quarter we recognize one employer and a Cascade Vocational Services participant as outstanding examples. This spring we recognized Brent Allgire and Denny's on Meridian Street.



In April 2008, Brent applied for a position at the Denny's in Bellingham. The manager welcomed Cascade Vocational Services to work with their team to develop a customized job description for Brent. He is able to perform several tasks which were taking away from the wait staff's ability to provide their most important task, customer service. From day one Brent has been a full contributing member of the Denny's team.

Brent has gained much in his life since becoming employed by Denny's. He believes that having a job he likes has helped him to make better choices at work and at home. Brent has a positive working relationship with his coworkers and says, "I feel my manager respects me." Brent likes his paychecks, and the employee discount for food is an added benefit.

Each shift Brent arrives with a smile on his face and ready to work. Denny's has the same expectations of him as any other employee. He must have a food handler's card, wear the proper uniform, maintain a healthy and safe work environment and meet the expectations of his managers. He clocks in and checks with the manager for his top priorities that day. Tasks range from breaking down cardboard, scrubbing dishes at the pancake sink, washing windows and windowsills, and virtually anything else that needs to be done. His manager wholeheartedly believes, "We have the cleanest high chairs in the company!"

She has noted how much of an asset Brent has been to their business, "He is worth every penny he earns." He allows other team members to focus on customers.

Cascade Vocational Services recognizes Denny's as the Spring 2010 Employer of the Quarter for its commitment to expanding employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities in Whatcom County.

## CRESTVIEW HOME

### DIANA HAS SMOKE IN HER EYES

One day while Diana was preparing herself a salad for lunch she asked her Crestview administrative staff if she could get her own horse. That is how it all started.

Diana began to search for a horse with assistance from staff. They went to look at possible matches. After some time of searching for the right horse, when it was looking as if they would not find the perfect match, all of the sudden there she was. The smoky colored horse with big bright eyes took one look at Diana and Diana looked



at her as they began carefully walking toward one another. It was a true love connection at first sight. Diana had finally found her match. There was no doubt that Mocha was the horse for Diana.

Diana visits her horse several times a week. She is responsible to ensure that Mocha is fed, brushed, ridden, exercised, healthy and happy. Diana takes her responsibilities very seriously. Caring for Mocha has given her life added meaning, purpose and joy. This is a true testimony of the Cascade Christian Services mission statement to improve the quality of life for individuals with disabilities so that they can achieve maximum self-efficiency and fulfill their dreams. Diana's dream has come true. Just ask Mocha.

### RAISED BEDS FOR RAISING VEGGIES

The residents at Crestview have been busy this spring and summer caring for their herb and veggie gardens.



They are growing, beans, peas, lettuce, zucchini, tomatoes, cucumbers and brussels sprouts. The new raised planter boxes make it convenient and easy to care for the gardens.

Our gardening participants assist staff in picking herbs to use in preparing dinners. The garden has actually led to healthier eating at Crestview. We strive to encourage nutritional choices that improve health, and fresh vegetables are delicious. Gardening also provides some physical exercise and range of motion.

It is our goal to expand our garden by next spring because our participants receive such a sense of accomplishment watching the seed they planted and cared for grow into something beautiful and tasty, too.



**Zucchini's terrific!  
Like bunnies, prolific!**

- Author Unknown

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### *People Make a Difference*

**Thank you for your  
partnership and support:**

#### *Churches*

Third CRC, Lynden  
United Reformed, Lynden

#### *Memorials*

In memory of Swany Dykstra  
Margaret Dykstra

In memory of Dorothy Golhof  
Renaë Hanson  
Gwyneth Thorsen  
Jantine DeJong

In memory of Trudy Honcoop  
Renaë Hanson  
Gwyneth Thorsen

### CASCADE HOME OBITUARY

#### **Carey David Cecotti**

became a resident of Cascade Christian Home in September 2009, because his family learned that Cascade excels in serving those who have medical needs.



During his short stay with us we found that Carey loved Mickey Mouse, National Geographic magazines, root beer and Godzilla. He enjoyed sitting on the patio feeling the sun on his face. Cary was a funny guy, given to joking. His feisty humor is missed by his friends at the Cascade Christian Home.

Carey was born November 5, 1950 in Santa Maria, California. He passed away July 9, 2010 in Bellingham with his sister at his side.